

## Question on Notice

No. 1824

Asked on Tuesday 25 November 2008

**MR COPELAND** asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (MR LUCAS) –

QUESTION:

How much money has the Queensland Government spent on water and sewerage infrastructure in the Eastern Downs district during 2006-07 and 2007-08 (listed separately)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Cunningham for his question.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation provides WASP funding to assist local governments with their Water and Sewerage Infrastructure programs. The Honourable Member should direct his question to the Minister for Local Government, Sport and Recreation.

However, in relation to my Department, I am advised that the water related activity that the Department of Infrastructure and Planning is performing in the Eastern Downs is the Toowoomba Pipeline Project. In 2007-08 a total budget of \$20M was approved by the Queensland Government for the undertaking of preliminary investigative works. This figure included the engaging of construction partners, progression of design, development of initial target cost estimates. In addition, on site activities such as undertaking environmental assessments of the pipeline route, community consultation and the securing of an energy supply to the Esk pump station site is also included.

In 2008-09 a further \$167M of funding was approved by CBRC for the construction of the project. The Queensland Government is currently in discussions with Toowoomba Council regarding ownership of the pipeline and funding arrangements. As of October 2008 total committed costs (excluding professional fees) on the project, as reported by the Toowoomba Pipeline Alliance, were \$10.82M.