

Smart and Sustainable Living

INSPIRING sustainable living and encouraging ecologically sustainable development is the vision behind Sustainable Home Currumbin (IH3) at the Ecovillage at Currumbin.

IH3, developed by Landmatters and built by Greensmart Jaymac Constructions, is supported by the Gold Coast City Council and endorsed by the Queensland Government's Department of Public Works Sustainable Homes Program.

Minister for Public Works Robert Swarten said the home displayed the 'triple-bottom-line' approach to housing design and construction.

"It balances the three essential smart housing elements of environmental, social and economic sustainability," Mr Swarten said.

"By applying sustainable design principles, the home demonstrates how we can work towards the creation of more sustainable communities, such as that envisioned for the Ecovillage at Currumbin."

The Sustainable Homes Program aims to provide communities throughout Queensland with display homes that incorporate principles of sustainable design and performance using Smart Housing Design Objectives as the minimum criteria.

Mr Swarten said the homes were distinct because they were designed and constructed to be practical examples of sustainability within each of the four different climatic zones within Queensland.

"In a national first, the Sustainable Homes Program is a collaborative partnership between State and local governments, and key housing industry stakeholders," he said.

"A range of supporters are also involved with each project, such as product sponsors and technical consultants."

Mr Swarten said the design objectives were developed to assist designers, architects and home owners with developing a brief for a house, and to demonstrate the range of viable solutions available.

"The Smart Housing initiative was developed in response to the demand for housing that better meets people's needs, and responds to the Queensland climate, while saving money," he said.

"Smart Housing is good practice in designing, planning and building to meet the triple-bottom-line of sustainability.

"In a Smart House, you can move around more easily, feel safer, save money and help the environment.

"You and your family can live in a Smart House through all stages of your lives," he said.

IH3 is open for display Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 3pm.

For more information on the house go to www.lh3.com.au

For more information on the Sustainable Homes Program and Smart Housing go to www.sustainable-homes.org.au and www.smarthousing.qld.gov.au

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