

Question on Notice
No. 498
Asked on 20 April 2005

Mr McARDLE asked the Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) -

QUESTION:

Will he list and provide details (source document, program/fund/strategy, commitment, cost, expected completion date [month/year] and the progress made to date) to fulfil each election commitment made by the Government for each State electorate [reported separately] within the Sunshine Coast Region during and in the lead-up to the 2004 State Election?

ANSWER:

During the last State Election, I released a Beattie Plan for the Sunshine Coast on 4 February 2004 (attached). The Beattie Plan for the Sunshine Coast was released to the media and the public. The Beattie Plan contains the key commitments for my Government on the Sunshine Coast.

Since 1998 the Queensland Government has developed a reputation for delivering on its promises and is judged in every electorate at every election on whether it has done so.

In most cases the plan is due to be delivered by the end of this three-year term and the individual promises are in various stages of being delivered.

There are a few exceptions, such as the promise to deliver a specific number of extra teachers within four years, where it was made clear in the document at the time that the timeframe was longer than three years.

BUILDING THE FUTURE

**THE BEATTIE PLAN FOR
THE SUNSHINE COAST**

KEEP QUEENSLAND MOVING

BUILDING THE SUNSHINE COAST: BUILDING THE SMART STATE

The Sunshine Coast is now home to almost 240,000¹ people, with the population of the region projected to reach more than 382,000 by 2016.

The region in recent years has been charting substantially higher annual growth than other parts of South East Queensland and Queensland as a whole. This rate of growth is expected to continue.

The region is becoming increasingly popular as a home for young families.

The Sunshine Coast's surfing beaches, cosmopolitan dining and shopping options and beautiful hinterland make it a popular holiday destination.

The region's major industry is tourism, though there is still a strong agricultural sector with sugar and tropical fruit, and significant growth in education, construction, fishing and retail industries.

¹ OESR Community Profile, Sunshine Coast, accessed 22 January 2004

NEW INVESTMENTS AND SERVICES

Over \$327 million to build the future of the Sunshine Coast

- Over \$104 million in transport investments
- 2580 jobs, through investment of an estimated \$17.2 million
- More than \$27 million in health upgrades
- Over \$20 million in education staff and facilities, including 59 new teachers
- Over \$5 million for emergency services projects and staff, including 20 new paramedics
- \$8.7 million for police, water and community capital works projects
- \$5.5 million in public housing investments
- \$140 million from the *Smart State Building Fund* for community infrastructure and services, as announced in December 2003.

A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Boosts in services and infrastructure

- Raising the budget of Sunshine Coast Health District to \$155 million
- 121 extra police officers since 1998 and the establishment of a Tactical Crime Squad
- More than \$115 million in transport investments
- Over \$27 million in education capital works and technology investments
- More than \$36 million in housing and related services.

NEW INVESTMENT AND SERVICES

Jobs growth

**More
jobs.....lower
unemployment**

Employment in the Sunshine Coast district continues to grow.

Since 2001, 7,143 of the 170,100 extra jobs created in Queensland have been in the Sunshine Coast region.

Under the Beattie Government, Queensland has been Australia's job-creation powerhouse, accounting for almost one in every three new jobs over the past three years.

The Queensland Government's *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle* initiative has delivered 4,581 new jobs on the Sunshine Coast since 1998.

While we have achieved jobs growth and falling unemployment, much more needs to be done to bring unemployment down further.

As part of a continuing commitment to job creation, a re-elected Beattie Government will create an estimated 2,580 jobs in the Sunshine Coast district over three years under *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle*, at an estimated cost of \$17.2 million.

Education.....see the future

Smaller class sizes

We will employ up to 59 extra teachers in the Mooloolaba and Nambour education districts over four years from 2004 at a cost of about \$11 million. This will help reduce Year 4-10 class sizes to the lowest in the country and improve curriculum planning and development in large primary schools. Two of these teachers will be employed to support the prep year trial at Maleny and Kuluin State Schools.

Creating 21st Century classrooms

Over the next three years, the Beattie Government will distribute up to \$6.7 million in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) grants to Queensland state schools in the Mooloolaba and Nambour education districts.

