

## Social Housing – Provision of Utilities

### **Mrs GREENE question to MINISTER for HOUSING and PLANNING**

My question is from Andrew, in Kings Meadows. His mother rents social housing in Youngtown through the Loreto Community Housing. He said, as a single retired person, his mum found it impossible to find rentals in Launceston that were fit for habitation within her budget. Upon moving into a relatively newly built property, she inquired about connecting the internet, and was told that she was required to pay the one-off \$300 new development charge for the initial connection to the internet. She's unable to connect to wireless broadband as her area has no suitable 5G coverage. Andrew notes that in Victoria, the law requires property owners to provide a phone line and internet connection to a property.

He asks: why aren't social housing providers required to offer internet-connected homes in 2026? Why is the onus of a structural property cost on the tenant, rather than the landlord or provider that benefits from this connection?