

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 7

**Question No:** 280

**Topic:** Voluntary Registration of Indigenous housing organisations

**Hansard Page:** 22/10/10-CA63

**Senator Scullion** asked:

What are you doing about the voluntary registration of Indigenous housing organisation with the relevant state/territory social housing system/s? There is going to be a point after a while when they have not registered but they are still out there and they still own housing. I would have thought one of the jurisdictions would want to repair that. Is there some mechanism in which at one point you will move to contact these people, or is it the case that you just do not know what you do not know, so, if it is a voluntary process, you do not know where they are or who they are?

**Answer:**

All State/Territory governments (except Queensland) agreed to assume full responsibility for Indigenous Community Housing and implement reforms such as improved property and tenancy management as part of the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing. In Queensland similar reforms are being implemented under a pre-existing arrangement between the Commonwealth and the State.

Jurisdictions are approaching the reforms in a number of ways. Reform models include Indigenous Community Housing Organisations (ICHOs) becoming registered or accredited housing providers (and continuing to own and manage their houses), amalgamation or head leasing to another registered/accredited provider, or transfer of ownership of houses to the State. State governments have information on which organisations are transferring and which are yet to transfer to new arrangements. They continue to work with the ICHOs to encourage them and facilitate participation.