

Question on Notice

No. 791

Asked on 17 August 2004

MS BARRY asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy (MS CLARK)—

QUESTION:

- (1) What are the details of the draft Indigenous Economic Development Agreement?
- (2) What is the process for consultation and when does she expect this agreement to be finalised?
- (3) How will it lead to jobs creation and economic growth for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders?

ANSWER:

The Indigenous Economic Development Agreement is a key result area for the Government's Ten Year Partnership agenda.

The Indigenous Economic Development Working Group has a major role in providing better coordination of the efforts of State and Commonwealth Government Agencies in achieving economic development, including jobs, in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities. The Department of State Development and Innovation is the lead agency in this project while the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy's role in the Working Group is to provide a consistent and culturally appropriate policy position.

The Government approved the release of the draft Indigenous Economic Development Agreement for consultation on 2 June 2003. The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy coordinated the consultation which took place between September to November 2003. Consultation involved a series of 13 workshops with stakeholders, including Indigenous and non-Indigenous community organisations, relevant state Government departments, and community leaders and elders. The draft Indigenous Economic Development Agreement was also available on the DATSIP website for public information and comment.

Under the *Partnerships Queensland* proposal, the Economic Development Agreement will now be re-cast as an Action Plan to enhance economic development for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.