

Question on Notice

No. 766

Asked on Tuesday, 15 June 2021

MS S BOLTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING, MINISTER FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027 which has an allocation towards the Partnering for Growth Initiative to provide housing support—

Will the Minister provide an update on the provision of both the capital works and the financial support to community housing providers for Noosa in the past 5 years and what increases will be made available to address Noosa's housing crisis?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

Since the release of the *Queensland Housing Strategy 2017–2027* (the Housing Strategy), the Queensland Government has commenced 197 new social homes on the Sunshine Coast including nine in the Noosa Local Government area. This includes 74 properties in partnership with not-for-profit providers. A further 26 properties are forecast to commence in 2021-22.

The Queensland Government has worked with two community housing providers to deliver three projects on the Sunshine Coast through *Partnering for Growth with the community housing sector*. The Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy is continuing to work with a number of community housing providers across the state, including in Noosa on opportunities to increase supply in the region.

The Queensland Government recently announced the *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021–2025* (the Action Plan) backed by a \$1.9 billion investment over four years and the establishment of a \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund to boost housing supply and increase housing and homelessness support across Queensland. This is the largest concentrated investment in social housing in Queensland's history and will increase the supply of social and affordable housing by almost 10,000 over the life of the Housing Strategy, including 7,400 new homes over the next four years.

The QuickStarts Qld capital investment program is planned to deliver 137 new social homes by 1 July 2025 on the Sunshine Coast, through a planned investment of \$36.6 million over four years, supporting more than 118 full-time equivalent jobs. This is in addition to the 197 new social homes that have already commenced.

The new \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund is a first for Queensland and will deliver returns that will support increased social and affordable housing development across the state now and into the future, providing certainty for industry partners and community housing providers.

In addition, the Help to Home initiative will access more homes through the private market across the state to quickly enhance social housing supply to support people in crisis including people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and people experiencing domestic and family violence. Over the next two years, we will invest \$40 million to headlease up to 1,000 properties, particularly seeking properties that have not previously been available to rent on the private market to deliver new supply for individuals and families who need them.

This Action Plan presents an excellent opportunity for the community housing sector to engage through the expressions of interest that will be released over the coming months for the Housing Investment Fund, QuickStarts Qld and Help to Home.