

FOR PRESSLOAN COUNCILSTATEMENT BY THE TREASURER, THE RT. HON. HAROLD HOLT, M.P.

The Commonwealth Treasurer (Mr. Holt) announced today that the Australian Loan Council has approved an increase of £7,500,000 in the borrowing programme for housing purposes in 1961-62 compared with the programme approved at the June, 1961 Meeting. This means that the total borrowing programme for States' works and housing for 1961-62 is now £247,500,000.

Mr. Holt said that the Loan Council also agreed to an increase of £7,500,000 in the programme of semi-government and local authorities with programmes of £100,000 or more.

The allocation of the new programmes is set out below:-

	<u>Governmental</u>			<u>Semi-Government and Local Authorities with Programmes of £100,000 and over*</u>
	<u>State Works</u>	<u>Commonwealth- State Housing Agreement</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
New South Wales	52,298	17,003	79,301	30,365 (28,119)
Victoria	50,075	13,527	63,602	39,713 (36,972)
Queensland	25,500	4,200	29,700	21,093 (19,547)
South Australia	25,148	9,036	34,184	5,802 (5,430)
Western Australia	19,581	3,706	23,287	3,520 (3,193)
Tasmania	14,498	2,928	17,426	3,549 (3,291)
	<u>197,100</u>	<u>50,400</u>	<u>247,500</u>	<u>104,042 (96,542)</u>

\* Previous programme in brackets.

The Loan Council decided that, subject to the approval of the State Government concerned, semi-government and local authorities with programmes less than £100,000 would each be permitted to borrow up to a further £100,000 during the remainder of the financial year if they were able to do so. Prior to this Loan Council decision,

the 1961-62 programmes of these smaller authorities were as follows:-

	£'000
New South Wales	6,782
Victoria	5,324
Queensland	4,360
South Australia	427
Western Australia	1,863
Tasmania	702
Total	<u>19,458</u>

The Treasurer further said that, as proposed by the Prime Minister yesterday, the distribution between the States of the special non-repayable grant of £10 million for expenditure on employment-giving activities in this financial year would be as shown in the following table, which also indicates the amounts added to the works and housing, and the semi-governmental and local authority programmes:-

	<u>Special Non- Repayable Grant</u>	<u>Addition to Housing Programme</u>	<u>Addition to Semi-Government and Local Authority Programmes of £100,000 and over</u>
	£'000	£'000	£'000
New South Wales	2,240	2,403	2,256
Victoria	1,800	1,927	2,741
Queensland	3,340	900	1,546
South Australia	970	1,036	372
Western Australia	660	706	327
Tasmania	990	528	258
Total	<u>10,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>

Canberra, A.C.T.  
16th February, 1962