

Question on Notice

No. 507

Asked on 7 August 2013

MR MULHERIN asked the Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience (MR CRISAFULLI) –

QUESTION:

With reference to page 4 of the Capital Statement for the 2013-14 budget and page 4 of the 2012-13 Capital Statement, will the Minister (a) explain why there has been a capital underspend of \$21m and (b) what projects specifically did not meet their budgeted capital expenditure for the financial year and why?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Mackay for his question.

There has not been an underspend of \$21 million. This figure is incorrect and the Member is asked to revisit the budget books to redo his sums. Noting that the figure on page 4 of the Capital Statement budget book 2013–14 is an estimate not an actual.

Money has been carried forward in this year's budget for the Indigenous State Infrastructure Program (ISIP). This program was initiated under the previous government and, along with many other programs and projects across the government, very little thought was given to the type of infrastructure, ownership of the assets or the ongoing maintenance and depreciation costs.

The main issues that have been left for this government to rectify include:

- protracted negotiations over cultural heritage agreements; and
- disputes relating to contracts signed by the previous government in 2011.

These issues combined with the disaster events of early 2013 have resulted in funds being brought forward to this financial year.