

**Question on Notice
No. 1008
Asked on Thursday, 9 June 2005**

Ms MOLLOY asked the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Racing (MR SCHWARTEN) –

QUESTION:

What further funding has been made available to improve housing facilities on the Sunshine Coast and what works will be involved?

ANSWER:

In the recent State Budget, the Beattie Government allocated a record \$668 million for housing. This means the overall housing budget has more than doubled since the Beattie Government was elected.

On the Sunshine Coast, \$19 million has been allocated for new housing and for housing related services. The department plans to purchase three vacant sites for a budget of \$2.5 million, purchase four existing dwellings for a budget of \$1.6 million, complete construction of 57 new dwellings for \$4.4 million and commence construction of 41 new dwellings for a budget of \$3 million.

In your electorate, \$1.1 million has been allocated for the purchase of three dwellings and \$500,000 for the purchase on land for public housing. Noosa will also share in \$2.5 million for public housing upgrades on the Sunshine Coast.

In the 2005-06 financial year, \$127,000 has been allocated for Community Housing groups on the Sunshine Coast region for planned upgrades of kitchens, bathrooms, laundries, floor coverings that will improve the safety and amenity of Community Housing properties managed under the Crisis Accommodation program and the Community Rent Scheme.

Projects that are underway or planned on the Sunshine Coast include the construction of a women's shelter with a total budget of \$2.2 million which is due to be completed at the end of June and the upgrade to the Integrated Family and Youth Service Inc. youth shelter with a project budget of \$144,000.

The Sunshine Coast is also one of three areas identified for additional capital grants for affordable housing based on housing need. Expressions of interest were received from four not-for-profit community organisations for the construction of accommodation for low-income families. I look forward to announcing the outcome of this process soon.

Community Rent Scheme

The Community Rent Scheme Program provides a local housing response to low income people who are experiencing a severe and immediate housing need. Under the program not-for-profit community organisations are funded to provide independent subsidised private rental accommodation, on a short to medium-term basis, as a transition to public housing or other appropriate housing options. The program particularly targets people who experience barriers accessing the private rental market.

The table below shows approved funding for 2005-06 and 2006-07 for the electorates of Noosa, Nicklin, Glasshouse, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Gympie, Kallangur, Pumicestone and Kawana.

Service Provider	Electorate	Sum of Approved Funding 2005-06 \$	Sum of Approved Funding 2006-07 \$
Break Through Community Housing	Glasshouse	155,876	155,876
Sunshine Coast Regional Housing Council Inc	Nicklin	193,202	193,202
Cooloola Community Housing Association Inc	Gympie	90,753	90,753

Home Assist Secure

The Department of Housing, through Home Assist Secure, aims to remove some of the practical housing related difficulties experienced by people 60 years and over and people of any age with a disability who wish to remain living in their home. Home Assist Secure provides free information and referrals about home maintenance, repairs, modifications, falls prevention and home security. To be eligible, a person must be a home-owner or live in rental housing.

Subsidised assistance with minor home maintenance, repairs, modifications and security is also available for eligible clients who are in receipt of a Commonwealth Government pension or benefit, and are unable to make use of alternative assistance.

The table below shows approved funding for 2005-06 and 2006-07 for the electorates of Noosa, Nicklin, Glasshouse, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Gympie, Kallangur, Pumicestone and Kawana.

Service Provider	Electorate	Sum of Approved Funding 2005-06 \$	Sum of Approved Funding 2006-07 \$
Caboolture and Kilcoy Home Assist Secure	Glasshouse	254,671	254,671
Caloundra Home Assist Secure	Caloundra	327,147	327,147
Maroochy Home Assist Secure	Maroochydore	434,950	434,950
Noosa Home Assist Secure	Noosa	172,159	172,159
Bribie Island Voluntary Community Help Association Inc	Pumicestone	108,123	108,123

Home and Community Care Home Modifications Program

Home Modification Services are funded through the joint Commonwealth/State Home and Community Care (HACC) Program administered by Queensland Health. The Department of Housing manages and administers 10 Home Modification Services as a result of a three year Memorandum of Understanding.

HACC Home Modification Services assist frail aged people and people with a moderate or severe disability who need support with home modifications to prevent premature entry into a hostel, nursing home or similar institution. Home Modification Services may provide information, assessment, project management and/or financial assistance with home modifications.

The table below shows approved funding for 2005-06 and 2006-07 for the electorates of Noosa, Nicklin, Glasshouse, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Gympie, Kallangur, Pumicestone and Kawana.

Service Provider	Electorate	Sum of Approved Funding 2005-06 \$	Sum of Approved Funding 2006-07 \$
Sunshine Coast Home Modifications Service	Maroochydore	280,071	280,071

Tenant Advice and Advocacy Service (Queensland)

The Department of Housing Tenant Advice and Advocacy Service (Queensland) was established in 1991. The primary focus of the Tenant Advice and Advocacy Service (Queensland) is to provide tenants and residents, particularly those experiencing tenancy or residential service difficulties, access to information, advocacy and advice regarding their rights and responsibilities. The program also aims to provide information and referral to people in housing need to access safe, secure and affordable housing.

The table below shows approved funding for 2005-06 and 2006-07 for the electorates of Noosa, Nicklin, Glasshouse, Maroochydore, Caloundra, Gympie, Kallangur, Pumicestone and Kawana.

Service Provider	Electorate	Sum of Approved Funding 2005-06 \$	Sum of Approved Funding 2006-07 \$
Sunshine Coast Regional Housing Council Inc	Nicklin	164,062	156,028
Cooloola Community Housing Association Inc	Gympie	97,714	97,714
Near North Housing Service Inc	Kallangur	347,250	300,603