Capital Works

The Beattie Government will invest more than \$1 million in new and upgraded facilities in the Sunshine Coast region and surrounding areas to give local students the best possible education, including:

- Approximately \$450,000 to complete the upgrade of special education facilities at Noosaville State School

- Approximately \$320,000 for additional amenities at Sunshine Beach State High School
- Approximately \$220,000 for additional toilets at Golden Beach State School
- Approximately \$100,000 to upgrade special education facilities at Caloundra State High School
- Approximately \$150,000 to replace telephones at Talara Primary College, Eumundi State School, Chevallum State School, Mapleton State School, North Arm State School and Woombye State School.

Wired for the Future

Under the three-year Wired for the Future Program, the Beattie Government will provide \$1.38 million in upgrades to increase the electrical capacity of schools as follows:

- Caloundra State School – approximately \$90,500
- Currimundi State School – approximately \$63,500
- Golden Beach State School – approximately \$53,300
- Talara Primary College – approximately \$88,300
- Bokarina State School – approximately \$5,000
- Buddina State School – approximately \$99,500
- Chancellor State School – approximately \$41,400
- Mountain Creek State High School – approximately \$74,900
- Mountain Creek State School – approximately \$93,300
- Kuluin State School – approximately \$93,800
- Maroochydore State School – approximately \$29,300
- Mooloolaba State School – approximately \$41,000
- Pacific Paradise State School – approximately \$33,500
- Coolum State School – approximately \$77,100
- Eumundi State School – approximately \$27,200
- Noosaville State School – approximately \$53,700
- Sunshine Beach State High School – approximately \$79,200
- Sunshine Beach State School – approximately \$88,800
- Tewantin State School – approximately \$125,400
- Mapleton State School – approximately \$22,000
- Nambour State School – approximately \$7,400
- Palmwoods State School – approximately \$16,700
- Woombye State School – approximately \$74,900.

The funding will give schools the electrical capacity they need to plug into the Internet and make better use of technology to educate students.

**Delivering
Australia's
best health
system**

Health.....a focus on people

The Beattie Government will deliver over \$27 million to significantly improve health services and facilities across the Sunshine Coast, as follows:

- \$4.3 million to extend and refurbish the existing 40-bed Hibiscus House residential aged care facility at Nambour
- \$1.4 million to complete the relocation of the Nambour Hospital breast screen facility onto the Nambour Hospital site to provide an enhanced and enlarged facility
- \$1 million a year for a public patients' radiation oncology service at Nambour
- \$3 million for additional orthopaedic surgery, especially joints, at Noosa Hospital
- \$6 million to commission a second operating theatre at Caloundra Hospital, and an extra 10 beds with the employment of 18 extra nurses
- \$4.5 million to establish a specialist vascular surgery service at Nambour Hospital which will include staff specialists and visiting surgeons and two dedicated nursing support staff
- \$5.3 million to establish and operate eight new dialysis chairs in the recently announced Sunshine Coast Community Health Centre, employing four extra nurses.

Transport.....solid foundations

The Beattie Government will provide \$104.8 million in strategic transport investments as follows:

Paradise interchange

A re-elected Beattie Government will spend \$35 million on a new interchange and access road north of Pacific Paradise to help alleviate traffic congestion on the Sunshine Coast.

The project will significantly reduce traffic and traffic noise in Pacific Paradise and surrounding neighbourhoods.

We will also construct a new link connecting the Sunshine Coast Motorway with David Low Way near the Sunshine Coast Airport and a service road between the two interchanges. The changes will reduce delays in accessing the motorway at the existing Pacific Paradise interchange, remove the U-turn in the middle of the motorway and reduce traffic in the surrounding communities.

Roads

The Beattie Government will spend \$44 million in 2004-05 on state-controlled roads on the Sunshine Coast, including contributions to the following projects (some of these have commenced with some funds already spent):

