

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Housing:

Nhulunbuy Housing

1. How many public housing properties are there in Nhulunbuy?

Of these properties:

- a. How many are currently vacant?**
- b. How long have these properties been vacant for?**
- c. Why are they vacant?**

There are 37 urban public housing properties in Nhulunbuy.

- a) Four of the 37 properties are unoccupied and are at various stages of being returned to the public housing portfolio for allocation.
- b) On average, the properties have been vacant for 81 days. This includes the time taken to finalise outgoing tenancy arrangements, complete vacate maintenance and identify new tenants for allocation.
- c) The properties are vacant due to previous tenants vacating and the requirement for vacate or maintenance works to be undertaken to the properties before new tenants can be allocated.

2. How many Government Employee Housing (GEH) properties are there in Nhulunbuy?

Of these properties:

- a. How many are currently vacant?**
- b. How long have these properties been vacant for?**
- c. Why are they vacant?**
- d. When are the vacant properties due to be leased?**

There are 192 government owned GEH properties and 58 private head lease properties in Nhulunbuy equating to a total of 250 dwellings for Government Employees.

- a) There are 2 GEH properties that are vacant. The remaining dwellings are all allocated to Client Agencies.
- b) One has been vacant for approximately 20 months and one has been vacant for 12 months.
- c) The properties are not safe, secure and habitable to be leased to an Agency's employee and require major works to be completed.
- d) One property is due to be available for allocation by the end of March 2024.

- 3. Please advise how many government employees are currently housed in Developing East Arnhem Land (DEAL) properties?**
 - a. How long are Government Employees anticipated to remain housed in DEAL properties?**

24 government employees are housed in DEAL properties.

The waitlist for GEH in Nhulunbuy is 90. The DEAL properties are expected to remain in the GEH portfolio until other housing becomes available or if the Department is requested to hand the properties back.

- 4. Please advise how many residential properties (including houses and town flats) within the township of Nhulunbuy are anticipated to be demolished by Rio Tinto over the next 5 years and how this housing stock will be replaced?**

Rio Tinto will demolish 10 beyond economic repair dwellings, on 10 serviced lots in 2024, with an additional 30 in 2025-2026. It is understood Traditional Owners are planning on using all, or some of, these serviced lots for the Northern Territory Government Accelerated Accommodation Project which involves commercial negotiations with Traditional Owner groups for the long term lease back of up to 80 dwellings of mixed configuration for housing Northern Territory Government employees. Traditional Owners have the opportunity to increase the density of housing on the previous Rio Tinto serviced lots to increase yield of the serviced land.

In addition, Rirratjinju Aboriginal Corporation is progressing its proposal for a 58 lot subdivision opposite the hospital with plans to develop some of the lots with new housing for sale or lease to interested parties.