

**Question on Notice
No. 561
Asked on 16 June 2009**

MRS ATTWOOD asked the Minister for Public Works and Information and Communication Technology (MR SCHWARTEN) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline to the House his department's green initiatives?

ANSWER:

Sustainable procurement

The Queensland Government Chief Procurement Office has revised the State Procurement Policy to require sustainability to be integrated into the Queensland Government's procurement of goods and services.

QFleet ClimateSmart Action Plan 2007-2010

The QFleet ClimateSmart Action Plan is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the Queensland Government fleet. As at 31 May 2009, 87% of QFleet's passenger vehicles, and 95% of its light commercial vehicles, complied with emissions standards.

Carbon Offsets

Executive Government has approved the offsetting of the carbon dioxide emissions from all Queensland Government domestic and international air travel and vehicle hire. Since the commencement of the scheme in December 2007, more than 36,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions have been offset.

Since 2002, QFleet has funded the planting of more than 500,000 trees to offset vehicle greenhouse emissions. By 31 December 2010, offsetting will increase to account for 50% of the fleet's total emissions.

ISO14001 certification

Goprint is proud to be the first printer in Queensland, and only the 14th printer out of the 5,500 offset printers Australia-wide, to gain AS/NZS ISO14001:2004 Environmental Management Systems certification. Through the Environmental Management System, Goprint manages and continually improves on key environmental issues such as goods, energy and water consumption, hazardous chemical management, waste management and CO₂ emissions.

Expansion of 'Green' Product Range

The 'Green Tick' program aims to increase the awareness and use of environmentally sustainable products by SDS customers. The 2009-2010 SDS catalogue has 15.7% more 'green' products listed compared to the 2008-2009 catalogue.

Workshop environmental contaminants minimisation strategy

A waterborne paint product is used for vehicle painting at QFleet's Zillmere workshop. With this product, the bulk of environmentally harmful organic solvents are replaced by water.

ecoBiz partnership

Goprint has recently been accepted as a partner in the ecoBiz program, an initiative of the Department of Environment and Resource Management, which assists businesses to identify efficiencies in waste, water and energy for financial and environmental benefits.

Printer Rationalisation Project (Shared Service Agency)

The Printer Rationalisation Project will result in a number of printers and other document production devices being decommissioned. There will be a significant reduction in paper usage and toner cartridges.

Strategic Energy Efficiency Policy for Queensland Government Buildings

The Department of Public Works is assisting agencies to implement a whole-of-Government policy which in part establishes minimum energy consumption reduction targets for agencies of 5% by 2010 and 20% by 2015.

Carbon Reduction Strategy for Government Office Buildings

The Department of Public Works is implementing a whole-of-Government strategy intended to make government office buildings 'carbon-neutral' by 2020. This includes optimising the use of renewable energy for the buildings.

Whole-of-Government centralised purchase of renewable energy

The Department of Public Works annually undertakes a 'bulk' purchase of renewable energy to support the Government's *ClimateSmart 2050* commitment to use 5% renewable energy in government buildings.

Energy Smart Buildings Program

The Department of Public Works is managing and delivering a multi-faceted program that promotes higher energy-efficiency and lower energy usage in government buildings, thus reducing the resultant greenhouse gas emissions linked to this energy use.

Sustainable Office Buildings Rating Policy

The Department of Public Works has developed an internal policy that commits to ensuring that new and refurbished government office buildings adopt best-practice environmental sustainability designs, including the appropriate Green Star™ ratings.

Recycling Policy for Buildings and Civil Infrastructure

The Department of Public Works is assisting agencies in implementing a whole-of-Government policy which establishes a target (40% by weight) for the recycling or reuse of construction waste materials from building and civil infrastructure projects that would otherwise have normally gone to landfill.

Government Buildings Water Conservation Program

The Department of Public Works has completed a program to reduce water consumption in targeted government commercial buildings, making them 'water smart' through best-practice water management. Alternative water source pilot projects have been implemented by the program in several CBD buildings.

Smart and Sustainable Homes Initiative

The Department of Public Works has developed an initiative promoting sustainable building principles to the housing sector. The department has coordinated the design and construction of 14 display homes around Queensland. The designs for these homes use the Smart and Sustainable Homes Design Objectives guidelines (developed by the department) as the minimum criteria.

Ecological Sustainability Development

The Department of Public Works has established an educational framework that promotes 'ecological sustainable development' principles and practices to staff in its various business areas, including building planners, designers, supervisors, operators and maintainers.

Waste Management Strategic Plan

The Department of Public Works is implementing a plan for the reduction of waste, including recycling where practicable.

Green Desktop Hardware Government Enterprise Architecture White Paper

The Green Desktop Hardware Government Enterprise Architecture White Paper aims to reduce the environmental impact of the Government's desktop fleet through better management and operational practices.

ICT Storage Strategy

The development of the ICT Storage Strategy aims to reduce the environmental impact of the growth in data storage requirements through consistent email policy and de-duplication of data storage technologies.

Whole-of-Government Green ICT Strategy

The Department of Public Works is developing a whole-of-Government Green ICT strategy that will set whole-of-Government directions to reduce greenhouse gases and reduce the impact of Government services on the environment through the innovative application of ICT.

Flexible Workplace Initiative

The Flexible Workplace Initiative positively impacts a broad range of Government outcomes, including climate change, through reduced/altered travel patterns.

Digital Dashboard Project

The Department of Public Works is piloting a project that raises the awareness of Government employees to reduce energy consumption within Government buildings, through web-based energy dashboards linked to a building electricity meter.

Data Centre Strategy

The whole-of-Government Data Centre Strategy will see the consolidation of more than 56 small computer rooms around the Brisbane metropolitan area into purpose-built facilities at the CITEC data centre, and the new Polaris data centre at Springfield. The CITEC data centre has recently been upgraded with new efficient air-conditioning plant, rain water harvesting, efficient lighting systems, and equipment rack layouts to optimise operating efficiency.