



ESTIMATES COMMITTEE C

REPORT NO. 1 OF 2000

1. INTRODUCTION

The sessional orders adopted by the Legislative Assembly on 22 June 2000 established estimates committees to examine and report on the proposed expenditures stated in the *Appropriation Bill 2000* and the *Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2000*. The orders require Estimates Committee C to examine the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of:

- the Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads; and
- the Minister for Public Works and Minister for Housing.

The committee considered the proposed expenditure at a public hearing on 3 August 2000 using the budget documents and evidence provided by the ministers and their advisors.

This report highlights the proposed expenditures the committee examined and makes a recommendation to the Parliament. A separate volume tabled with the report contains the minutes of the committee's meetings, the committee's questions taken on notice by ministers prior to and during the hearing, ministers' answers to these questions and additional information about the hearing.

2. TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS PORTFOLIO

The Transport and Main Roads Portfolio comprises the Department of Transport (Queensland Transport), the Department of Main Roads and the following government-owned corporations (GOCs) and statutory authorities that report to the minister through the Department of Transport:

GOCs—

- Queensland Rail
- Ports Corporation of Queensland
- Port of Brisbane Corporation
- Bundaberg Port Authority
- Cairns Port Authority
- Gladstone Port Authority
- Mackay Port Authority
- Rockhampton Port Authority
- Townsville Port Authority

Statutory Authorities—

- Gold Coast Harbours Authority
- Marine Board

The *Appropriation Bill 2000* provides votes for the Transport and Main Roads Portfolio for 2000-2001 totalling \$3.187 billion. The figure below provides a breakdown for this amount and comparisons with provisions in the 1999-2000 budget.

Department	1999-2000 appropriation \$'000	2000-2001 appropriation \$'000
Department of Transport	1,803,581	1,439,787
Department of Main Roads	1,663,640	1,747,071
Total	3,467,221	3,186,858

Source: *Schedule 1 Appropriation Summary for 2000-2001, Appropriation Bill 2000.*

The 2000-2001 budget provides \$2.085 billion for roads, \$442 million for rail, ports and aviation and \$192 million in transport capital projects.

2.1 Department of Transport

Queensland Transport is the lead agency responsible for developing and managing the context for road, rail, air and sea transport in Queensland.

The \$1.440 billion appropriation for the department comprises \$1.235 billion for departmental outputs, an equity adjustment of \$179 million and \$26 million for administered items. The 20.2 percent decrease on the previous year's appropriation reflects one-off payments in 1999-2000 relating to transitional payments under Rail Service Agreements and the progressive completion of capital works. The department's outputs for 2000-2001 will be funded by a \$1.235 billion appropriation, \$33.882 million from user charges and \$141,000 from other revenues. The departmental programs' outputs and costs for 2000-2001 are as follows:

Output	Total Cost \$'000
Rail, Ports and Aviation	441,732
Integrated Transport Planning	50,830
Road Use Management	182,976
Maritime Services	100,020
Public Transport Services	493,376
Total	\$1,268,934

Source: *State Budget 2000-2001 Ministerial Portfolio Statement – Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads p.1-8.*

Key elements of the 2000-2001 budget include:

- \$700 million for the delivery of rail services and safety standards through the completion and execution of Rail Service Agreements with Queensland Rail for Citytrain, "below rail", long distance passenger and specified freight services;
- \$646.4 million capital outlays for Queensland Rail that includes \$79.2 million for the Rockhampton to Townsville track renewal, \$68.4 million to upgrade the coal wagon fleet and \$51 million for the Cairns Tilt Train project;
- \$175 million for the continuation of the construction of the South East Busway and Inner Northern Busway as part of progress on the construction of major public transport infrastructure;
- \$145.3 million for development and expansion of ports at Brisbane, Gladstone and the Dalrymple Bay Coal terminal;
- \$1.5 million per annum from speed camera funding to be applied to a number of projects and emerging issues for road safety;
- Evaluation of submitted, private sector tenders to develop an integrated ticketing system for the greater Brisbane region;
- Establishment of a Network Planning Group comprising staff from Brisbane Transport, Queensland Rail and Queensland Transport, to take best advantage of busway and integrated ticketing infrastructure;
- Commencement of journey to work and household travel interview surveys in south east Queensland to obtain better travel characteristics data;
- Continued development of the national road transport reform process;
- Continuation of commercial service bus contract reviews and finalisation of remaining contracts; and
- Introduction of the Automatic Identification System (AIS) for ships from 2002 including the development of permanent AIS shore monitoring installations and integration with the Ship Reporting System (SRS).

