

Question on Notice
No. 327
Asked on Tuesday, 26 March 2019

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 escalating need for affordable housing and accommodation-

Will the Minister advise when there will be provision made for emergency housing or shelters for men of the Sunshine Coast and Noosa as this continues to be of great concern to our front line organisations and communities?

ANSWER

In 2018-19, the Department of Housing and Public Works allocated \$3,918,733 (GST exclusive) in Homelessness Program funding to nine Specialist Homelessness Services across the Sunshine Coast and Noosa Local Government Areas. This included funding of \$451,555 for one service in Noosa and \$3,467,218 for eight services on the Sunshine Coast.

The Specialist Homelessness Service providers are United Synergies Ltd, IFYS Limited, Kyabra Community Association Inc, St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland and the Salvation Army, and deliver temporary supported accommodation and other support services to men and women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These services are accessible to different target groups, including single young men, single adult men and single adult men with children.

The *Housing Construction Jobs Program* is a key initiative of the *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027* which will provide a \$1.6 billion investment to deliver more social and affordable housing over the next ten years in priority regions across the state. The program focuses on providing more housing in key population and economic growth areas to help address the State's long-term housing needs by supporting and accelerating new construction and precinct development.

Over the first five years of the strategy, the department has committed to invest \$71 million to deliver 243 new social housing homes in the Sunshine Coast Region. This investment is expected to support approximately 40 full time industry jobs each year.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing better outcomes for people through public housing, private market pathways and specialised housing and homelessness services, as well as finding solutions to the broader housing affordability issues. People in need of housing support and assistance in the Sunshine Coast area should contact the Maroochydore Housing Service Centre on (07) 5352 7333 or email maroochydorehsc@hpw.qld.gov.au.