

Management of the Building Better Regional Cities Program: Public Hearing 26 June 2014 – Questions Taken on Notice

1. *Pp8-9 Dr Hendy: 'What process did you go through to go back to the minister to advise him of improved value for money such that this could potentially be recommended? Was there any process at all?'*

Following advice from the Minister's Office of Minister O'Connor's intended final decision on the 17 projects to be funded under the BBRC, the Department sought the Minister's permission to commence confidential negotiations with the successful councils (MN12-001064; 8 May 2012).

In early June 2012, the Department advised the Minister that confidential negotiations on the funding agreements with successful applicants had commenced and that the final amount provided to successful applicants would be subject to further verification and the negotiation of funding agreements (MN12-001089).

In late June 2012, the Department advised the Minister of the outcomes of negotiations and requested approval to enter into funding agreements with 11 councils (MN12-001460). The Department advised that, overall, negotiations had resulted in improved affordability outcomes and/or progress achieved on the funding agreements. In this minute, the Department also advised the Minister that several of the projects required further negotiation (Tamworth, Wagga Wagga, Lismore, Maitland and Wyong) and requested that the Maitland project be provided additional funding. The Department also sought agreement to not fund one project (Latrobe Council) as the proponent was unable to provide any direct affordability measures.

The Department further briefed the Minister on BBRC projects as follows:

- Maitland project - August 2012 (MN12-002021);
- Tamworth project - September 2012 (MN12-002080);
- Mandurah project - September 2012 (MN12-002023);
- Wagga Wagga project - September 2012 (MN12-001793).

2. P11 – Mr Palmer – ‘on notice, I can get you, for each of the sites, the number of houses that are targeted to be built and have been built’

LGA	Project Name	Project Details	Lots/ dwellings to be built (eligible for BBRC rebate)	Lots/ dwellings completed (with BBRC rebate)
Ballina	Ballina Shire Council – Wollongbar Sports Field	Development of Sports Fields	96	33
Ballina	Ballina Shire Council – Ballina Heights	Construction of Ballina Heights Drive and associated infrastructure, stormwater drainage, landscaping, street lighting, NBN conduits and shared pathways	120	21
Port Macquarie-Hastings	Port Macquarie Hastings Council – Key Infrastructure & Housing	Sancrox water reservoir at Cowarra State Forest	100	42
Fraser Coast	Fraser Coast Regional Council – Hervey Bay Housing Affordability Incentives Project	Construction Of Trunk Road And Intersections	583	38
Greater Bendigo	City of Greater Bendigo - Viewpoint Huntly Residential Project	Road construction, park and sewer works for Viewpoint Huntly Development Area	100	99
Warrnambool	Warrnambool City Council – Dennington North Residential Growth Area	Redevelopment of Coghlan's Road	75	14
Lake Macquarie	Wyee Sewer Project	Sewer Infrastructure	105	nil
Lismore	Unlocking Lismore as a leading Regional City	Invercauld/Ballina Road intersection and the Oliver Avenue bridge	200	nil
Maitland	Inner City connection – Athel D’Ombrain Drive	Realignment and upgrade of Athel D’Ombrain Drive	260	nil
Tamworth	New Opportunity West (NOW) project	Redevelopment project including road works, lighting and youth facilities	58	nil
Tweed Heads	Tweed Shire Council- Hundred Hills, Murwillumbah	Intersection works, parks and trunk works for the Homestead at Fraser Drive	52	nil

LGA	Project Name	Project Details	Lots/ dwellings to be built (eligible for BBRC rebate)	Lots/ dwellings completed (with BBRC rebate)
Wollongong	Wollongong City Council-West Dapto Access and Development Strategy	Road works to open up Urban Release Area	123	nil
Geraldton	Karloo-Wandina Affordable Housing Project	Roads, bridges and underpasses in the City's south eastern suburbs to enable the release of land	400	nil
Mandurah	City of Mandurah Pedestrian Bridge	Pedestrian bridge to span Mandurah Road and Railway line	34	nil
Shepparton	Shepparton Mooroopna West Growth Corridor Infrastructure	Flood mitigation, drainage and sewer infrastructure	86	nil