The committee raised the following issues of particular note with the minister:

Progress on the South-East Transit Project

The South-East Transit Project is the first of a network of dedicated busways planned for Brisbane. The committee was informed that the first stage of the project between the city and Woolloongabba would be operational in time for the Olympic soccer matches on 13 September 2000, and that an additional budget allocation would allow the commencement of Stage 5 and the continuation of other work on the project.

Safe Station Citytrain Security Package Allocations

The committee questioned the minister on the allocations for the Safe Station Citytrain security package, and whether they provided for the installation of duress alarms, an increase in the number of guardian trains and the further upgrading of park-and-ride facilities. The minister advised the committee that the budget allocation for the project for 2000-01 was \$8 million. DKS-Building Automation was the successful tenderer for the installation of the duress alarms. Installation of the alarms across the Citytrain network will be completed by mid-2001. Other elements of the project to enhance personal safety include platform safe zones and public phones, increased closed circuit television surveillance and upgraded security lighting and fencing for car parks.

Port Authorities' Borrowings

The committee questioned the minister on the \$410 million decrease in the estimated net worth of public trading enterprises. The minister advised that the \$410 million decrease was due to an expected increase in borrowings by GOCs. The minister informed the committee that Deutsche Bank had been engaged to undertake an analysis of the GOCs and had consulted with Queensland's port authorities to determine appropriate and sustainable debt levels. The engagement of Deutsche Bank included a guarantee for the future, efficient operations of the port authorities ensuring their capacity for expansion. There was a 10% increase in capital expenditure by Queensland ports this year with an allocation of \$25 million for the Cairns and Cityport projects. The minister also assured the committee that funds from the port authorities will be spent in their respective regions.

Rail Link to Brisbane Airport

The committee questioned the minister about the construction of the rail link to the Brisbane Airport by the private sector, and whether passengers will be able to travel from the airport through to the Gold Coast. The minister informed the committee that the project had progressed substantially, and that the integration link with the Citytrain network near the Toombul shopping centre was well advanced. When the project is completed, trains will run at 15-minute intervals between 5 a.m. and 11 p.m., and passengers will be able to continue to the Gold Coast at half hourly intervals. Ownership of the rail link will revert to the State Government after 35 years.

Rail Capital Works in Rural and Regional Areas

The committee questioned the minister on planned rail capital works and how these will promote jobs in Queensland's rural and regional areas. The minister informed the committee that Queensland Rails' capital budget for 2000-01 was \$646 million. This includes \$79 million for the Townsville track renewal project involving rail and sleeper replacement in Central Queensland; \$18

million towards additional track renewal between Rockhampton and Cairns, \$51 million for the manufacture of the Cairns Tilt Trains in Maryborough; \$3 million towards the construction of a new passenger train station in Townsville; and a further \$47 million in Maryborough for the completion of 30 three-car SMU passenger trains for the Citytrain network.

Funding for other rail projects in Maryborough, Gladstone, Rockhampton and Townsville totalled 70.7 million.

Other issues raised by the committee include:

- Relocation of the Townsville South railway yards;
- Expansion of the 50 km/h local street speed limit to the rest of Queensland;
- The location of the National Transport Secretariat in Brisbane as part of national road transport reforms;
- Development of a draft transport waterways management plan;
- Grants and subsidies for public transport in urban areas outside Brisbane; and
- The expenditure of Speed Camera revenue on road safety programs for 2000-01.

2.2 Department of Main Roads

Main Roads is responsible for the planning, management and operation of the state's road network.

The \$1.747 billion appropriation for the Department of Main Roads comprises \$1.933 billion for departmental outputs less an equity adjustment of \$186 million. The department's total controlled operating budget for 2000-01 will be \$2.119 billion. This represents an increase of \$57.3 million and largely reflects the increase in the asset base of the department.

