

Question on Notice
No. 1833
Asked on 24 November 2009

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline the benefits derived by schools in my electorate of Whitsunday from the State Government's State Schools of Tomorrow funding initiative?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and her in the 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 Whitsunday received \$491,300 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 to reduce the school (external finishes) maintenance backlog; \$30m to reduce the housing maintenance backlog, \$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 of Whitsunday are set to receive \$977,162 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 Whitsunday, under the SSOT, Round two Classroom Renewal Program, the following have been approved:

School	Renewal	Budget
Calen District State College	15 minor classroom upgrades	\$645,031
Eimeo Road State School	5 minor classroom upgrades	\$215,010
Proserpine State School	7 minor classroom upgrades	\$301,014

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.

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 receiving upgrades including 25 trial projects in 17 schools across Queensland.