

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 952**  
**Asked on Tuesday 6 June 2006**

**MRS MILLER** asked the Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women (MS DESLEY BOYLE)–

**QUESTION:**

How does the State Government support Ipswich City Council in delivering services to the residents of Ipswich?

**ANSWER:**

The Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation is working closely with the Office of Urban Management to assist Ipswich City Council in the preparation of Master Plans for areas identified for growth such as the Western Corridor identified in the South East Queensland Regional Plan.

Departmental officers have recently been involved in Enquiry by Design Processes for the South Redbank Plains area and are currently involved in the planning process for the future development of the Ripley Valley. These projects have involved many State agencies identifying their interests and assisting Council in delivering a plan for future development which includes key transport corridors.

Departmental officers will also be involved in the preparation of the Ipswich City Council Local Growth Management Strategy (LGMS), facilitated by the Office of Urban Management. This will include the need for the preparation of statutory planning documents which reflect Council's policy position for community, local services and infrastructure and State infrastructure. Issues such as housing, education and health will be addressed by the LGMS for eventual incorporation into planning documents for Council.

The payment of grants and subsidies under the Local Governing Bodies' Capital Works Subsidy Scheme provides significant financial assistance in the provision of services to the residents of Ipswich. Since 1 July 1998 up until now the Department has paid in excess of \$22M to Ipswich City Council in grants and subsidies and committed \$24M.

On 18 April 2006, the Honourable Peter Beattie, Premier and all 18 South East Queensland Mayors (including Ipswich City Council's Mayor) agreed to the South East Queensland Regional Water Leakage and Pressure Management Project. The State has provided up-front funding for this project of \$32M based on the estimated total project cost of \$90M.

The State Government has provided a subsidy of \$1,508,400 to assist Ipswich City Council in upgrading its water infrastructure through the Eastern Trunk Main to Central Trunk Main Connection to meet the demands of significant population growth, particularly in Springfield, Redbank Plains, Bundamba and Swanbank.

Ipswich residents are enjoying greater access to clean drinking water through a subsidy of \$630,828 to set up the Kruger Parade Pump Station. This project will increase the pump station's capacity from 350 litres a second to 850 litres a second to supply potable water to local government areas such as Bundamba, Redbank and Springfield.

The Department (through the Office for Women) provided a grant of \$5,000 to the Inala Community House, Family and Community Enhancement Team (FACET) Project in 2004-2005.

This grant partly funded a project entitled “Encouraging a Greater Role of Fathers in Parenting: Production of Promotional Material Targeting Fathers”. Coinciding with National Child Protection Week and Father’s Day, FACET in collaboration with Fathers/Male Carers Alliance Network has developed a series of brochures for fathers which included:

- Tips for Being an Involved Father;
- Tips to Father the Breastfed Baby;
- Fathering Through Postnatal Depression; and
- A magnet on “10 tips on being an involved Father”.

Since receiving this grant, FACET has received further funding of \$14,000 from the Commonwealth Government Department of Family and Community Services, to allow the printing and State-wide distribution of 50,000 copies of the brochures.

As part of implementing Office for Women’s State-wide Service Delivery Model, ten regional coordinators are being appointed to link with other government agencies and community organisations to help promote women’s needs throughout the State. A regional coordinator will be appointed by August 2006 to service the Moreton region (Ipswich).

In addition to planning initiatives and funding subsidies, the Department provides a range of governance and technical advisory services as well as facilitating statutory approval processes for Ipswich City Council. All of these services provide assistance to Ipswich City Council to fulfill its statutory obligations and provide the best possible levels of governance for the community.

All of these things show the State Government’s commitment to assist Ipswich City Council deliver services to their community.