

Question on Notice
No. 894
Asked on Thursday 17 September 2015

MR RUSSO ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (HON L ENOCH) -

Will the Minister advise how much funding the Palaszczuk Government is investing in housing and homelessness in my electorate of Sunnybank?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to the provision of housing and homelessness services in Queensland. This government understands that housing is an important foundation for a person to achieve other vital outcomes such as quality health and education, and strong employment opportunities.

In 2015-16, the Department of Housing and Public Works is providing Housing and Homelessness services statewide through a number of measures, which includes:

- \$394.5 million in capital funding for social housing including:
 - new construction
 - purchase of existing homes and land
 - property upgrades (includes major refurbishment activities of a capital nature to kitchens, bathrooms, laundries and new fencing; disability modifications for people with specific needs; and installation of new products to improve amenity and security such as insulation to ceilings and walls and security screening).
- \$245.7 million in maintenance for social housing including:
 - responsive repairs to rectify breakdown of components and incidental damage resulting from storm, flood, cyclone and fire or termite damage
 - planned maintenance, inclusive of cyclical statutory and mandatory services, internal and external painting and replacement of “like for like” property elements such as floor coverings and fencing, where already existing.
 - property maintenance to restore vacant dwellings for new tenants.
- \$265.3 million in Housing and Homelessness services, for example:
 - accommodation and support to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness (Specialist Homelessness Services)
 - support eligible people to remain living in their home by providing critical home maintenance and addressing safety issues (Home Assist Secure)
 - provision of transitional housing to eligible social housing applicants (Community Rent Scheme)
 - private market assistance including bond loans, RentConnect and National Rental Affordability Scheme.

In the electorate of Sunnybank, the Department of Housing and Public Works is investing approximately \$7.9 million in Housing and Homelessness, which includes:

- \$4.9 million in Capital Works for the completion of two social housing projects totalling 20 units of accommodation
- \$728,612 in Capital Works upgrades
- \$2.3 million in maintenance for social housing

In August 2014, the department entered into a funding agreement with Churches of Christ Care that provides a \$10.12M capital grant to deliver 40 units of accommodation in the suburb of Acacia Ridge under the Long-Term Housing program. Construction is planned to commence in November 2015.