

Question on Notice
No. 269
Asked on 7 March 2006

MR WELLINGTON asked the Premier (Mr Beattie)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the spiralling population growth on the Sunshine Coast—
What provision is made to ensure sufficient land is being set aside on the Sunshine Coast to provide for the future sporting and recreational needs of the region?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government has ensured that long-term planning needs are incorporated in the South East Queensland Regional Plan.

This plan requires local governments to undertake a Local Growth Management Strategy by June 2007. Through the preparation and completion of these strategies, councils will identify opportunities for the appropriate location and form of future development including the provision of accessible sport and recreation opportunities.

The Queensland Government through the Office of Urban Management is preparing a South-East Queensland (SEQ) Regional Outdoor Recreation Strategy. The strategy will assist State Government agencies, local government, private enterprise and the community sector to better plan, coordinate and manage outdoor recreation facilities. It will also inform and guide Government investment decisions on recreation infrastructure priorities in SEQ. The Outdoor Recreation Strategy is to be completed by December 2006.

South East Queensland, including the Sunshine Coast, is experiencing dynamic growth as people choose to move and live in one of the most attractive areas of our great State. Planning for this growth is a challenge and this includes planning for the provision of sport and recreation.

The three local governments on the Sunshine Coast (Maroochy, Noosa and Caloundra) are actively planning for future development to manage the growth. For example, each local government has developed Open Space Plans (the Plans), which identify potential areas where land for future sport and recreation development may be required. The Plans take into account population growth and existing land provision and make recommendations on any potential “gaps” where future land for sport and recreation purposes may be required.

Land use recommendations from the Plans can be incorporated into council planning schemes which are submitted to the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation (DLGPSR) for approval.

Planning is also being undertaken with respect to sport and active recreation facilities to complement planning for the provision of open space. The Sunshine Coast Regional Organisation of Councils (SunRoc) has developed the SunRoc Regional

Sport and Recreation Facilities Study (2005-2020) which looks at the future provision of regional, State and national standard sport and active recreation facilities. The Queensland Government through DLGPSR provided \$40,000 to support the development of the SunRoc Study.

The SunRoc Study was endorsed in-principle by SunRoc in November 2005. A working group comprising representatives from the three local governments, the University of the Sunshine Coast, DLGPSR and the Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation has been formed to develop a strategy to progress recommendations from the Study.

Additionally, DLGPSR provides financial assistance to local governments to plan for the provision of sport and recreation through the Local Government Development Program (LGDP). Councils can receive up to 50% in subsidy assistance to a maximum of \$75,000 to develop sport, recreation, open space or facility plans that will guide the provision of future sport and active recreation services.

In addition to funding the SunRoc Study, DLGPSR supported the following sport and recreation planning studies:

- Noosa Shire Council was approved \$30,000 under LGDP 2004 for the development of an Open Space Plan for the Shire; and
- Caloundra City Council was approved \$30,000 towards an update of an Open Space Plan for Caloundra City under LGDP 2005.

The State Government will continue to actively support local governments in land use planning across Queensland, including the development of future sport and recreation opportunities for people living on the Sunshine Coast.