

MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

358. Ms C.M. COLLINS to the Minister assisting the Minister for Transport:

I refer to this Labor government's commitment to creating local jobs through the development of community infrastructure projects. Can the minister outline to the house how this government's significant investment in maritime infrastructure projects is transforming coastal communities across the state, and can the minister update the house on any future plans to build on this existing investment?

Mr D.R. MICHAEL replied:

I thank the member for the question; she is an incredible advocate for her community in Hillarys. Many of our constituents love to get out on the water on the weekend, whether it is in a tinnie, on a jet ski or in one of those majestic yachts that we see at some of the sailing clubs. I am pleased to announce that the state government recently announced the opening of the next round of grants for public boating facility projects through the recreational boating facilities scheme, under which \$1.5 million will be available to projects across Western Australia this year, with applications closing on 1 September. This latest round will take the total amount allocated through the program to more than \$50 million. To date, this program has helped to deliver almost 500 separate boating facility projects throughout the state. The program supports the state government's continued investment in coastal infrastructure, which is important for many people in our community. Across our state and in our regions, the government is making significant investments in maritime infrastructure projects, supporting jobs and local communities. This includes \$36 million towards boating facilities in Broome in the member for Kimberley's electorate; \$9.7 million for the redevelopment of Woodman Point in the member for Cockburn's electorate; \$7 million for the Carnarvon fascine in the member for North West Central's electorate; \$7.8 million for electrical upgrades at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour—I have the member for Fremantle in front of me—and, member for Hillarys, \$7.35 million for the replacement of jetties at Hillarys Boat Harbour.

Under the recreational boating facilities scheme, funds are available for the planning, construction and upgrading of boat-launching ramps, jetties, moorings, breakwaters and new channels directly related to public recreational boating facilities. Grants are also available for land-based infrastructure at boating facilities, such as trailer parking areas, toilets and boating signage. I look forward to working with the Minister for Transport, who was the architect of so much of what I have just read out, and continuing this government's significant investment in maritime infrastructure. I encourage all members to talk to their communities and encourage local governments and other eligible statutory authorities to lodge an application before the closing date.

Government members: Hear, hear!