- More than \$1.5 million for preliminary planning and design work for a new two-lane arterial link between Caloundra and Mooloolaba, inland of the Nicklin Way
- \$3.76 million to complete the four-lane reconstruction of Nicklin Way, north from Caloundra Road to Beerburum Street
- \$200,000 towards concept planning on the Maroochydore-Noosa Road between Menzies Drive and Mudjimba Beach Road
- \$1.1 million to complete duplication of the Maroochydore Road to four lanes, between the Sunshine Motorway and Boongala Terrace
- More than \$18.76 million to complete a \$20 million duplication of the Sunshine Motorway to four lanes, between Mooloolaba Road and Maroochydore Road
- More than \$1.4 million towards initial works on a \$10.5 million project to extend four lanes on Maroochydore Road, Kunda Park, between Pike Street/Hobbs Road intersection and Martins Creek
- \$700,000 towards initial works to realign Yandina-Coolum Road between Valdora and Arcoona roads
- \$1.4 million to start widening sections of Maleny-Kenilworth Road between Sunday Creek and Kenilworth
- \$1 million to complete bitumen sealing works on a section of Obi Obi Road, extending to Obi Obi Creek crossing No. 4
- \$252,000 towards pavement repairs on sections of the Nambour-Bli Bli Road between Cooney and Atkinson roads
- \$100,000 for planning of pavement overlay works on the Woombye-Montville Road between Paynter Creek and LA Boulevard
- \$100,000 for planning pavement overlay works on the Yandina-Bli Bli Road between Kirra and Camp Flat roads
- \$200,000 towards intersection improvements on Nambour Connection Road at McKenzie Road and Panorama Drive
- \$250,000 towards concept planning on the Nambour Connection Road at Blackall Street and adjacent intersection
- Almost \$1 million towards design and early works to upgrade Sunshine Motorway to four lanes between Sippy Downs and the new Kawana Arterial (Kawana Way)

- \$749,000 to improve the profile of Mooloolaba Road at Buderim Hill to improve traffic safety
- \$1.5 million to complete traffic signage improvements on the Sunshine Motorway between David Low Way and Emu Mountain Road
- Almost \$5.34 million to complete pavement repairs and widening on the Eumundi-Noosa Road, between North Maroochy River and Dean Road
- More than \$3.1 million to complete the widening of Boreen Point-Tewantin Road from Kimbah Court to the east
- \$500,000 towards planning studies on the Eumundi-Noosa Road
- \$350,000 to start pavement overlay works on the Eumundi-Noosa Road between Lenehans Road and Noosa.

Community Transport Partnerships

Under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme, we will provide \$15.1 million in 2004-05 to Sunshine Coast councils for projects (some of these have already commenced with some funds already spent) including:

- \$55,000 jointly funded project with Caloundra City Council to start repairs and upgrade of Maltman Street North, Moffat Beach (Queen Street to William Street)
- \$120,000, jointly funded project with Caloundra City Council, to complete rehabilitation and upgrade of Point Cartwright Drive (Roundabout to Pacific Boulevard)
- \$23,000, jointly funded with Caloundra City Council, to complete a bikeway and footpath at Talara Primary College, Currimundi
- \$4,914, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council, to start installation of school zone delineator markings within Maroochy Shire
- \$28,973, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council, to start construction of a shared bikeway/pedestrian bridge on Maroochy-dore-Noosa Road at Eudilo Creek Bridge
- \$120,000 towards upgrading the access to Regional Botanic Gardens (stage 1 and 2) on Palm Creek Road, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council
- \$100,000 to complete a \$200,000 project, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council, to provide traffic signals at Karawatha and Molaki drives intersection
- \$100,000 to complete a \$200,000 project, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council, to provide off-street parking at Mountain Creek High School

- Providing Noosa Shire Council with more than \$27 million over two years under the agreement to turn over part of David Low Way and other roads to council control, in exchange for funding reasonable costs of construction of new roads identified in the Noosa De-maining Package (Stages 1 and 2 of Eenie Creek Road and Walter Hay Drive)
- \$5,000 to complete a \$10,000 project, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council, to provide a pathway at Eumundi State School
- \$50,000 to complete a \$100,000 project, jointly funded with Maroochy Shire Council, to provide car parking at Coolum State School
- \$80,000, jointly funded with Noosa Shire Council, to start extending the seal on Dath Henderson Road
- \$192,000 to complete a \$384,000 project, jointly funded with Noosa Shire Council, to upgrade and extend the seal on Beach Road, North Shore.

Boating infrastructure

The Beattie Government is committed to finding a long-term solution to the continued build-up of sand at the mouth of the Mooloolah River. We are committing \$500,000 to solve it.

The Government will work with the local boating fraternity to minimise the impact on local boaties. This commitment, combined with \$250,000 from the Smart State Building Fund, will make the Beattie Government's total commitment \$750,000.

Jet skis

The Beattie Government is committed to implementing tighter controls on the use of jet skis on our waterways. We will restrict their use on certain waterways through regulatory controls currently being developed through an independent review.

Bus services

The Beattie Government will provide \$2.9 million annually for urban bus services on the Sunshine Coast.

