

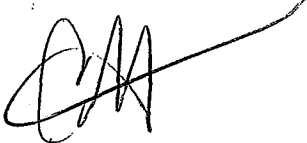
2nd Session of the 65th General Assembly

*Response to question from Question Period on
November 25, 2016*

To be Tabled

Coles Building
Charlottetown, PE

November 29, 2016


Mundy.
Response to oral
question
taken as
notice

Family and Human Services - November 29, 2016 -to be tabled in the House

Written response to questions asked by Member from Belfast Murray River to Family and Human Services Minister during Question Period on November 25, 2016.

Question

What is the breakdown of the 1,300 people on the wait list for social housing?

- How many are single parents?
- How many are women?
- How many are seniors?
- In which areas of the province do they live?

Answer

Seniors Housing

- Government ensures that Islanders who are most in need are served first.
- Applications are not prioritized based on the length of time that an applicant is registered for social housing, but is based upon need; assessment criteria includes income, assets, health, age and present housing conditions.
- As of October 31, 2016 there are 928 people who have applied for seniors housing and have not received a placement. Approximately 18 percent is couples and there is a ratio of 1.62 women for every male on the list.
- This includes individuals who have applied but do not meet program criteria, as well as individuals who have been offered a unit, but declined units either because they did not like the location, or were not ready to move.
- Over the years the wait list has expanded to include all applicants who meet the age criteria, even if they do not meet the income criteria.
- Some applicants on the list are not yet ready to move into a unit but they can remain registered in the event they require support in the future.
- The Department of Family and Human Services is looking at ways to better manage housing wait lists to ensure the lists are a true reflection of the needs in our communities and that applicants have clarity about available options.
- The department is also currently developing a provincial housing strategy that will help determine the current and future housing needs and match supply to those needs.

- In terms of geographical areas, information is based on where applicants would *like to live*, rather than where they currently in order to track areas of demand. The break-down of the October 31, 2016 list for seniors is as follows:

23 - Western PEI (includes O'leary, St Louis, Tignish, Alberton)

263 - Summerside (includes Bedeque, Borden, Abrams Village, Kensington, Kinkora, Miscouche, Mont Carmel, Summerside, Tyne Valley, Wilmot and Wellington)

43 - Souris (includes Souris, Rollo Bay, St Peters, and Morell)

106 - Montague (includes Montague, Cardigan, Georgetown, Murray River, Murray Harbour, Belfast)

493 - Charlottetown (includes Charlottetown, North Rustico, South Rustico, Mt Stewart, Hunter River, Crapaud, Cornwall)

Family Housing

As of October 31, 2016 there are 390 people who applied for family housing and have not received a placement. This includes individuals who have applied but do not meet program criteria as well as some individuals who been offered a unit, but either do not like the location, or are not ready to move.

Housing Services works with applicants through the assessment process then this information is provided to the Family Housing Board in the area where the individual would like to live. The Family Housing Boards maintain the demographic information of those on the list. The Family Housing Boards are also responsible for managing the lists and for placements.

In terms of geographical areas, information is based on where applicants would *like to live*, rather than where they currently in order to track areas of demand. The break-down of the October 31, 2016 list for family housing is as follows:

Less than 5 - Alberton

189 - Charlottetown

6 - Georgetown

35 - Montague

10 - Mt Stewart

0 - O'Leary

10 - Souris

139 - Summerside

0- Tignish

