

**SOCIAL HOUSING — INCOME ELIGIBILITY LIMITS**

*Statement by Minister for Housing*

**MR J.N. CAREY (Perth — Minister for Housing)** [9.28 am]: I rise to inform the house of the state government's recent increase to income eligibility limits for social housing. This reform will make sure that single-income households solely reliant on the age, disability support and service pensions and the carer payment continue to be eligible for social housing following an increase to the base rate of these pensions and payments in March. This government recognises and takes seriously the pressures people are facing in the community at the moment with the rising cost of living, interest rates and a tight rental market.

This is why I am pleased to update the house that we have increased income eligibility limits for the third time since coming to government in 2017. This is in contrast to the previous state Liberal–National government. The limit will be increased by \$16 per week, with the additional weighting of 25 per cent for households with a person with a disability and 40 per cent for households in the north west or other designated remote areas. This increase to the eligibility limit will apply to both public and community housing when the public housing income eligibility limits are used. Our government remains steadfast and committed to ensuring that vulnerable members of our community continue to have access to safe, affordable and sustainable housing.