

Question on Notice

No. 171

Asked on Tuesday 26 February 2019

MR J LANGBROEK MP ASKED MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES AND SENIORS (HON C O'ROURKE)

QUESTION

With reference to 'Partnering for the future: advancing Queensland's community services industry'—

Will the Minister confirm (a) how many short-term plans will be developed to implement the Partnering for the future strategy and (b) when the next action plan to follow on from the 2017-18 action plan will be released?

ANSWER

Queensland's community services industry is a great industry delivering wonderful and much needed services which are helping people and communities around the State to thrive.

The community services industry is also a significant employer in this State and a key partner in delivering services locally.

Partnering for the future Advancing Queensland's community services industry 2017-25 was released in September 2017 during our first term of Government. As recognised by the Strategy, the community services industry is fast-growing and dynamic, and I am keen to deliver a strategy that is flexible and keeps pace with this industry.

Since the release of the Strategy there have been a number of shifts in the policy environment.

- In December 2017, there were significant Machinery of Government changes (most notably, responsibility for Child Safety is now in a standalone department).
- In June 2018, we tabled the government's objectives for the community [*Our Future State: Advancing Queensland's Priorities \(AQP\)*](#).
- In December 2018, I released my [*Thriving Communities, Thriving Queensland Commitment Statement*](#) which directly supports AQP.
- Transition to the NDIS is almost complete and substantial work has been done to prepare the industry for 30 June 2019.

While there was an initial intent to deliver short-term annual action plans, given the above shifts in the policy environment my department is taking the time to work with the community services industry to consider whether this is the most effective way to work with organisations, or whether more dynamic and targeted activity-based partnerships would be more useful.

I am also keen to ensure maximum alignment between *Partnering for the future* and AQP to ensure we remain a responsive government and continue to create jobs in a strong economy.

The 2018-2019 Action Plan will be published shortly.