Question on Notice No. 535 Asked Wednesday, 19 April 2006

MR LAWLOR asked the Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations and Minster for Sport (**Mr Barton**):

QUESTION:

Will he advise the amount received in the Gold Coast region, during the current financial year, pursuant to the Priority Purchasing Program?

ANSWER:

- In the current financial year to 19 April 2006, \$9 620 274 has been approved for the Gold Coast region through the Priority Purchasing Program. This program funds the training of apprentices and trainees, the up-skilling and re-skilling of existing workers in new and emerging industries, and those traditional industries adjusting to technology changes, industry experiencing skills shortages and Queenslanders who are, or are at risk of becoming marginalised from learning and earning.
- The Gold Coast region has been provided with training through the following activities:
 - \$8 874 034 approved through the User Choice program that has supported the training of 4 169 apprentices and trainees.
 - \$97 350 approved through SmartVET funding to provide 213 people with the opportunity to have prior learning and skills formally recognised.
 - \$648 890 approved through a range of community employment and training initiatives to assist more than 649 people access accredited vocational education and training, including literacy and numeracy.