

COUNTRY HOUSING AUTHORITY GRANTS - INCREASE

180. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Housing and Works:

As Country Housing Authority grants to regional local governments have not increased over a maximum of \$50 000 since 2000, are local government authorities expected to absorb the extra costs incurred over the past five years as a result of the significant increase in building costs?

Hon KATE DOUST replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

The grants are designed to make regional housing more affordable. Local governments can partner with private sector and non-government organisations when making their application for a grant. Having regard to the number and an assessment of the applications, the Country Housing Authority board could recommend a higher contribution.