

Question on Notice

No. 491

Asked on 30 April 2024

MR J BLEIJIE asked the Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (HON G GRACE) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the displacement of the Kawana Dolphins and the fact that the majority of Dolphins members do not want to be forced to move to Meridan Plains fields—

Will the Minister advise if the state government will look at alternative land owned by the state to accommodate the Kawana Dolphins closer to their current home fields?

ANSWER:

No. On 17 May 2024, I jointly announced with Senator the Honourable Anthony Chisholm, Assistant Minister for Education and Assistant Minister for Regional Development (representing the Federal Government); Rosanna Natoli, Sunshine Coast Council Mayor; Andrew Liveris, Chair, Organising Committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games; and other local stakeholders that investment decisions have been completed on the three Sunshine Coast venues (and the Chandler Sports Precinct), paving the way for the procurement process to begin.

On 20 May 2024, the procurement process commenced for the Sunshine Coast Stadium with the Sunshine Coast Indoor Sports Centre to commence in August 2024. The Sunshine Coast Mountain Bike Centre procurement process will commence in 2025.

The Sunshine Coast Council is managing the displacement impacts to Kawana Precinct tenants and will continue to work closely with these tenants including the Kawana Dolphins.

The Sunshine Coast Council has committed to a multi-million-dollar upgrade of Meridan Fields, where the Kawana Dolphins will have access to six fields and a larger clubhouse / changeroom facility, which will allow the club to better service their existing and future membership. This compares to the current two fields with restrictions on major event days at the Kawana precinct site.