Question on Notice No. 1689 Asked on Thursday 15 September 2016

MS BOYD ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS (HON M DE BRENNI) —

Will the Minister advise of any upcoming social housing projects for Pine Rivers?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to the provision of housing and homelessness services in Queensland. Access to safe, secure and affordable housing is a key foundation for a person to achieve other important outcomes including access to employment and quality health and education.

In the State electorate of Pine Rivers in the 2016-17 financial year, the Department of Housing and Public Works awarded a contract for the construction of 12, one-bedroom apartments in Lawnton.

Construction is scheduled to commence in late October 2016 and is forecast for completion in August 2017. This construction project will complement the existing social housing portfolio in the Pine Rivers electorate which comprises 491 properties.

The department will spend approximately \$1.385M in 2016-17 maintaining the social housing portfolio in the Pine Rivers electorate. In addition, the department will spend approximately \$0.240M to upgrade existing social housing in Pine Rivers, as well as approximately \$0.095M in disability modifications to ensure social housing in Pine Rivers provides housing solutions for people with specific needs.

In terms of housing service delivery services, the department is providing the following funding in the Pine Rivers electorate:

- \$254,690 (GST exclusive) for a Specialist Homelessness Service to provide immediate supported accommodation to young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- \$428,214 (GST exclusive) to Pine Rivers Home Assist to deliver Home Assist Secure services to people in the electorate of Kallangur and surrounding areas.

Across the wider North Brisbane to Caboolture region, an additional \$1.639M (GST exclusive) of Community Rent Scheme funding was provided to Bric Housing to head-lease between 120 and 126 dwellings. This funding allows providers the flexibility to change property locations based on local emerging needs as required.

Assistance into the private market is also provided by Caboolture Housing Service Centre which services the Pine Rivers electorate. As at 31 August, 47 households were provided assistance through Rent Connect services at Caboolture Housing Service Centre (financial year to date). During this same period, Caboolture Housing Service Centre also assisted 326 households with Bond loans and 61 households with Rental Grants.