

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2016 - 2017

Division/Agency: Social Policy Division

Question No: 54

Topic: Functions of the National Housing Supply Council

Reference: Written

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question:

In the previous Senate Estimates hearings Senator Cormann answered questions on notice about the National Housing Supply Council and the functions it performed. Senator Cormann made clear that no other body is in charge of performing the functions of the National Housing Supply Council, which was abolished in the 2014-15 budget.

a. How is the lack of affordable housing supply intended to be addressed without the figures that were produced in the National 'State of Supply' report, last released in 2012?

Answer:

There are several organisations that provide data and analysis similar to that provided in the National Housing Supply Council's 'State of Supply' reports.

Numerous organisations provide data and analysis on housing supply and the housing market more broadly, including the Housing Industry Association, RP CoreLogic data and the Real Estate Institute of Australia. The Australian Bureau of Statistics produces and makes publically available the Census estimates for population and the building completions and approvals data which the National Housing Supply Council used to produce its estimates of housing supply.

In regard to affordable housing, many researchers have undertaken substantial work on measuring housing affordability for lower income households, and related issues of housing supply and demand, in particular the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute.