

**ATTACHMENT: QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE AND FURTHER
INFORMATION AGREED TO BE SUPPLIED AT THE
HEARINGS**

HOUSING, DISABILITY AND AGEING

1. Please complete the following table regarding the number of evictions from social housing in Victoria.

Year	No. of evictions
2014-15	314
2015-16	This figure cannot be provided prior to 1 July 2016

(Page 10 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

2. Please explain the fall in the target measure of 'Available bed days' for residential aged care from 1,193,995 days in 2015-16 to 1,185,685 days in 2016-17. What happens to residents who had been allocated a bed that subsequently becomes unavailable?

(Pages 12-13 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

This difference in target is primarily associated with a Melbourne Health facility which was previously regulated and funded as a residential aged care service, and which also receives State Government subsidies to operate as a slow stream rehabilitation service for younger people with acquired brain injury, but which is now providing additional services to older people as a Geriatric Evaluation and Management unit.

What happens to residents in the circumstance outlined in the Member's question is dependent on the reason that beds are taken off-line:

- Declining demand: there was no resident in these beds.
- Conversion of care type: if capacity exists the service may convert these beds for time limited delivery of other care types (e.g. Transition Care). The beds were empty at the time and no residents were displaced.
- Building works: operators either plan admissions so they can manage the building works without impacting residents, or, they temporarily relocate them into another part of the health service.

3. Please provide an outline and explanation of the proposed governance changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) put forward by the Commonwealth Government at the 2016 Disability Reform Council to the Committee. What is the potential impact of these proposed changes on funding?

(Pages 16-17, 24 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

At the Disability Reform Council (DRC) meeting on 4 March 2016:

- The Commonwealth proposed arrangements for the reappointment of Board members and the expansion of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Board from eight members and a chair, to eleven members and a chair. These changes were agreed by the DRC. They do not affect Victoria's funding or contribution to the scheme.
- Governance arrangements to simplify and streamline decision-making arrangements were also proposed, alongside arrangements for accessing the DisabilityCare Australia Fund (DCAF). The DCAF is intended to reimburse states, territories and the Commonwealth for expenditure incurred in implementing the NDIS. In April 2016, COAG referred the timing of access to the DCAF and potential changes to governance arrangements to Senior Officials for further advice. The impact of any proposed governance changes on funding arrangements is being considered further.

4. What is the number of current public housing tenants earning over \$100,000 per annum?

(Page 21 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

The Department of Health and Human Services only holds information on the earnings of public housing tenants who are in receipt of a rebated rent. Public housing tenants paying market rent do not have an obligation to provide the department with information about their financial affairs, other than when they first apply for public housing.

A person's employee wages are only one part of what makes up an annual income. For example, a single mother with five children on wages of less than \$800 per week may have a total annual income of over \$100,000 once additional payments such as child support, the single parent pension and family tax benefit are included. Wages can also fluctuate over a year and therefore data taken at a particular point in time may misrepresent actual annual earnings.

As at 30 April 2016, there were 12 public housing tenants in receipt of a rental rebate whose current weekly incomes indicate that they are earning over \$100,000 per annum. In 10 cases, the tenant has had a recent significant increase in income and, as a result, their rebate will be cancelled from August 2016 which is when the next six monthly rent review takes effect.

5. Please advise the location of the ‘two residential aged care services being consolidated into one new facility’ as outlined in p. 235 of Budget Paper 3 to the Committee, together with the number of community members who have been affected by these closures and an explanation of what has led to the reduction of bed numbers in the affected community.

(Pages 24-5 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

This footnote refers to the redevelopment of Boort District Health, which involved consolidation of multiple small buildings into one new facility (Boort is the only community affected). The redeveloped health service includes 25 residential aged care beds. The new facility opened in April 2016.

The facility replaces services provided by two residential aged care services: a 10 bed nursing home (previously co-located with the acute program in the hospital); and a hostel which consisted of a series of small cottages.

Service planning undertaken to inform master planning of this redevelopment indicated a stronger focus on delivery of community based care was needed to meet specific local needs and to assist people to remain in their homes longer.

All 25 redeveloped beds are designed for residents with high care needs allowing people to age in place (previously Boort had only ten high care beds).

6. Please provide further information into the investigation and a copy of the subsequent report into the IT breach of the Minister’s twitter account earlier this year.

(Pages 25-6 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

After the IT breach of the Minister’s Twitter account earlier this year the Department of Health and Human Services immediately undertook steps to contain the breach, including changing the Minister’s Twitter password, replacing the desktop PC, wiping the old desktop PC and resetting the Minister’s iPhone and iPad to factory setting.

Additionally, the Minister’s office was advised to implement two-factor authentication for the Minister’s Twitter account, and wipe and re-build the Minister’s Parliament-provided laptop.

Twitter is not a Government service and the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing reported the security breach to Twitter on 12 January this year.

7. Please provide data for the number of incidents of bullying, including the incidences of gender-based bullying, during 2015-16 that have been reported to the Department of Health and Human Services, including all the units and ministerial offices within the Department of Health and Human Services, to the Committee?

(Page 26 of the Housing, Disability and Ageing portfolio transcript)

Information on the number of complaints, the application of public sector values, employment principles, codes of conduct and standards can be found in the Victorian Public Sector Commission's Annual Report.