

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 145**  
**Asked on Tuesday, 18 February 2020**

**MS S BOLTON** ASKED MINISTER FOR HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS; MINISTER FOR DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON M DE BRENNI)

Will the Minister advise the outcomes from the department's investigation of an Economic Upgrade Agreement framework for Queensland?

**ANSWER**

An Environmental Upgrade Agreement (EUA) is a financing mechanism used to upgrade the energy efficiency of existing buildings to improve their environmental performance and can provide benefits for the community, industry, building owners, building tenants, financial providers and local governments.

EUAs are fixed interest, long term loans, provided by lenders and secured through a local government charge on land. The cost savings resulting from the upgrades are used to repay the upgrade finance over time, through a charge included on the property's rates.

Other jurisdictions (Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia) have each developed different frameworks for their adoption of EUAs and these frameworks share the common aims of incentivising energy upgrades of older, inefficient buildings; stimulating investment opportunities; and reducing operating costs.

The outcomes of the Department of Housing and Public Works' investigations indicate EUAs can provide both environmental and economic opportunities for Queensland by facilitating access to investment in sustainability upgrade works for commercial buildings.

My Ministerial Construction Council has recently been consulted and is supportive of progressing the development of an EUA framework in Queensland.

The Department of Housing and Public Works is working across government to give further consideration to the proposed framework and its potential application.