

Question on Notice
No. 249
Asked on 19 March 2024

Mr J Bleijie asked Premier (Hon. S Miles)—

QUESTION:

Will the Premier advise what the Queensland Government is doing to improve productivity on Queensland building sites?

ANSWER:

Queensland's Big Build is the largest infrastructure program in Queensland's history including the largest hospital building program in the country, a record investment under Homes for Queenslanders and world leading investment in renewable energy.

Construction costs have increased dramatically across the world. That leaves two choices either to build or to cut. Our government chooses to continue to build because it's what our growing State needs.

The Queensland Government works with construction companies and contractors to secure the workers needed, drive safety, innovation and productivity on our building sites.

That includes the delivery of Best Practice Industry Conditions that ensure workers are properly paid in line with industry standards, provide safe working conditions and opportunities for women, First Nations Peoples and apprentices. Best Practice Industry Conditions support productivity on Queensland building sites.

Our government is utilising innovative methods of construction to improve safety and decrease construction times. For example, Queensland Health adopted an innovative approach and precise sequencing to provide a modular hospital 850 kilometres north-west of Brisbane in 27 weeks. Another example is Logan Hospital's new \$20 million modular 'Ward 2Q', which was craned into place over five nights in March 2023 as part of a rapid expansion project to deliver more beds.

We have committed to rebuilding QBuild, doubling the tradies at our Government's builder by 2026 with a clear focus on training including at our new Queensland Rapid Accommodation and Apprenticeship Centres in Eagle Farm and Cairns.

Other productivity initiatives underway include QBuild's Modern Methods of Construction program which is delivering government employee and social housing in regional and remote areas and driving productivity through the construction process through standardised designs.