

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 466

Topic: Indigenous Housing

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Scullion asked:

"The Department said in Estimates (pg 61) that in some instances the level of deterioration of the property is such that they cannot meet that standard. The Department also said that as funding for rebuilds were also capped, such houses may not be rebuild. How many houses that could not be refurbished to standard because costs would have exceeded the cap were not allocated rebuild funding? "

Answer:

The review of the program in August 2009 set targets and cost parameters for new houses, rebuilds and refurbishments. The combined rebuild and refurbishment target was 2,915.

In assessing the 4,000 plus existing remote public housing assets, the Northern Territory Department of Housing advised it identified sufficient assets across Remote Service Delivery communities to rebuild and as at 30 September 2012, the program has delivered 2,493 rebuilds and refurbishments. The target of 415 rebuilds has been achieved.

The Northern Territory Department of Housing advise that the work undertaken to date has addressed the areas of greatest need identified at the commencement of the program. Future capital works will focus on addressing the balance of housing stock through either house replacement or upgrade through the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing and Stronger Futures Northern Territory housing measures.