We will also commit a further \$500,000 per annum to boost services. This will increase the number of buses on the Sunshine Coast by 10%. The service improvements include:

- Reorganisation of existing routes to provide a more direct and timely link between Caloundra and Nambour Hospital via the university and Buderim

- Raising frequency of services on the routes to Coolum Heights and Noosa Hospital to a minimum of hourly during the week
- Services to newer areas presently unserved, such as Pelican Waters, Kawana Waters and Peregrine Springs.

TransLink

The Beattie Government is committing \$1.4 billion to implementation of an integrated public transport and ticketing system in South East Queensland. This will make passenger transport more efficient, reliable and convenient for commuters on the Sunshine Coast.

Emergency Services

The Beattie Government will invest more than \$5 million to upgrade emergency services across the Sunshine Coast as follows:

Paramedics

The allocation of 20 new paramedic positions to help save lives, maintain emergency response times and enhance the health and safety of paramedics with an investment of approximately \$3.4 million.

Capital Works

The Beattie Government will provide a replacement ambulance station at Coolum at a cost of \$1.7 million.

Public housing

The Beattie Government will invest \$5.5 million in 2004-05 for public housing projects:

- \$2.5 million to purchase land for future public housing construction
- \$1.7 million towards construction of 21 new public housing properties
- \$1.3 million for refurbishment of public housing interiors.

Protecting our natural resources

The Beattie Government will ensure that our natural resources are developed and used sustainably by:

- Preventing over-development of the Maroochy catchments and supporting Sunshine Coast Councils to stop inappropriate and ad hoc urban growth
- Finalising the *Noosa River Plan* within six months to strike a balance between the river's environmental needs and the demands of tourism, recreation and industry.

Police Facilities

The Beattie Government will provide \$2.4 million to complete the Caloundra Watch-house.

Better Waste Treatment

The Government will provide a \$4.6 million subsidy towards the Caloundra to Kawana sewage pressure main and upgrade of the Kawana Sewage Treatment Plant.

Eastbank Community Centre

The Beattie Government will provide a \$1.7 million subsidy towards the Eastbank Multi-purpose Community and Arts Centre, a planned contemporary, flexible and innovative community facility.

SMART STATE BUILDING FUND

In December 2003, the Beattie Government announced a \$1 billion package of strategic infrastructure investments targeted to support key services and projects across Queensland.

The *Smart State* Building Funding will provide \$140.925 million for the Sunshine Coast:

Smart schools shaping the *Smart State*

New schools

The Beattie Government will allocate an estimated \$66 million to build three new schools in the Sunshine Coast region to meet demand for school facilities created by population growth.

Smart Schools Renewal Program

- Caloundra State School – classroom upgrade to provide for practical learning activities – approximately \$100,000
- Currimundi Special School – upgrade to outdoor learning environment – approximately \$100,000
- Golden Beach State School – major classroom upgrade to support music initiatives – approximately \$557,000
- Buderim Mountain State School – major classroom upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$845,000
- Mooloolaba State School – major classroom upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$487,000
- Coolum State School – major resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$952,000

The Smart State Building Fund will deliver \$140.925 million

- Burnside State High School – major classroom upgrade to support middle schooling initiatives – approximately \$1.1 million
- Eudlo State School – resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$103,000
- Kenilworth State Community College – classroom upgrade to support science and arts initiatives – approximately \$103,000
- Palmwoods State School – resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$103,000.

Core Facilities Upgrades

- Currimundi Special School – Administration upgrade – approximately \$700,000
- Mountain Creek State School – Library upgrade – approximately \$300,000
- Coolum State School – Administration upgrade – approximately \$450,000
- Kenilworth State Community College – Administration upgrade – approximately \$450,000.

Creating affordable public housing

- \$641,000 for public housing upgrades.

Disability services

- \$40,000 to upgrade disability facilities and equipment in Kawana
- \$35,000 to upgrade disability facilities and equipment in Maroochydore
- \$80,000 to upgrade disability facilities and equipment in Nicklin.

Investing in our health system

- \$9.7 million to consolidate community health services provided on the Sunshine Coast into a multi-functional community health centre. A range of services which are obtained at Nambour Hospital could be moved to the new centre, taking pressure off the hospital.

Safer roads

- \$15 million to upgrade the Sunshine Coast Motorway at the Sippy Downs interchange
- \$35 million for improvements on the Sunshine Motorway at Mooloolaba and Maroochydore junctions to provide an alternative access to the Maroochydore central business district and reduce congestion on the Mooloolaba interchange.

