

More Spin than Substance: Housing in Tasmania Fact Sheet

- In 2016-17, the Liberal Treasurer claimed the budget would construct “941 new homes” across the forward estimates¹, but only 186 were actually added over this period.²
- In the 2017-18 budget, Peter Gutwein said the Liberals were “already delivering on its commitment to build over 900 new homes”³, there was actually a net loss of 212 properties.⁴
- In 2018-19, the Liberals said they would build 1,500 new homes⁵, but so far (after 3 of the 4 years in this budget/forward estimates period reported) there are only 697 reported⁶ – less than half of what was promised.
- This Budget, of the Government’s pre-budget announcement of \$1.1 billion over ten years into housing, only \$35 million, or 3%, is delivered over the forward estimates.⁷ No new Housing money is allocated in the first year of the budget.
- In the last 4 years the number of liveable public homes has decreased by 34 down to 6,944. And over this time, while the housing waiting list grows, the number of new households helped each year has also declined from 759 to 401.⁸
- Thousands of public and community housing dwellings have been promised over the last seven years, but Productivity Commission data show a net gain of only 578.⁹

¹ 2016-17 Budget Speech ‘*Back on track. Reinvesting in essential services.*’, Hon Peter Gutwein MP, 26 May 2016, page 7.

² Report on Government Services 2022, Part G, Section 18: Housing, 25 January 2022, Housing Data Tables.

³ 2017-18 Budget Speech ‘*Building Tasmania’s Future.*’, Hon Peter Gutwein MP, 25 May 2017, page 6.

⁴ Report on Government Services 2022 (n 2).

⁵ 2018-19 Budget Speech ‘*Delivering on our Plan Building Your Future*’, Hon Peter Gutwein MP, 14 June 2018, pages 5 and 9.

⁶ Report on Government Services 2022 (n 2). *Note: 2021-22 financial year not yet reported.*

⁷ 2022-23 Tasmanian Budget, Government Services - Budget Paper Number 2, Volume 1, Department of Treasury and Finance, 26 May 2022, page 36.

⁸ Report on Government Services 2022 (n 2).

⁹ Report on Government Services 2022 (n 2).