

**Question on Notice
No.677
Asked on 22 May 2007**

Mr MOORHEAD asked the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology (MR SCHWARTEN)—

QUESTION:

Will he inform the House of Community Renewal projects to develop and promote the Yugambeh Museum in Beenleigh?

ANSWER:

Since 2004, a total of \$1.66 million has been approved for the Gold Coast North Community Renewal zone, across 15 projects in the Beenleigh area, and \$690,000 has been spent on projects (by instalments based on milestones achieved through each project). Projects are diverse and aim at delivering training to residents with mental illness, developing a local community garden into a sustaining working farm with participation of residents with special needs, encouraging youth to explore through art what a safer and healthier future could look like, counselling for children (and their families) suffering from anxiety and/or depression, or support for newly arrived emigrants to assist them to settle smoothly in Australia.

An exciting new initiative is now underway with the creation of a 'cultural heritage garden' within the Yugambeh Museum, to support the preservation of the Yugambeh language and provide a sustainable environment where people can learn about the traditional owners of this region.

The two main components of the project include the creation of a cultural heritage garden within the museum administered by the Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture Lead Agency and extensive building modifications. These facilities are also designed to be used as an educational venue for local schools, Government and non-Government organisations.

A heritage trail will be developed in collaboration with a range of stakeholders: the Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture; the Beenleigh Historical Village; Coles Supermarket Historical Cane Fields Mural; Beenleigh Cinema Complex Mural development; Beenleigh Yatala Chamber of Commerce; and Gold Coast Tourism Corporation Ltd to promote the historical significance of the Beenleigh region, from the traditional owners, the colonisation and cane field industry development through to today's community.

The museum redevelopment and the garden promotion will align with the 'Very Gold Coast, Very GC' communication campaign Tourism Queensland and Gold Coast Tourism implemented in March 2006 and the establishment of the new tourism information centre in the Beenleigh Historical Village. This approach re-enforces the promotion of the local Indigenous culture and heritage of the region.

Community Renewal actively promotes the project through their Community Capacity Building and stakeholder feedback forums. An education officer based in the museum will be employed for 12 months to work with the local community to promote the Yugambeh language and culture and develop a comprehensive source of educational resources for communal and tourist purposes.

The project is catalysing enthusiasm and commitment all around Beenleigh and has now developed into a business model of community engagement, partnership and funding collaboration.

The Beenleigh State School has confirmed its desire to involve students in the design and delivery of an Indigenous Welcoming Ceremony (dance and music) at the official launch to be held once the project is complete.

The Department of Employment and Industrial Relations will contribute to the construction of the garden through a Community Jobs Plan initiative which will employ 12 local Indigenous residents for an initial period of 13 weeks. The locally based Institute of TAFE will conduct the majority of the initial garden planting by engaging 15 local Indigenous residents to complete the Certificate II in Landscaping and Horticulture.

The Gold Coast City Council, the Indigenous Coordination Centre, the Indigenous Land Council, the Australian Government Department of Communication Information Technology and the Arts, the State Department of Education, Training and the Arts and the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department will also contribute funding to support the project.

The cultural heritage garden is planned to be maintained by local Year 8 students attending landscaping and horticulture accredited courses.

The project is scheduled to commence in June 2007 and finish by July 2008.

Partners	Funding (\$)
Community Renewal	153,430
Indigenous Coordination Centre	36,000
Indigenous Land Council (land at 2003 valuation + \$20,000 cash)	685,000
Australian Government Attorney-General's Department	10,000
Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture (in kind)	15,000
Gold Coast City Council	15,000
Australian Government Department of Communication Information Technology and the Arts	20,000
Department of Employment and Industrial Relations	120,000
BTC Employment and Training	2,250
Beenleigh State High School	5,000
Department of Education, Training and the Arts	20,000