Transport

- \$2.95 million for bus priority measures on the Sunshine Motorway, including at Maroochydore, the Maroochydore-Caloundra route, Kawana and Mooloolaba to improve conditions for buses, reduce congestion and increase safety in the area
- \$45,000 to upgrade the oil spill response capacity at Mooloolaba Boat Harbour
- \$250,000 to prepare a long-term dredging strategy for the Mooloolaba Boat Harbour
- \$84,000 towards boating infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast, including upgrading the jetties at Albert/Edward streets at Noosaville and Lake Cootharaba.

Police

- \$3.1 million to accelerate construction of a police station at Sippy Downs
- \$400,000 for a new Neighbourhood Police Beat in Noosaville.

Environment

- \$1 million to expand visitor facilities in Cooloola National Park
- \$250,000 to expand visitor facilities in Noosa National Park.

DELIVERING FOR THE SUNSHINE COAST

Key achievements 2001-2004

A strong record and commitment

The Sunshine Coast region represents the Smart State at its very best. It is a region of boundless potential, great diversity and bustling industry. The Sunshine Coast is a great place to live, work and raise a family.

The Beattie Government has worked to help build the Sunshine Coast region's economy. We have helped the region unlock its full potential by supporting local industries and providing the essential services and community infrastructure which keep our communities safe, healthy and prosperous. The Government's record of achievement since 2001 demonstrates its commitment to ensuring the people of Sunshine Coast and Burnett continue to live life in the Smart State to the full.

Highlights

Health

The Beattie Government is committed to continuing to deliver world-class health services to the people of the Sunshine Coast region. The Sunshine Coast Health Service District budget for 2003-04 is now in excess of \$155 million.

**We have
been building
momentum
for the future**

Some of our major achievements in health over the last three years have included:

- \$14.7 million redevelopment of the Caloundra Health Service
- \$29.1 million redevelopment of Nambour Hospital, which included a \$3.1 million MRI service
- \$800,000 for an acute mental health unit upgrade at Nambour Hospital
- \$525,000 to enhance services in the Emergency Department at Caloundra Hospital
- Doubling the number of doctors in Caloundra Hospital's Emergency Department from four to eight
- Establishing a 17-bed rehabilitation unit at Caloundra Hospital
- \$950,000 for renal services

Police and Emergency Services

Queensland boasts the most dedicated police and emergency services personnel in the world. Over the past three years, the Government has helped our police and emergency services personnel in their vital role of keeping the people of Sunshine Coast safe, through such initiatives as:

- 121 extra police for the District since 1998, including 62 since February 2001
- Establishing a 14-officer Tactical Crime Squad for the Sunshine Coast targeting property and drug crimes
- Establishing new Police Beat Shopfronts at Buderim and Kawana, soon to be completed
- Building the soon-to-be-completed police station in the central business district of Coolum
- \$1.1 million funding for Caloundra watch-house
- Establishing a new Police Station at Eumundi at a cost of \$430,000
- Delivering a new fire truck to Caloundra Fire Station at a cost of \$261,000, and three replacement appliances to Kawana, Maroochydore and Noosa Heads stations at a total cost of more than \$1.4 million
- Upgrading Mooloolah Fire Station at a cost of \$229,000, extending Noosa station (\$81,000) and completing a new training tower at Maroochydore (\$54,000)
- Committing \$135,000 to refurbish Coolum Fire Station, with work due for completion in April 2004
- Completing a new ambulance communications centre at Maroochydore at a cost of more than \$1.6 million, a new ambulance station at Tewantin (more than \$560,000) and building stations at Nambour (\$618,000) and Buderim (\$604,000)
- Committing more than \$700,000 to complete the refurbishment of Kawana ambulance station
- Funding two additional permanent and two casual fire communications officer positions at Kawana, five additional ambulance communications officer positions at Maroochydore and three new student paramedic positions for the North Coast Region

- Delivering three new flood boats and 17 safety-at-heights kits for State Emergency Service groups in the North Coast Region.

Transport

The Beattie Government has helped keep the Sunshine Coast region on the move. We have committed more than \$113.4 million since 2001 to develop the region's transport infrastructure. Our achievements have included:

- \$3.35 million for a pavement reconstruction project on the Sunshine Motorway between Wisers Farm underpass and Maroochy River
- Developing a long-term planning study project on the Sunshine Motorway between Dixon Road and David Low Way
- Allocating \$8.2 million for construction of the two-lane Eumundi Bypass
- Intersection improvements on the Maroochy Road at a total cost of \$940,000
- \$4.75 million to realign the Eumundi-Kenilworth Road, between Strong Lane and Eerwah Creek
- \$22.5 million to construct the Kawana Arterial link between Nicklin Way and the Sunshine Motorway.

