

Question on Notice

No. 1719

Asked on 10 November 2009

Ms Croft asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson) —

QUESTION:

As the Bligh Government is committed to supporting and creating jobs—
Will the Minister advise how the State Schools of Tomorrow Program is modernising school infrastructure in the electorate of Broadwater and how it will benefit the wider community of the Gold Coast?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and her interest in the Queensland Government's State Schools of Tomorrow (SSOT) program.

The Tomorrow's Schools package was announced by the Queensland Government in the 2006–07 Budget and allocates a record amount for modernising and renewing school facilities across Queensland. The package includes:

- \$850 million for the SSOT five-year (2006–07 to 2010–11) capital works program for state schools
- \$50 million for the School Community Development Fund for state school communities for small projects to improve a school's learning environment.

Through the School Community Development Fund schools in the electorate of Broadwater received \$338,600 in grants to fund minor works projects.

The \$850 million SSOT initiative is comprised of two rounds.

Round one consists of four projects valued at \$390.3 million which will deliver new and substantially refurbished facilities to clusters of schools located at Innisfail, Inala, Eastern Ipswich and Brisbane Bayside creating more than an estimated 3,000 jobs during construction.

Round two includes \$90 million for school (external finishes) maintenance projects; \$30 million for housing maintenance, \$200 million for the Classroom Renewal program (renewal of classrooms, libraries, computer rooms and science rooms at hundreds of schools across the State) and a \$50 million capital grant for the non-state sector in support of facilities for disengaged youth.

Through the School External Finishes Upgrade program, schools in the electorate are set to receive \$285,139 over the 2008–09 and 2009–10 financial years to address external maintenance works such as painting, repairs and replacement of roofs and gutters, verandahs and stairs.

In the electorate of Broadwater, under the SSOT, Round two Classroom renewal program, Coombabah State High School has been approved to have seven science labs upgraded with a budget of \$1,618,050 and Biggera Waters State School has been approved to have seven minor classroom upgrades with a budget of \$246,225.

The detailed planning for these projects is scheduled to occur this financial year with construction of the upgraded facilities due for completion in the 2010–11 financial year.

In total there are 15 projects in schools across the wider Gold Coast area with combined budgets of \$12 million to deliver upgraded classroom environments.

Through the \$200 million SSOT Round two Classroom renewal program, 305 state schools will receive renewal funding across the state creating an estimated 1,540 jobs during construction.

In total there are 1820 learning areas including 25 trial projects in 17 schools across Queensland.