

Question on Notice

No. 477

Asked on 4 June 2015

MR DICKSON asked the Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister outline how the Buderim Men's Shed, which is the largest Men's Shed in Australia, can obtain necessary funding to build a permanent facility?

ANSWER

The Queensland Government recognises the Men's Shed initiative is a valuable community response which provides men with a safe, friendly and inclusive environment where they are able to establish social networks, work on meaningful projects, learn new skills and contribute to their communities.

The Queensland Government administers a range of funding programs to support community organisations to provide activities and opportunities to extend and strengthen personal and community connectedness and reduce social isolation.

The Australian Government provides funding to the Australian Men's Sheds Association (AMSA) to administer the National Shed Development Program (NSDP). In addition to providing financial assistance for tools and equipment, building maintenance and development, and shed activities, AMSA provides extensive, practical support for existing and new sheds, including assistance in the development of new sheds and securing corporate sponsorship.

As one of the largest Men's Sheds in Queensland, I encourage the Buderim Men's Shed to engage with AMSA for ongoing support and information, and to continue to apply to relevant local, State and Commonwealth grant funding rounds.

On 22 June 2014, Buderim Men's Shed made a deputation to the Sunshine Coast Community Cabinet meeting. Subsequently, departmental staff met with members of the Buderim Men's Shed Board of Management to discuss resourcing strategies.

Further information on available state and Commonwealth government grants can be obtained by visiting the grant funding site www.qld.gov.au/community/community-organisations-volunteering/funding-grants-resources.