

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 553**

**Asked on Wednesday, 12 May 2021**

**MRS L GERBER** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING, MINISTER FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the linkage between youth homelessness and youth crime—

Will the Minister advise why (a) the Gold Coast is reported to have only eight emergency crisis beds for young people by the Gold Coast Youth Service and (b) this number is reported to not have increased since 1983?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

The net amount of accommodation provided by Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) in Queensland is quantified in 'Places'. Depending on the property used to deliver Temporary Supported Accommodation (TSA), the nature of the service being provided and needs of clients being assisted, a place may be a bed, bedroom, an apartment or a house.

The Gold Coast Youth Service has maintained the delivery of 11 places of TSA since 2012 when they were transitioned to output based funding under the Newman LNP Government. Before the transition to output based funding, DCHDE did not quantify funded services by places of TSA and as such are unable to undertake an appropriate comparison of funded places of TSA before this time.

DCHDE funds two SHS to provide a total of 36 TSA places specifically for young people aged 16 to 25 in the Gold Coast LGA. This includes the Gold Coast Youth Service which is funded to provide 11 places of TSA and the Gold Coast Project for Homeless Youth to provide 19 places of TSA. This service also provides Supported Housing for six young people aged 16 to 25 living in social housing in the Gold Coast LGA. Supported Housing provides case management support to people living in social or private housing where support is guaranteed for the term of the tenancy.

In 2019-20, a total of 800 young people aged 15 to 24 were assisted by DCHDE funded SHS in the Gold Coast LGA, this includes 104 young people who were accommodated by the Gold Coast Youth Service and the Gold Coast Project for Homeless Youth.

The Gold Coast Youth Service has also been selected as the service provider for the Gold Coast Youth Foyer. The Gold Coast Youth Foyer will provide Supported Housing for 40 young people aged 16-25 in the Gold Coast LGA who are committed to engaging in education and training, as a pathway to developing the skills needed to achieve independence. The Gold Coast Youth Foyer is anticipated for handover by the end of June 2021.