

Question on Notice
No. 1554
Asked on 29 October 2008

MR LINGARD asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to my Question on Notice on 4 June regarding rumours that the Salvation Army's Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Centre at Parklands will be relocated, and to his subsequent answer—

- (1) Will he confirm that a property is being purchased by the State Government at Eagle Heights for the purpose of relocating a Drug and Alcohol Centre?
- (2) Is it correct that only a part of the property (which is on two titles) is to be used for the purpose of drug and alcohol rehabilitation and, if so, how does the Government intend to utilise the balance of the land which adjoins Joalah National Park?
- (3) Why has there been no consultation with the local community given that the Eagle Heights property is in the middle of a residential area?

ANSWER:

- (1) I can confirm that Queensland Health has signed a contract to purchase a property at Eagle Heights with the intention of locating the Salvation Army's recovery service. However, prior to relocating the service, Queensland Health is undertaking a Community Infrastructure Designation process on the property. The outcome of the Community Infrastructure Designation process will be detailed in a final assessment report which will be presented to me for consideration in late January 2009.

The Queensland Government together with the Salvation Army identified the site as suitable for the Salvation Army's needs as:

- it is an existing facility with sufficient established buildings to accommodate the proposed use therefore providing an optimum and economical solution for Queensland Health and the Salvation Army;
 - the property is close to the Gold Coast allowing the Salvation Army to continue to provide its valued service to the local Gold Coast and Tamborine Mountain communities; and
 - the site provides a healing environment in a natural setting.
- (2) The Eagle Heights property is approximately 48 hectares in total, of which a small portion (approximately two hectares) will be leased to the Salvation Army. This will leave a substantial amount of the property unused. At this stage there is no intended use by Queensland Health for the remainder of the property.

- (3) Queensland Health has always intended to consult with the local community regarding the proposed use of the Eagle Heights site. The department has been awaiting the completion of an environmental assessment report of the site prior to undertaking a formal three week community consultation period.

The consultation period commenced on Thursday 27 November and will conclude on Thursday 18 December 2008.

During this period the assessment report will be readily available to the public for review at the following locations:

- Library and Information Centre, Department of Public Works, Level 2B, 80 George Street, Brisbane, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm
- Gold Coast University Hospital Project Office, Level 3, 33 Scarborough Street, Southport, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm
- An information booth will also be located at the Georgian Room, St George's Anglican Church, Cnr Dapsang Drive and Eagle Heights Road, Eagle Heights
- The report can also be viewed online at www.health.qld.gov.au/gcuhopsital.

Michael Walsh, the CEO of the Major Hospitals Project Office together with Russell Grice of the Salvation Army, will be personally hand delivering hard copies of the report to residences directly adjoining the Eagle Heights site.