

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick **to** Minister for Housing

Indigenous Housing for the Territory: "Closing the Gap" Program

In regard to the Prime Ministerial statement on "Closing The Gap" in the Commonwealth Parliament on the 26 February 2009:

1. The Prime Minister in his statement said that since the end of 2007 there are 80 new houses built or nearing completion for indigenous people in the Territory:
 - (a) Please advise in what locations these houses have been built;
 - (b) How many have been built in each location;
 - (c) What was the cost of each of these dwellings; and
 - (d) Were these houses new or were they refitting/renovating existing homes.

2. The Prime Minister said in his "closing the gap" speech that 4200 new houses for indigenous people nationwide would be built:
 - (a) Please advise how many of these new houses will be built in the Northern Territory;
 - (b) In what locations will they be built (please specify each community);
 - (c) What are the numbers to be built in each location;
 - (d) In what timeframe will these houses be completed i.e. how many will be completed in financial years 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-12 etc;
 - (e) What is the budgeted cost for each of the houses;
 - (f) What is the population of each of these communities;
 - (g) How many houses are already in these communities;
 - (h) Is the Territory govt. providing any additional funding to this housing.

3. The Prime Minister also said in his “closing the gap” speech that 4800 houses would be upgraded:
 - (a) Please advise how many of these will be in the Territory;
 - (b) In what locations will upgrades take place (please specify each community);
 - (c) How many upgrades will take place in each location;
 - (d) In what time frame will these house upgrades take place i.e. how many will be completed in financial years 2009-2010, 2010-1011, 2011-2012 etc;
 - (e) What is the budgeted cost for each of the house upgrades; and
 - (f) What is the percentage of total housing stock in these individual communities that is being upgraded.

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WRITTEN ANSWER

Minister for Housing to Ms Purick

Indigenous Housing for the Territory: "Closing the Gap" Program

1. (a) Please find following a table of the houses completed in the Northern Territory since the end of 2007:

Location	Total
Nguiu	29
Gapuwiyak	2
Gunbalunya	1
Milingimbi	7
Irrultja	3
Santa Teresa	3
Amoonguna	1
Palmerston Indigenous Village	1
Beswick/Barunga	6
Borrooloola	7
Yirrkala	3
Galiwinku	3
Pirlangimpi	1
Wadapuli>Nama	20
Wadeye	15
TOTAL	102

- (b) See response to (a) above.
- (c) Costs have varied due to different localities, housing types and housing sizes. Construction costs have generally ranged from \$350,000 to \$570,000. These costs do not include program management expenses.
- (d) These are all new houses.
2. (a) The Prime Minister was referring to the targets for houses to be constructed nationally under the ten year \$5.5 billion National Partnership on Remote Indigenous Housing. Under this National Partnership, the Northern Territory will receive an allocation of \$1.7 billion of which the \$672 million SIHIP program is a component.

The Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments are committed to building 750 new houses under SIHIP by the end of 2013. Further housing will be provided under the remaining funding under the National Partnership.

(b) Under SIHIP, new houses will be constructed in the communities listed at Attachment A. SIHIP will also provide new housing, rebuilds and refurbishments on targeted town camps.

(c) New houses have been announced for the following communities:

- Nguiu - 90 houses
- Groote Eylandt (Angurugu, Umbakumba and Milyakburra) – 80 houses
- Maningrida – 109 houses
- Wadeye – 105 houses
- Gunbalanya – 62 houses
- Alice Springs – 85 houses

(d) SIHIP will complete 750 houses by the end of 2013. As work programs are developed the time-frames for completion of houses in each package will be announced.

(e) The review of SIHIP has set an average cost of \$450,000 for housing under the program.

(f) See answer at Attachment A.

(g) See answer at Attachment A.

(h) The Northern Territory Government (NTG) is contributing \$100 million over five years to SIHIP.

3. (a) The Prime Minister was referring to the targets for houses to be upgraded nationally under the ten year \$5.5 billion National Partnership on Remote Indigenous Housing. Under this National Partnership, the Northern Territory will receive an allocation of \$1.7 billion of which the \$672 million SIHIP program is a component. The SIHIP program will deliver 230 rebuilds and 2500 refurbishments by the end of 2013.

(b) As work programs are developed the number of upgrades to be completed in each package will be made publicly available.

(c) As work programs are developed the number of rebuilds and refurbishments to be completed in each package will be made publicly available.

(d) As work programs are developed the time-frames for commencement and completion of rebuilds and refurbishments in each package will be made publicly available.

(e) The review of SIHIP has set an average cost of \$200,000 for rebuilds and \$75,000 for refurbishments.

(f) By the completion of the program at the end of 2013 approximately 60 percent of existing housing in remote housing and the targeted town camps should have been replaced, rebuilt or refurbished.

Answer 2 (b) Community	Answer 2 (f) Population	Answer 2 (g) No. of existing houses
Maningrida	2746	163
Wadeye	2675	173
Nguiu	1582	224
Galiwinku	2156	145
Milingimbi	1500	97
Ngukurr	1589	112
Gunbalanya	1486	105
Yirrkala	990	87
Numbulwar	1217	86
Yuendumu	1000	109
Hermannsburg	600	77
Lajamanu	1162	97
Gapuwiyak	1208	86
Groote Eylandt		
• Milyakburra	110	34
• Umbakumba	478	52
• Angurugu	1269	121

Note: population data sourced from The Bush Telegraph, Grants Commission data as at 30 June 2007.