

Question on Notice
No. 368
Asked on Thursday, 22 March 2018

MS S BOLTON ASKED MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS; MINISTER FOR DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON M DE BRENNI)

With reference to the shortage of community housing in the Noosa Electorate—

Will the Minister advise (a) how the government will address the shortage and (b) what strategy has been put in place to address the affordable housing crisis within our communities?

ANSWER

- (a) The Queensland Government is committed to creating jobs, driving economic growth and building safe, caring and connected communities. The \$1.8 billion *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027* will deliver more social and affordable housing across the State and transform the way that housing services are delivered, to better support people in need and create a pipeline of development opportunities for developers and community housing providers.

The *Housing Construction Jobs Program* is a key initiative of the *Strategy* and will help address the Sunshine Coast's long-term housing needs by supporting and accelerating new construction and precinct development. The Department of Housing and Public Works is also transforming the way that housing services are delivered to better support people in need and offer more early intervention and preventions services.

The Queensland Government will invest \$71 million and will be delivering 243 new social homes in the Sunshine Coast region over the next five years.

- (b) The *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027* will increase the supply of community-managed, affordable rental accommodation through the *Housing Construction Jobs Program* and through other initiatives such as working with the community housing sector to leverage off existing investment and better use of program surplus funds to facilitate new program financing.

As outlined in the *Queensland Housing Strategy Action Plan 2017-2020*, new affordable housing supply that reduces the gap between social housing and private housing will be delivered through a partnership between government and the community housing sector.

The Department of Housing and Public Works is working with Q Shelter to develop a comprehensive approach to working with the sector to identify opportunities to increase development.