



Speech By Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, Athletes Village

Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (10.05 am): I rise following the ministerial statement made by the Deputy Premier on the Commonwealth Games village site. Further, I can confirm for the House that construction of the Commonwealth Games village is on track and remains scheduled to be handed over to Goldoc in October 2017 and that 98 per cent of construction work packages are let and a peak workforce of 1,200 workers is currently on site.

Recently the Parklands project achieved a topping out milestone, signifying the roof level of all 18 apartment buildings has now been reached. Over the past 12 months, no less than nine cranes have risen on the site, signalling the development of one of the most significant urban renewal projects ever undertaken on the Gold Coast and providing a vista of construction from the nearby light rail stop. Now, as the project progresses, three cranes feature on the skyline. Scaffolding has begun to be dismantled, showcasing the construction progress and providing the first glimpse into the apartment buildings that will be home to Commonwealth Games athletes and team officials in April 2018.

To date, 2,500 workers have clocked up more than one million hours of construction since late 2014. Of the 99 contracts awarded for the Parklands project, 93 have been secured by South-East Queensland businesses and 51 of these have gone to firms based on the Gold Coast. Upon completion, this site will contain 1,252 new apartments and townhouses, which will become home to 6,600 athletes and team officials during the Games in April 2018. The permanent facilities will be enhanced by temporary infrastructure, provided by the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation, Goldoc, to meet the needs of both athletes and officials.

Following the games, the Parklands development will accommodate a mixed use residential and commercial development within the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct. The Parklands development will incorporate more than 18 new buildings up to nine levels in height with 1,252 permanent dwellings, including 1,170 one- and two-bedroom apartments and 82 townhouses.