

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1516

asked on Wednesday, 29 November 2006

MR HOPPER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER IN NORTH QUEENSLAND (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the “Reclaim the bush – a pest offensive program” grants that form part of the Blueprint for the Bush and it is noted that the first round of applications closed on 13 November 2006 for the \$11m available from the fund—

- (1) Which shires have applied for funding?
- (2) What partnerships have been formed with shires in applying for funding?
- (3) What is the value of individual funding applications?

ANSWER:

- (1) The Beattie Government’s “Reclaim the bush – a pest offensive” has been a very popular scheme throughout all Queensland. This is clearly evidenced by the number of shires that have applied for funding. A total of 34 applications, where a shire council is the lead agent, have been received from 30 shire councils, including three Aboriginal shire councils. The total of the funds requested is \$9.65 million. It should be noted that all except eight of the 34 applications have partners.
- (2) Shires applying for funds formed partnerships with a range of other organisations, including regional natural resource management (NRM) bodies, Government Departments, other shire councils, indigenous communities, research organisations such as CSIRO, Landcare groups, and private industry such as the oil and gas industry. Overall, in 62 applications shire councils are in partnership, either as lead agents or as collaborators.
- (3) All applications are currently being considered as part of the process. It is anticipated that successful applicants will be advised in early 2007.