

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 4.1 Housing and Homelessness Question No: SQ15-000030

Topic: Commonwealth Rent Assistance for Private Rental

Hansard page: CA79 26 February 2015

Senator Ludlam, Scott asked:

Can you give us any comfort at all that there will be any affordability initiatives as part of this divestment process or are we likely to come away with nothing?

Answer:

The Commonwealth Government disposes of its surplus property in line with the Commonwealth Property Disposal Policy, which is the portfolio responsibility of the Department of Finance.

Commonwealth properties that are no longer needed for Commonwealth purposes are listed on a register of surplus properties, for consideration of alternative use within the General Government Sector. If no alternative use is found for these properties, they are disposed of on the open market at full value with any proceeds returned to the Commonwealth budget. (Source: Commonwealth Property Disposal Policy: www.finance.gov.au/property/lands-acquisition/commonwealth-property-disposal-policy.html)

Through its budget, the Commonwealth Government currently provides approximately \$6.5 billion in funding to the states and territories, as well as directly to low and moderate income Australians, to support housing affordability and reduce homelessness.