Education

The Beattie Government has ensured the children of the Sunshine Coast region have access to a world-class education, investing more than \$27 million since 2001 in capital works and new technologies in local schools, including:

- \$9 million towards the first stage of Chancellor State College
- A further \$2.7 million towards a shared technology building at the University of the Sunshine Coast
- \$6.7 million to upgrade Nambour State High School, Caloundra State High School and Maroochy State High School
- \$300,000 towards toilets and multi-purpose courts at Talara Primary College
- \$1.3 million for a new general studies and special education block at Sunshine Beach State High School
- \$1.1 million for additional classrooms at Chancellor State School
- \$350,000 to replace the special education unit at Golden Beach State School
- \$260,000 for additional toilets at Buderim Mountain State School
- \$260,000 for additional toilets at Coolumb State School
- \$226,000 for extra classrooms at Noosaville State School
- \$125,000 towards an activities building at Palmwoods State School
- \$180,000 towards an activities building and electrical upgrade at Bli Bli State School
- \$125,000 towards an activities hall at Bokarina State School
- About \$1.9 million spent and committed to clear outstanding maintenance at state schools under the Government's \$50 million Triple R Maintenance Program

- \$3.1 million in grants to state schools to buy more computers and boost the technology skills of students and teachers under the ICTs for Learning Strategy
- 362 extra computers delivered to state schools to improve their computer to student ratios.

Training

The Beattie Government has continued to meet the Smart State training needs of the people of the Sunshine Coast region, through such achievements as:

- An investment of an estimated \$79 million in training in 2003-04
- Investing more than \$20,000 under the 2003 Youth Access Program for hospitality training for Kawana State High School students
- An investment in major capital works for Cooloola Sunshine Institute of TAFE, including the Noosa Arts and Environmental Tourism Centre.

Community Infrastructure

The Government recognises that building stronger and more supportive communities is the key to ensuring Queensland remains a great place to live, work and raise a family. Since 2001, the Government has enhanced the community infrastructure in the Sunshine Coast, through such allocations as:

- A significant on-going investment in preserving and protecting our environment and national parks in the Southern Region, which includes the Sunshine Coast area
- More than \$36 million invested in housing and housing-related services
- More than \$27 million in community infrastructure funding through local government grants and subsidies
- More than \$16.2 million in non-government services in childcare, child protection and family support, domestic violence prevention and support programs, and homeless support programs through the Department of Families
- More than \$11.6 million for children and adults with a disability in 2003-04, an increase of more than \$5.8 million
- Committing \$6 million for construction of a new courthouse in Gregson Place, adjacent to Caloundra Police Station. The courthouse will incorporate the latest technology, including closed circuit television facilities to protect vulnerable witnesses such as children and sexual assault victims
- More than \$5.29 million for arts and cultural projects
- Over \$1.3 million to Tourism Sunshine Coast since 2001 for the promotion and development of tourism and business events in the region
- More than \$5.25 million to various community groups in the region as part of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund
- 33,941 telephone calls to Wageline (Department of Industrial Relations) managed by staff at the Sunshine Coast, with more than 36,000 clients

assisted with information services including Wageline calls, counter enquiries, written requests for information, summary sheet subscribers

- New WorkCover Queensland office opened at Kawana
- \$82,572 to five recipients to overcome ICT skill shortages and promote ICT careers, with a further 3 organisations awarded a total of \$22,136.73 to bring higher levels of ICT skills into the community
- \$500,000 to date in the Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast as part of a state-wide incubation strategy, to provide technology-based start-up companies with direct access to low-cost shared facilities, business development and commercialisation skills and funding opportunities
- An investment of \$4.05 million by Energex to upgrade its substation at Mooloolaba, \$1.7 million for its substation at Palmwoods and \$450,000 to improve reliability of supply to the Palmwoods area
- More than \$12,000 to fish stocking groups in the Sunshine Coast region
- \$500,000 committed in conjunction with the RSPCA for the construction of a veterinary clinic in Noosa and for a mobile cat de-sexing unit for the region
- \$444,000 to councils and community organisations in grants and subsidies for pest and weed control, flood mitigation, natural resource management activities and projects under the joint Commonwealth-State National Heritage Trust program.