

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 4

Question No: 13

Topic: Housing

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bishop asked:

In how many instances have incentives been removed when there were legitimate reasons for delays and efforts to make up time were being made?

Answer:

Since 2008, more than 7,300 reservations of allocation have been withdrawn. In the majority of cases this was done with the agreement of the applicant.

The Department's broad approach is to work with applicants to facilitate reservations becoming allocated incentives under the scheme. Where these have been legitimate reasons for a short to medium term delay – these have been accommodated.

In some cases, where it is not possible to appropriately work with an applicant, or the dwelling is unlikely to be delivered in a reasonable timeframe, a reservation will need to be withdrawn.

Regulation 14 (2) provides the range of circumstances in which the NRAS delegate may decide to withdraw a reservation of an allocation.