QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 222

asked on 7 March 2024

MR B HEAD ASKED THE MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURING AND MINISTER FOR WATER (HON G BUTCHER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise if the government is committed to fully funding the Paradise Dam reconstruction project in this year's budget?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is committed to restoring the full water supply at Paradise Dam and Sunwater is progressing work on a detailed business case for a new dam wall immediately downstream of the existing wall and has appointed a construction partner for the project.

Sunwater has delivered a range of community engagement activities since the announcement on 11 January 2024 to provide technical explanations for why a new dam wall needs to be built and explain the design and planning process needed to support that. This program of engagement included a meeting of the Paradise Dam Reference Group held on 29 February 2024, which the Member for Callide attended in person, so the Member is fully aware of the Queensland Government's commitment to this project.

The 2023–24 State Budget allocated a total of \$116.4 million towards the project to progress the detailed business case, undertake preliminary design development, progress the environmental assessment and approvals and undertake early works activities. The State and Federal Government funding commitments of \$600 million each still stand, and updated timelines and costings will be confirmed once Sunwater's detailed business case is finalised.

Questions in relation to the 2024-25 Budget should be directed to the Treasurer.