



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

**Finn Pratt AO PSM
Secretary**

The Hon Dr Andrew Southcott MP
Chair of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Southcott

On 22 September 2014, the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) released *Report No. 445: Regional Cities Program, KPIs and Medicare*.

On 19 March 2015, the former Minister for Social Services, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, provided the Government's response to recommendation three and provided the first status update of houses built with the assistance of the Building Better Regional Cities (BBRC) programme.

This letter attaches the second six-monthly report on the status of houses built with the assistance of the BBRC programme for tabling with the JCPAA.

The latest six-monthly report shows that nine of the total 15 projects in the BBRC Program are continuing to make progress in delivering affordable housing. It also shows that six projects have not yet delivered any affordable housing. This is primarily due to the impact of previous delays with infrastructure or changes in market demand for housing. The Department is working with local councils to put in place steps to effectively manage projects to conclusion.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Finn Pratt'.

Finn Pratt

30 September 2015

Status of housing built with the assistance of Building Better Regional Cities programme as at 30 June 2015

LGA	Project Name	Lots/dwellings to be built (eligible for BBRC rebate)	Lots/dwellings completed as at (eligible for BBRC rebate)
Ballina	Ballina Heights Drive	120	41
Ballina	Wollongbar Sports Field	96	73
Fraser Coast	Hervey Bay	583	156
Geraldton	Karloo-Wadina	400	nil
Greater Bendigo	Viewpoint Huntly	100	100
Lake Macquarie	Wyee Sewer	105	nil
Lismore	Unlocking Lismore as a Regional City	200	nil
Maitland	Inner City Connection – Athel D’Ombrain Drive	260	nil
Mandurah	Pedestrian Bridge	34	nil
Port Macquarie	Key Infrastructure and Housing	100	82
Shepparton	Mooroopna West Growth Corridor	86	60
Tamworth	New Opportunity West (NOW) Project	58	nil
Tweed	Hundred Hills Murwillumbah	52	15
Warrnambool	Dennington North Residential Growth Area	75	36
Wollongong	West Dapto Access and Development Strategy	123	nil

Note: All lots/dwellings are due to be built by 30 June 2016, with the exception of Geraldton, which is due to build 260 by 30 June 2016 and the remaining 140 by 1 December 2018