The department's outputs for 2000-2001 will be funded by a \$1.933 billion appropriation, \$67.062 million from user charges, \$64.402 million from the Commonwealth and \$38.334 million from other revenues. The departmental programs' outputs and costs for 2000-2001 are as follows:

Output	Total Cost \$'000
Road Network Planning and Management	1,850,432
Road Asset Maintenance	234,661
Road Network Operation and Use	14,437
Total	\$2,099,530

Source: *State Budget 2000-2001 Ministerial Portfolio Statements – Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads* p.2-7.

Key elements of the 2000-2001 budget include:

- \$234.7million for effective road asset management;
- \$26million of Commonwealth funded works to improve sections of the Barkly Highway between Cloncurry and the Northern Territory border;

- \$23million for stage 1 of the Port of Brisbane Motorway Project;
- \$18million towards continuation of the Nundah Bypass;
- \$14.4million for traffic management systems and practices, including research and development of intelligent transport system solutions;
- \$8.3 million to improve Hervey Bay's Developmental Road;
- \$5.7 million to commence construction of the Caboolture Northern Bypass;
- Completion of the Pacific Motorway project;
- Completion of the Byerstown Range on the Peninsula Development Road;
- Completion of realignment of the Gunalda Range section of the Bruce Highway;
- Completion of the planning and environmental impact assessment for the Tugun Bypass.

The committee raised the following issues of particular note with the minister:

The Pacific Motorway

The committee questioned the minister about the sections of the Pacific Motorway that will allow travel at 110km/h, and about road safety programs and signage for the motorway. The minister informed the committee that a driver education program comprising TV, radio and press advertising, press articles, brochures and a newspaper supplement would be launched in September 2000. The motorway will introduce a new form of road signage to Queensland with exits numbered to indicate the distance in kilometres from Brisbane. The department is negotiating for the inclusion of the numbering system in street directories.

Second Range Crossing at Toowoomba

The committee questioned the minister about progress regarding the second range crossing at Toowoomba, and whether Federal assistance was required. The minister informed the committee that the crossing would require funding by the Commonwealth because it was part of the National Highway network. The planning estimate for the 42 km long project is \$325 million. Currently, \$12 million had been spent on hardship land acquisition and study costs, with a further \$2 million allocated in the Federal budget for 2000-01. According to initial plans, the second range crossing was not needed for 15 to 20 years, but there is considerable community pressure for the project. The \$325 million estimated cost of the project is more than the state's total allocation for national highways.

Other issues raised by the committee with the minister include:

- The design of the Thomson River bridge at Longreach and compensation for flooded property owners;

- Planning of a new National Highway corridor in the Burdekin area;
- Federal funding for Queensland roads projects;
- The impact of the GST on road and bridge tolls;
- Development of the STREAMS intelligent traffic system with the Brisbane City Council and intellectual property rights to the system; and
- The security of workers employed by Road Transport Construction Services in Western areas.

3. PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING PORTFOLIO

The Public Works and Housing Portfolio comprises the Department of Public Works, the Department of Housing and the following statutory authorities that report to the minister through the Department of Public Works:

- Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland
- Board of Architects of Queensland

The *Appropriation Bill 2000* provides votes for the Public Works and Housing Portfolio for 2000-2001 totalling \$528 million. The figure below provides breakdowns for this amount and comparisons with provisions in the 1999-2000 budget.

Department	1999-2000 appropriation \$'000	2000-2001 appropriation \$'000
Department of Public Works	108,477	153,604
Department of Housing	344,555	374,752
Total	453,032	528,356

Source: *Schedule 1 Appropriation Summary for 2000-2001, Appropriation Bill 2000.*

3.1 Department of Public Works

The department's core activities involve the provision of policy advice to government in relation to capital works, asset management and procurement practices and the provision, through the business units, of services to government agencies in building consultancy, maintenance and construction, fleet administration, printing and warehousing and construction, fleet administration, printing and warehousing and distribution of general supplies.

