

HOMELESS PLACEMENTS

863. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Housing and Works:

Further to question without notice 826 in *Hansard* on 29 November 2001, I ask -

- (1) To which Department of Housing and Works districts have the 139 placements been allocated for accommodation as a result of ringing the “homeless” telephone number?
- (2) What is the normal waiting time for these placements?
- (3) How many placements are permanent?
- (4) How many placements have lasted less than two weeks?
- (5) Do the placements take precedence over existing waiting lists in each housing district?
- (6) What assessment of the capacity of health, education and other services in these areas are made prior to placements occurring?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) I table a list of the regions and the numbers that are allocated to those regions. [See paper No 984.]
- (2) Ranging from three-month, fixed-term to permanent tenancies reverting to mainstream periodical tenancy if satisfactory.
- (3) All, subject to the above condition.
- (4) Three.
- (5) Yes. However, in the main, low-demand housing - apartments and townhouses - is utilised, which has limited the impact on the waiting list.
- (6) Where a particular support service need is critical, this is negotiated with the relevant support agency and it is normal for allocation officers to take this into account. In country areas, if there are limited services, the client is advised before an offer is made.