

**Question on Notice
No. 715
Asked on 22 May 2007**

MR STEVENS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS, HOUSING AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (MR SCHWARTEN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to Question on Notice No. 247, will he detail total ongoing operational costs and the number of people assisted (reported separately) for each of the following initiatives in the Department of Housing (a) Community Housing On Line, (b) Community Renewal Program, (c) Home Assist Secure, (d) Boarding House Program, (e) Community Rent Scheme, (f) Drug Court Residential Program, (g) Community Housing Resource Worker Program, (h) Crisis Accommodation Program, (i) Home Access and (j) Queensland's Home Adapt Loan Program?

ANSWER:

Number of Households Assisted in 2005-06

| Program | Total Households Assisted |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Home Assist Secure | 50,706 |
| Long - term accommodation † | 4,305 |
| Transitional accommodation # | 3,027 |
| Crisis Accommodation Program | 9,846 |
| Home Adapt Loan Program * | 1 |

† Long-term accommodation includes Community-managed Housing – Studio Units (formerly known as Boarding Housing Program) and Long Term Community Housing Program.

Transitional accommodation includes Community Rent Scheme and Same House Different Landlord

* The Home Adapt Loan was introduced in 2004 to assist home owners who need to make modifications to their home because of disability of age.

Community Housing On Line Internet Site

Community Housing On Line is an initiative of the Department of Housing, which provides a secure web-based site for community housing service providers. It offers immediate access to a wide range of information and communication tools and incorporates many features such as program guidelines, a calendar of upcoming events, and access to the latest newsletters and publications. The Community Housing On-line site received 9361 hits in 2005/2006.

Drug Court Residential Program

The Drug Court Residential Program is part of a comprehensive, whole-of-Government approach targeting illicit drug use and providing a new approach to break the cycle of drug addiction and crime.

The objective of the housing component is to administer the provision of independent, affordable and appropriate accommodation for clients assessed as suitable participants and referred by the Drug Court Magistrate under an Intensive Drug Rehabilitation Order.

As at 30 June 2006 there were five Drug Court Residential Program providers administering 22 properties in Ipswich, Logan and Gold Coast in South East Queensland and Townsville and Cairns in North Queensland.

Community Housing Resource Worker Program

This program provides recurrent funding to community-based organisations in 10 regions throughout the State, to employ Community Housing Resource Workers. The main objectives of the program are to provide resourcing and support to help registered community housing providers, or organisations proposing to provide a housing service, funded by the department.

Home Access

Home Access is a Department of Housing initiative that addresses the need for accessible housing in the private housing market (private rental and owner occupation) and aims to enhance housing options for people with a disability and older people.

People whose home is restricting their day-to-day activities, may be helped to adapt it to better meet their needs through either financial assistance or useful targeted information, such as the 'Over 100 ways to improve access at home' booklet. The Department of Housing has printed 50,000 copies of the second edition of this booklet, which provides people with information on portable equipment solutions and minor fixtures and fittings, which may assist them to overcome design barriers. The booklet also offers information on particular services that may offer assistance.

The department also aims to influence the housing system, by working with community-based housing providers and real estate professionals to maximise and promote the range and quality of accessible housing available.

Community Renewal

A total of \$82.9 million in Community Renewal funding has been allocated since February 1998 to 30 June 2006, including:

- 10 projects in Phase 2, with funding of \$1.01 million, to improve local amenities and infrastructure;
- 30 projects in Phase 2, with funding of \$0.3 million, to build the capacity of local residents and organisations; and
- 776 projects across Phase 1 and Phase 2, with funding of \$81.6 million, targeting key issues such as re-engaging young people in the community and with the education system, supporting improved family health and wellbeing and increasing economic development initiatives. The program also provides funding for cultural programs that help to reconnect communities. These priorities have been identified through comprehensive community consultation and are linked to whole-of-Government and partner agency strategies.

In regards to your request for a breakdown of operational costs across a range of programs, I can advise that this information is detailed in the Ministerial Portfolio Statement by Output.