

Question on Notice

No. 587

Asked on Wednesday, 24 March 2010

MR WATT asked the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (MR HINCHLIFFE) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise of recent actions by the State Government to manage population growth in South East Queensland so that we retain our great lifestyle?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Everton for his question.

Population growth presents an opportunity to boost Queensland's economy, vibrancy and diversity. But it poses challenges for the environment and our lifestyle and creates more demand for infrastructure and services in our State.

The State Government convened a Queensland Growth Management Summit on 30 and 31 March 2010, to bring together representatives from all levels of Government, planners, industry bodies, environmental groups, economists and community to open a new conversation about the levels and management of population growth.

With around 2200 people moving to Queensland every week, it is timely to identify new strategies to ensure long-term sustainable solutions for all Queenslanders and develop a shared vision for our future that protects and builds on the enviable lifestyle we enjoy today.

By mid-May, the Queensland Government will release a full consultation report, including analysis of all consultation associated with the summit and Government's proposed actions to progress key ideas and initiatives, to complement and build on existing growth management policies, such as the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031*.

The Government released the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031* (Regional Plan) in July 2009 to manage regional growth and change in the most sustainable way in South East Queensland.

Some of the major initiatives within the Regional Plan and essential to the ongoing conversation about managing population growth include:

- Delivery of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) principles in centres and transit corridor planning.
- Establishment of the SEQ Growth Management Program (GMP) to monitor land supply and development to inform recommendations for Government actions aimed at delivering the land supply required to accommodate SEQ's growing population.
- Delivery of the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2009 - 2026 (SEQIPP)*.
- Delivery of the *SEQ Greenspace Strategy*. The draft strategy is available for public comment until 7 May 2010.

The Queensland Government has made available an online forum for Queenslanders to provide feedback, suggestions or ideas about the challenges and opportunities of population growth in our great State. Together, we will not only retain, but build upon the great lifestyle that we currently enjoy in the South East and the whole of Queensland.