

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

Outcome Number: 4

Question No: 54

Topic: Rent Assistance

Hansard Page: 23/10/2014 CA119

Senator McLucas asked:

If Commonwealth Rent Assistance were applied to public housing tenants, what would it cost the Commonwealth?

Answer:

Based on 333,884 public dwellings^(a) and assuming \$3,482 per dwelling per annum^(b) of Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA), the estimated cost to the Commonwealth of applying CRA to public housing tenants would be around \$1.2 billion.

Notes:

- (a) *Report on Government Services*, 2014, Productivity Commission; includes State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing dwellings, which are not currently eligible for Commonwealth Rent Assistance.
- (b) The weighted average of maximum rates of CRA; rates applicable as at 30 June 2014.