

Question on Notice
No. 122
Asked on 7 March 2018

Mr R Stevens asked Premier and Minister for Trade (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Government Action on ice plan released in February 2018—

Will the Premier advise (a) how much the plan cost to develop, (b) how much funding is allocated to the implementation of the plan, (c) how much funding is new funding (i.e. not in the current budget) and (d) in relation to (c) to which specific projects does any new funding relate?

ANSWER:

As in the rest of Australia, ice is having a significant impact across many communities in Queensland. On 10 February 2018, the Queensland Government released *Action on ice – the Government’s plan to address use and harms caused by crystal methamphetamine*, following an extensive consultation process across the State. *Action on ice* builds on previous achievements in responding to the problematic use of alcohol and other drugs, and has three areas of focus: reducing the supply of ice; reducing the demand for ice; and reducing the harms from ice.

With regard to costs associated with the development of *Action on ice*, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet spent \$58,072, exclusive of GST. These costs were primarily associated with community engagement in developing the plan. This process included engaging with service providers, people with a lived experience, members of the community and government and non-government representatives. More than 400 individuals provided their views through various engagement initiatives including: a summit in Rockhampton; smaller regional roundtable meetings in Townsville, the Moreton Bay region and Logan; and public submissions on the draft plan.

A total of \$105.5 million over five years has been committed to implement initiatives to reduce the supply, demand and harms from ice. Further details about this investment is outlined in *Action on ice*, which is available online at www.qld.gov.au/actiononice.

In the last year, new funding has included \$18 million over four years, allocated in the 2017-18 State Budget, for an information and awareness campaign, increased support for families in the child protection system to address ice misuse, expanded regional family drug support, and expanded roadside drug testing. At a subsequent community roundtable held in Logan, a further \$6.3 million over three years was announced to trial a youth residential care service in Brisbane for high-risk young people in out-of-home care.

The service will provide intensive support for young people’s complex needs, including mental health and substance use. Additional funding of \$14.3 million over three years was committed in the 2017–18 Mid Year Fiscal and Economic Review for a new 42-bed residential drug rehabilitation and treatment facility in Rockhampton. The facility will improve access to specialist alcohol and other drugs service for people living in central Queensland affected by ice and other substances.