

Question on Notice

No. 642

Asked on Thursday, 19 April 2007

MR LINGARD MP asked the Minister for Communities, Minister for Disability Services Queensland, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Seniors and Youth (**MR PIT**T)–

With reference to Question on Notice No. 370 asked on 8 March 2007, in which he stated that more than \$235m was allocated in the last financial year as part of the responding to homelessness package

1. How much of the allocated \$235m was actually spent on the cause?
2. What specific programs or initiatives was that money spent on (identifying what portion of the funding was spent on each)?
3. How much money has been allocated for and actually spent on the cause in the current financial year?

ANSWER:

In the 2005-06 State Budget, the Queensland Government announced Responding to Homelessness, a \$235 million whole-of-government response to health, accommodation and safety issues faced by people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

While the overarching responsibility for the implementation of the package lies within the portfolio of the Honourable Robert Schwarten MP, Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology, the Department of Communities will provide funding of \$56.45 million over four years to boost responses to homelessness and public intoxication issues as a part of this package.

The Department of Communities will deliver the following initiatives under *Responding to Homeless*:

- a call centre for people who are homeless, or those at risk of becoming homeless, called Homeless Persons Information Queensland;
- service hubs for people who are homeless;
- additional crisis accommodation for single people with complex needs, who are experiencing homelessness or who may be excluded from the homelessness services system;
- additional crisis accommodation for families who are homeless;
- transitional accommodation for young people, with support provided to them to attain greater levels of independence;
- new homelessness early intervention services to assist people at risk of becoming homeless to maintain or improve their living situation; and
- new and enhanced public intoxication outreach support services.

For the details of the rest of the Responding to Homelessness package the Member may wish to redirect his question to the portfolio of the Honourable Robert Schwarten MP, Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology.