

Question on Notice
No. 1932
Asked on 15 November 2007

MRS SCOTT MP, asked the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology (MR SCHWARTEN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Community Renewal Program—

- (1) Would he provide an update on the program and its recent successes?
- (2) Would he provide an update on the Community Renewal Programs in Logan City with funding amounts?

ANSWER:

(1) The Community Renewal program commenced operation in 1998. The program brings together partners in Government, non-Government organisations, community organisations and residents to improve the lives of people living in Community Renewal neighbourhoods.

Community Renewal is implemented at a local level in 10 zones across the State, chosen on the basis of high levels of disadvantage in these communities.

The Community Renewal program has exceeded expenditure targets and has strengthened partnerships. The program aims to work closely with partners to narrow the socio-economic gap.

In 2006–07, \$13.3 million was expended on 122 projects across the State. These projects have assisted in strengthening families and preparing unemployed people for employment, developing local services as well as providing much needed community infrastructure.

To date, in 2007–08, \$3 million has been approved for 40 projects across the State. Partner contributions currently exceed the annual target of 50%. This is being achieved through high quality stakeholder engagement and contributes to whole-of Government outcomes.

(2) The program allocation for the Logan Zone is \$5.5 million for the period between July 2004 and June 2009. A total of \$4.3 million has already been approved for projects in Logan.

Recent analysis of project achievements for completed projects in Logan illustrates the success and impact of the program from July 2004 to date. The program has achieved the following outcomes in Logan:

- Nine new or enhanced family support services have been provided to strengthen families and 12 new or enhanced cultural services or facilities have been provided.
- Over 400 local children have received greater support in education and development through Community Renewal.

- 46 residents provided with extra assistance through Community Renewal have obtained employment and 56 residents have obtained employment training.
- 950 residents have actively participated in local community activities and 239 residents have benefited from projects that promote personal and social development.
- 382 residents have been involved in public consultation on the design and/or development of parks, open spaces, facilities and amenities. Over 3,000 residents have been directly involved in local arts projects and over 2,000 residents have been involved in initiatives designed to promote harmony in the community.
- In particular a project in Logan City that has achieved good outcomes in the area is the Crestmead State School Multifunctional Community Facility, which is accessible by the wider community. This project assists young people at risk of disengaging from school and offers students flexible learning opportunities, catering for all learning styles and needs. The sporting facility encourages parents and carers to become more involved in their children's education by providing an accessible and safe facility. Community Renewal funding of \$258,400 was provided with partners contributing a further \$312,232 in funding for the project.