

Question on Notice
No. 243
Asked on 1 April 2014

MR HART asked the Premier (MR NEWMAN)—

Will the Premier outline the success of the recent Community Cabinet held in my electorate of Burleigh?

ANSWER:

This Government's 13th Community Cabinet event which was held on the Gold Coast on Sunday, 23 March and Monday, 24 March 2014 was a great success, with community groups and individuals using the opportunity to meet my Cabinet colleagues and I, together with senior government officers, to discuss local matters dear to their hearts.

At the Sunday forum held at the St Andrews Lutheran College at Tallebudgera, 177 formal meetings were arranged to enable local groups and individuals to talk to myself, ministers, assistant ministers and directors-general about a whole range of issues of interest to them. Some of the topics discussed included the proposed new Gold Coast quarry, the proposed Broadwater Marine project, local health and aged care services, and conservation and environmental issues.

After the Sunday forum, I was pleased to host an official Community Cabinet Government Reception at the Burleigh Golf Club. Around 200 people attended the reception, and it provided a further opportunity for the people of the Gold Coast to discuss and raise issues of importance to them with the Government.

On the Monday, the Government held its weekly Cabinet Meeting at the Gold Coast City Council Chambers in Bundall.

As the Honourable Member well appreciates, the Gold Coast is a vital part of Queensland's economy and is also of international importance. After Brisbane, the Gold Coast is Queensland's highest population centre, and this Government is committed to working hard with the people of the Gold Coast to provide good outcomes for the area.

Indeed, while I was on the Gold Coast for Community Cabinet, I was pleased to visit the Commonwealth Games Village development site to confirm that Grocon will be the preferred developer of the Games Village. This project will inject an estimated \$500 million into the local Gold Coast economy over the next five years and will generate more than 1,500 jobs during its construction phase.

Overall, the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games and associated projects are expected to generate approximately \$2 billion in economic benefits to the State and generate up to 30,000 full-time jobs.

Through the efforts of this Government, we are ensuring that we are on track to deliver the best Commonwealth Games ever, on-time and on-budget.

Also while on the Gold Coast for Community Cabinet, I was happy to release the Government's draft 'Safe Night Out Strategy'. As the Honourable Member knows, this strategy seeks to stamp out alcohol and drug related violence, restore responsible behaviour and ensure Queensland's nightlife is safe for all.

This is an important issue, both on the Gold Coast and elsewhere, and I want locals and tourists to be able to go out on a Friday or Saturday night and have a great time without it being ruined by the bad behaviour of violent and aggressive drunks.

This Government is determined that Queensland will have the best plan possible to restore responsible behaviour and respect for others, stamp out alcohol and drug-related violence and make Queensland's nightlife safe for everyone to enjoy.

My visit to the Gold Coast for Community Cabinet was extremely worthwhile, and I thank the Honourable Member, and the Acting Mayor of the Gold Coast City Council, Ms Donna Gates, for their hospitality and warm welcome to their region during our visit.