The \$153.6 million appropriation for the department comprises \$71.562 million for departmental outputs, an equity adjustment of \$68.119 million and \$13.923 million for administered items. The department's outputs for 2000-2001 will be funded by an appropriation of \$71.562 million, \$197.716 million from user charges and \$1.239 million from other revenues. The departmental programs' outputs and costs for 2000-2001 are as follows:

Output	Total Cost \$'000
Building Procurement and Asset Management	265,179
Procurement Services	5,338
Total	\$270,517

Source: *State Budget 2000-2001 Ministerial Portfolio Statements – Minister for Public Works and Minister for Housing p.1-8.*

Key elements of the 2000-2001 budget include:

- \$57.3 million for the redevelopment of the old Roma Street railyard into a modern parkland;
- \$8 million for continuing apprentice training and disaster management activities undertaken by Q-Build throughout Queensland;
- \$3 million to commence construction of a \$15 million office building in Cairns;
- \$2.2 million for the full refurbishment of the internal fabric of the former Woolloongabba police station;
- \$0.5 million to commence planning for the \$49.6 million Stage 2 of an office building at 111 George Street; and
- \$0.5 million to continue development of sustainable technologies to reduce greenhouse emissions in partnership with industry and tertiary institutions.

The committee raised the following issues of particular note with the minister:

Appointment of Queensland Government Architect

The committee questioned the minister on the creation of the position of Queensland Government Architect, the position's role and its need. The minister informed the committee that Professor Michael Keniger was appointed to the position in September 1999 to give a whole-of government approach to architecture in Queensland. The Government Architect will provide advice to the minister and the government on public sector building projects.

Proposed Smithsonian Institute building

The committee questioned the minister about the location of the proposed Smithsonian Institute building within the Roma Street Parkland development. The minister informed the committee that a location on the north-west corner of the site had been set aside, and that negotiations were continuing.

E-commerce and E-business Activities

The committee questioned the minister about opportunities for the department to engage in e-commerce and e-business arrangements with the construction industry. The minister informed the committee that the department's projects have been listed on a national register for the electronic lodgement of tendering documents. This will enable firms in Queensland to be part of local and worldwide projects. The technology will also allow for

better consultation with the public, the reduction of transaction costs, elimination of inefficiencies and a faster tender process.

Other issues raised by the committee include:

- The total charges for the department's communication and data services;
- Changes to the State Purchasing Policy;
- The new maintenance integration model trial between Q-Build and Queensland Housing; and
- GOPRINT's revenue and provision of reserved services.

3.2 Department of Housing

The Department of Housing provides access to secure, affordable housing that promotes employment and training opportunities and provides vital infrastructure in regional communities. The department has commenced work on a range of strategies including - an Affordable Housing Strategy to explore mechanisms to improve housing availability and a Statewide Strategic Policy Framework to define housing needs and examine the relationship of housing assistance to other social and economic programs.

The \$374.752 million appropriation for the department comprises \$339.752 million for departmental outputs and an equity adjustment of \$35 million. The department's outputs for 2000-2001 will be funded by an appropriation of \$339.752 million, \$187.186 million from user charges, \$179.520 million from Commonwealth revenue and \$29.336 million from other revenues. The departmental program outputs and costs for 2000-2001 are as follows:

Output	Total Cost \$'000
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing	86,914
Community Housing	48,992
Community Renewal	23,467
Home Purchase Assistance	27,733
Private Housing Assistance	24,971
Public Rental Housing	523,717
Total	753,794

Source: *State Budget 2000-2001 Ministerial Portfolio Statements – Minister for Public Works and Minister for Housing p.2-7.*

Key elements of the 2000-2001 budget include:

- \$87.9 million to commence construction of 500 public rental housing dwellings, including 200 dwellings deferred from 1999-2000;
- \$78.5 million to upgrade public housing stock;
- \$70.6 million for the maintenance of public housing;
- \$41.4 million in capital grants to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils for the construction of new houses and upgrades to existing buildings;

- \$25.9 million for crisis and transitional accommodation programs;
- \$23 million for the Queensland State Housing Loan scheme to assist eligible applicants to purchase public rental housing in redevelopment areas; and
- \$21.3 million for the Community Renewal Program which includes an additional \$1 million to assist the Palm Island community deliver its locally developed Vision Plan.

The committee raised the following issues of particular note with the minister:

Queensland State Housing Loan

The committee questioned the minister about a new product called the Queensland State Housing Loan and the safeguards for the protection of clients' and the department's interests. The minister informed the committee that the new loan scheme will allow tenants of state housing to purchase the dwellings they are renting. Safeguards include the capping of interest rates for the first five years and assurances that interest rates will never rise higher than 1% below the standard variable rate. Under the scheme, borrowers also receive \$1,000 to cover their loan agreement legal costs and \$100 for financial advice.

