

Question on Notice

No. 1427

Asked on 7 October 2009

MRS STUCKEY ASKED THE TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (MR FRASER)—

Will the Treasurer advise of job-generating infrastructure projects and any Green Army projects either underway or planned for the electorate of Currumbin (reported separately) as part of the Bligh Government's \$18B building program and \$57M Green Army initiative?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government has made jobs the number one priority for this Government. That is why we have committed to creating 100,000 additional jobs for Queensland over the next three years. On 28 August 2009 the Premier launched *Jobs First* the Queensland Government's plan for delivering jobs for Queensland to support this commitment. Delivering jobs means:

- Building infrastructure – keeping our record building program going;
- Developing skills for the future – ensuring we are prepared for recovery;
- Supporting new and traditional industries – enabling industries to emerge, grow and transform; and
- Developing new job creation programs – assisting unemployed Queenslanders to get back into work.

The first part of the plan is our commitment to maintain Queensland's record capital works building program. The Bligh Government has continued the commitment to infrastructure investment into 2009-10 with a capital program of over \$18 billion, estimated to support over 127,000 jobs. This building program is essential to the creation and retention of jobs.

Projects being delivered on the Gold Coast which will benefit people in the Currumbin electorate include:

- Commencement of works for the Gold Coast Rapid Transit System to a cost of \$948M
- Extension of the Gold Coast railway to Varsity Lakes to a cost of \$300M
- \$130M for the redevelopment of the Gold Coast stadium
- \$1.76B for the construction of the Gold Coast University Hospital
- \$240M for the expansion of the Robina Hospital
- \$36.3M for the construction of the Robina Health Precinct.

Local projects being delivered in the Currumbin electorate include:

- \$1M to continue restoration of Kirra Beach
- \$264,000 towards a new pontoon at Murlong Crescent as part of the \$5.1M state-wide for boating infrastructure works
- \$1M for road safety works at various locations on Tomewin Mountain Road, Currumbin
- Joint State and Council funding for stormwater harvesting for non-portable usage in coastal parkland.

Each project will create and protect jobs to help keep Queensland strong and secure our economic foundations.

The Queensland Government will also invest over \$320 million over the next three years through the *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* initiative to support 63,000 Queenslanders with a mix of training, vocational skills, job preparation and employment opportunities to gain job-ready skills and sustainable employment outcomes.

In the Currumbin region, since the *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* initiative began in July 2007, 477 people have been assisted in the Currumbin region at a cost of \$1,018,000.

The Gold Coast City Council has recently been approved an allocation of 38 First Start traineeship positions for 2009/10, some of which may be allocated in the Currumbin area. Included in this traineeship allocation are 15 Qld Green Army traineeship positions.