

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 521

asked on Tuesday, 23 March 2010

MR WENDT ASKED THE MINISTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY (MS JONES)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the high number of heritage homes in Ipswich—

How has the Living Buildings and Places heritage grants program assisted heritage property owners in the Ipswich region?

ANSWER:

The Living Buildings and Places heritage grants program was established in 2006 to provide vital conservation funding to the owners and custodians of Queensland heritage properties. This grants program was one of a number of initiatives, including legislative reform and a state-wide heritage survey, which the Government initiated to keep Queensland's heritage alive.

The grants program is vital for the protection of many places which play a major part in Queensland's history. Our heritage places tell us the story of Queensland and it is these places that make Queensland unique.

The program has provided recognition and practical support to owners of some of Queensland's most important heritage places. It is these owners, through their custodianship, that preserve heritage for the broader community.

Over the past three years, the program has supported a total of 226 projects across Queensland. These projects have included new roofs and stone repairs for churches and timber repairs to a variety of community buildings and private residences. The program has also funded a number of conservation management plans – a tool which guides the long-term management and care of these important places.

Thirteen of the approved projects were located in the Ipswich region. Residential projects included:

- \$10,000 to the owners of Dougleen to undertake window and brickwork restoration.
- \$25,000 was committed to restoration of the verandahs of Franklyn Vale Homestead at Grandchester.
- \$15,000 was allocated for roof, guttering and chimney conservation works at Gooloowan in Ipswich.
- \$25,000 was committed for urgent restoration works to the “widow's walk” of Rockton, Ipswich which was built in the 1850's.

Other projects funded under the grants program in the Ipswich area are:

- A \$15,000 conservation management plan for Burley Griffin Incinerator Theatre - situated in Queen's Park, Ipswich.
- A total of \$25,000 was welcomed by the parishioners of St Stephen's Church and Hall, Ipswich to undertake roof restoration works, identified in the grants funded conservation management plan.
- \$9,900 enabled the updating of the conservation management plan for the elaborate wooden church of St Brigid's in Rosewood.
- A total of \$10,000 was awarded to the Ipswich City Council to update the conservation management plan for the Soldiers' Memorial Hall.
- A total of \$50,000 was awarded to the owners of the George Brockwell Gill - designed City View Hotel built in 1908 to undertake urgent roof restoration works.
- A \$15,000 allocation provided a much-needed conservation management plan for Queensland's first secondary school - Ipswich Grammar at Woodend.
- A \$25,000 allocation replaced the roof on St Mary's College, Convent, Woodend.

This program has come to the rescue of owners of some of Queensland's important heritage places, not only in Ipswich; but across the state. The program has been fundamental in providing much needed assistance to the owners of today's heritage places who maintain them so well for the coming generations of Queenslanders.