Question on Notice

No. 965

Asked on 22 August 2018

MS A LEAHY asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (Hon S Hinchliffe) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the Works for Queensland program—

Will the Minister advise whether there has been any investigations undertaken or discussions with the Auditor-General involving the program delivery and if so, what were the findings and has the Auditor-General raised any concerns?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Warrego for the question.

In the recent State election, the Palaszczuk Government committed to extending the Works for Queensland program, providing up to \$200 million of additional funding until 2020-21.

This will increase the total funding for the program to \$600 million. The program delivers dual outcomes for Councils by creating jobs and providing and maintaining important community infrastructure.

Councils across Queensland are enthusiastically supporting this program. This demonstrates how well Councils have responded to our call to drive local employment through their Works for Queensland projects.

To date, Works for Queensland has helped to create or support more than 11,500 jobs in regional parts of the State, as reported by local Councils.

In the Warrego electorate, Works for Queensland is helping to fund a range of projects, including:

- \$836,750 for the construction of a new airport terminal building at Quilpie Airport, creating or supporting 35 jobs.
- \$992,955 for the new northern bore (Bore 19), reservoir, and booster system in Roma., creating or supporting 24 jobs.
- \$141,004 to upgrade the Tara Town Centre with the additions of new street furniture, street scaping and the creation of a market square, creating or supporting eight jobs.

- \$260,117 to upgrade the Thargomindah Football Oval Stage 1 replacing the oval surface, install sub ground irrigation and revegetation to bring back the oval as a useable recreation space, creating or supporting three jobs.
- \$228,945 to install rubber softfall at the three main Murweh Shire playgrounds in Charleville, Augathella and Morven, creating or supporting six jobs.
- \$100,000 to improve the function of the Roma Netball Courts through provision of lighting for four additional courts bringing lighting to the entire facility, creating or supporting two jobs.

There have been no investigations undertaken by the Auditor-General involving the delivery of the Works for Queensland program. The Auditor-General has not raised any concerns regarding the program.