

Sustainable Home Redlynch Valley opens

The latest demonstration home in Queensland's Smart and Sustainable Homes Program has been opened at Redlynch Valley near Cairns by Steve Wettenhall, Member for Barron River, Minister for Public Works Robert Swarten said today.

Mr Swarten said Sustainable Home Redlynch Valley has been designed to be resource and energy efficient.

"Sustainable Home Redlynch Valley will be open to the public for five months demonstrating principles of sustainable housing and allowing people to inspect and appreciate these special design features first-hand," Mr Swarten said.

"The home had been designed to 'blend' into the estate which is surrounded by 700 acres of rainforest and three kilometres of riverfront.

"It's aesthetically pleasing and shows the public that sustainable housing looks the same as usual housing, but functions better.

"This home in particular has been designed to meet changing family needs and a range of people's needs.

"The walls have been built using lightweight construction which is a little different from the usual block construction generally used in the area but has distinct benefits for the local climate.

"Smart housing design principles have been applied to build a safe, secure house which is also cost effective over time," he said.

The four-bedroom home was delivered by local developer, Robert Wallace of Raw Fusion Pty Ltd. The project is supported by the Department of Public Works and Cairns City Council. It was designed by Indetail and built by Macpark Pty Ltd who are both Cairns based.

"The cooperation and enthusiasm of everybody involved in this project have demonstrated the willingness of private enterprise and local government to join with the State Government in its quest to make Queensland the Smart State," Mr Swarten said.

"The Smart and Sustainable Homes Program is a unique collaboration between the State Government, local government and industry.

"Homes built under program follow the Department of Public Works 'Smart and Sustainable Homes' principles which are based on the triple-bottom-line concept of economic, social and environmental sustainability.

"The Sustainable Homes Program is gathering momentum across Queensland with more than 30 sustainable homes now in the scheme," the Minister said.

Sustainable Home Redlynch Valley is located at 104 Davidson Close, Redlynch Valley Estate, a 15-minute drive northwest of Cairns.

The home will be open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from 12.00 to 5.00pm this Saturday February 9, 2008.