

**Question on Notice  
No. 241  
Asked on 1 April 2014**

**MR STEVENS** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM, MAJOR EVENTS, SMALL BUSINESS AND THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES (MRS STUCKEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update of any recent announcements regarding the progress of the Commonwealth Games 2018 and the exciting achievements to date?

ANSWER:

Friday 4 April 2014 marked four years until the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games™, with planning well underway to deliver the best Commonwealth Games ever, on-time and on-budget.

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games will be the biggest sports event ever held on the Gold Coast and the biggest sports event held in Australia this decade. The Games will generate up to 30,000 full-time equivalent jobs, contribute \$2 billion to the economy, and provide long-lasting legacy benefits.

Our Games preparations are overseen by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) Coordination Commission. During their most recent visit in November the CGF undertook its first formal evaluations of our Games' preparations and was satisfied with progress to date and impressed with the many areas of our planning and activity that are occurring.

In January this year I launched *Embracing our Games Legacy – Queensland's legacy for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games*. We want to ensure we make the most of this once in a lifetime opportunity to ensure the Commonwealth Games leave a lasting legacy for the Gold Coast and across Queensland.

Delivery of the GC2018 venue infrastructure is on time and on budget. The Gold Coast Aquatic Centre will be the first of the new Games venues to be completed and will be showcased to the world when it features the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships in August 2014.

The program of works for the Commonwealth Games Village is also on schedule, and the release of the master plan and development partner, Grocon, last month is another milestone that shows we remain well on track to deliver vital infrastructure for GC2018.

The Commonwealth Games Village will provide essential services and accommodation for 6,500 athletes and officials and will be one of the most significant legacy projects of GC2018. The project construction will inject an estimated \$500 million into the local economy over the next five years and will generate over 1500 jobs.

As the catalyst project for the longer term redevelopment of Parklands, the Commonwealth Games Village will be one of the largest urban renewal projects ever undertaken on the Gold Coast. In the longer term, the Parklands will become a new master planned mixed-use community and home to new residents and businesses as part of the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct.

The Queensland Government is developing a whole-of-Games forward procurement plan so Queensland industry and business can take full advantage of the significant opportunities that will come with the Games. This will be released over the coming months and will be an important tool for businesses to identify opportunities, give them access to information so they can get 'business-ready' and maximise their chance of success.

Preparations are underway for Queensland's involvement at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, including participating in the Flag Handover at the closing Ceremony. At the ceremony Queensland will have the opportunity to introduce the Gold Coast and the 2018 Games in a creative performance – and give the world a taste of what is to come. Following the Closing Ceremony the Games becomes ours and we are certainly well and truly on track to deliver a great event in 2018.