

Question on Notice

No. 215

Asked on Friday, 7 March 2008

Mr Johnson MP, asked the Minister for Communities, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Seniors and Youth (**MS NELSON-CARR**) -

With reference to the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) -

- (1) Will this program be moved to the auspices of the Department of Housing and Public Works and, if so, why?
- (2) What is the community consultation engagement process for this change?
- (3) Does she give a commitment that, should this change occur, SAAP service providers will be consulted and engaged in an open and transparent way?

ANSWER:

1. There has been no decision to move the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) to the Department of Housing and Public Works.
2. KPMG has been appointed to conduct an independent review of SAAP and the Crisis Accommodation Program to identify opportunities for improved program management and improved outcomes for homeless people across Queensland.

As part of the review stakeholders will be provided with opportunities to express their views. Consultation mechanisms have included regional forums and existing statewide consultation groups including the Community Housing Planning Group and written submissions. In addition, a reference group including the Queensland Council of Social Service and Queensland Shelter will provide ongoing information and advice to the consultant.

Six regional forums have been conducted in Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton, Brisbane, Ipswich and the Gold Coast from 17 to 20 March 2008.

SAAP service providers have been invited to attend the forums and encouraged to participate in the review so that their perspective is taken into account.

3. As outlined above, SAAP service providers are being consulted and engaged in an open and transparent way in this review process