

Question on Notice

No. 312

Asked on 8 March 2006

MR COPELAND asked the Minister for Education and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) -

QUESTION:

With reference to budgeted and approved capital works for each department, agency and portfolio entity administered by him:

- (1) What capital works projects are running behind schedule or have not been commenced or completed to date (reported separately according to name and location)?
- (2) For each of the projects listed in (1), what is the amount expended to date and what level of expenditure is still budgeted to complete each project?
- (3) For each of the projects listed in (1), what is the revised completion date and the corresponding reason why?

ANSWER:

I would have thought it most unlike the amiable honourable member to descend to nitpicking about whether particular projects are a month or two ahead or behind time. Construction projects are notoriously variable according to interruptions such as weather but every effort is made to complete projects on time where deadlines are critical e.g. for the start of a school year or in time for a particular event.

Education

The \$455.1m capital works program which was announced in the 05–06 Budget was the largest capital program ever allocated for education in Queensland.

All of the new schools and classrooms scheduled for delivery for the opening of school in 2006 were delivered.

An assessment of the impact of Cyclone Larry on the availability of skilled labour is currently being conducted by the Department of Public Works. The availability of skilled labour is expected to have an impact on the delivery of the 05-06 capital works program.

Arts

There is one project listed for full expenditure in the 05–06 Arts Queensland Capital Statement that will not be completed by the end of the financial year.

This is the expansion of the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts which now has a forecast completion date of December 2006. The delay was caused due to negotiations around the scope of the work.