

**Question on Notice
No. 929
Asked on 26 May 2006**

QUESTION:

MR WELLINGTON asked the Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women (Ms Boyle)—

Will she ensure more funding is made available to employ more Environmental enforcement officers on the Sunshine Coast?

ANSWER:

The Government has provided the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a record budget of \$305.3M for the 2005/06 financial year. The EPA has distributed this budget proportionally and equitably across Queensland, based upon the environmental priorities identified by the Government. Enforcement is just one of these important priorities. The Sunshine Coast District Office of the EPA thereby receives a proportionate amount of funding according to regulatory workload to employ environmental officers to carry out its very important and necessary work. Where major issues arise that are beyond the day-to-day capacity of an individual office to deal with, the EPA mobilises additional resources, statewide if necessary, to ensure the matter is appropriately dealt with.