

Question on Notice

No. QON 1273

Asked on Wednesday 16 September 2009

MS FARMER asked the Minister for Main Roads (MR WALLACE) -

QUESTION:

How many jobs have been created by the construction of the Gateway upgrade project, which is a key piece of infrastructure in the Bulimba Electorate?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bulimba for the question.

The Gateway Upgrade Project involves construction of a second Gateway Bridge, seven kilometres of new motorway north of the Brisbane River and twelve kilometres of upgrades south of the Brisbane River to Mt Gravatt-Capalaba Road.

At a cost of \$1.88 billion it is the largest bridge and road project in Queensland's history. The delivery of large infrastructure projects, such as the Gateway Upgrade Project, produces both direct and indirect job benefits.

The business case assessment for the Gateway Upgrade Project utilised an economic "input-output" model that quantified the positive employment impacts of the project. This method estimated 6 000 jobs would be created during the four-and-a-half-year project construction period.

Direct job benefits involve the creation of jobs for people involved in the delivery of projects such as engineers, administration and construction workers. At the project's peak in August 2008, there were 1 780 employees working directly with the major contractor, as well as the Queensland Motorways delivery team and the project's Independent Verifier.

The Gateway Upgrade Project is also stimulating the economy by protecting jobs in service industries that provide various project inputs, such as manufacturing components, transportation and technology. Further, the project is providing invaluable experience for Queensland workers with approximately 120 engaged trainees across the administration, engineering, design and construction industries. Skills gained from working on this project will carry forward, ensuring both local knowledge and resources are available at all levels of infrastructure delivery to meet the continuing growth in Queensland.

The Gateway Upgrade Project is one of the many projects that the government is providing to protect employment in the state.