

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

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Date: 10/12/2020

From: Mr Ian Sloan

To: Hon Chansey Paech

Portfolio: Local Government

Agency: Chief Minister and Cabinet

Subject: Southport water supply

QUESTION:

Following the issues at Southport last year, where residents had to cart water to their properties from alternative sources, has any preparation been carried out to form a long-term solution for this issue?

ANSWER:

The Southport Community Water Bores are assets held by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL), with the day to day operation of the bores undertaken by the Southport Progress Association under an occupation licence.

In December 2019, it was incorrectly reported that the Southport bore had run dry. The water supply issue was caused by a minor electrical fault which stopped the pump from working. Once reported to DIPL, the fault was repaired.

To address the concerns of the community at the time, DIPL arranged for the level of water in the bore to be measured. The results were that there remained 8.5 metres of water in the bore, providing sufficient water supply for the community.

DIPL has engaged a contractor to undertake quarterly checks of the Southport bores, including water level and water quality testing and a maintenance check/servicing of equipment. A chlorine filtration system has also recently been installed.

DIPL has also installed new signage at the bores providing users with contact details to report a fault.