Remote Housing in Western Queensland

The committee questioned the minister about remote housing in western Queensland and whether there was flexibility to provide more housing. The minister informed the committee that the department had been able to relocate houses to various towns, and that community housing units in Blackall and 30 new public rental houses in rural Queensland had been approved. The minister also advised that he had sought Federal government support for a special seniors' housing program for rural Queensland.

Housing Industry Trade Training (HITT) Scheme

The committee questioned the minister about the HITT and HITT Plus schemes. The minister advised that the HITT scheme enabled the equivalent of approximately 160 first-year apprentices to maintain their apprenticeships.

The Government established the HITT Plus scheme on gaining office with \$9 million funding over four years to provide a further 600 building construction apprenticeships. The 1999-2000 target for the scheme was 200 new apprenticeships. At the time of the committee's hearing, 102 positions had been achieved with 200 apprenticeships due to be in place by the time current projects are completed.

The Federal Government's release of illegal immigrants from detention centres and transfer to Brisbane

The committee questioned the minister on the Federal Government's policy of releasing illegal immigrants from

detention centres in Western Australia and South Australia, and the impact on the Department of Housing.

The minister informed the committee that the Federal Government policy had added approximately 400 people in need to an already over-stretched crisis accommodation market, while providing the state with no additional resources. The minister told the committee of his talks with representatives of the Catholic Church concerning crisis accommodation for 155 released detainees already in Brisbane, and a further 265 who are expected to arrive during August.

Insect Screens and Ceiling Fans in Public Housing in the Burdekin and Townsville Regions

The committee questioned the minister about funding for the installation of insect screens and ceiling fans in public housing in the Burdekin and Townsville regions. The minister informed the committee that there had been a long history of neglect of public housing, and that the department was working to achieve improvements throughout the state. The department provides security screens with integral flyscreens under its Senior Home Safe program, and the Home Safe program provides greater priority for people at risk. \$10.7 million has also been spent on providing air conditioning for public housing in regional Queensland.

Other issues raised by the committee include:

- Reductions in net state housing funds;
- Completion of a Property Standard Index and strategies to improve the quality of public housing;
- A review of bed-sit accommodation for seniors and the recommendations stemming from that review; and
- Private sector investment in public housing in Queensland, especially seniors' housing.

4. RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommends that the proposed expenditures for the portfolios of the Minister for Transport and Minister for Main Roads and the Minister for Public Works and Minister for Housing be agreed to by the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

5. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The committee thanks ministers and their staff for their cooperation and assistance.

Julie Attwood MLA
Chairman

August 2000

MEMBERSHIP¹

- Mrs Julie Attwood MLA (Chair),
Member for Mount Ommaney
- Mr Vaughan Johnson MLA (Deputy Chair),
Member for Gregory
- Mr Jeff Knuth MLA, Member for Burdekin
- Mr Bruce Laming MLA, Member for Mooloolah
- Mr Paul Lucas MLA, Member for Lytton
- Mr John Mickel MLA, Member for Logan

STAFF

Research Director:	Mr Rob Hansen
Senior Research Officer:	Mr Tim Moroney
Executive Assistant:	Ms Tamara Reader

¹ On 19 July 2000, the Hon Rob Borbidge MLA, Leader of the Opposition, substituted Mr Jeff Knuth MLA, the Member for Burdekin, for Mr David Dalgleish MLA, the Member for Hervey Bay, on the committee in accordance with the sessional orders.

**STATEMENT OF RESERVATION
NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS —
PUBLIC WORKS & HOUSING**

1. PERFORMANCE BONUS PAYMENTS

The response from the Minister to questions pertaining to a performance bonus paid to his Directors-General is unacceptable. As the responsibility for this funding clearly resides in his own portfolio, his failure to explain and justify this expenditure is an abuse of the estimates process.

2. ACCURACY OF 1999/2000 ESTIMATED ACTUAL EXPENDITURE

The accuracy of the overall State Budget and the \$40M surplus projected for the General Government Sector in the 1999/2000 financial year has to be in question. Especially after responses to questions asked of the Minister pertaining to the accuracy of the Estimated Actual Figures contained in the MPS for the 1999/2000 financial year. The inability to specify the accuracy of the figures provided, given the lapse of some six weeks between their provision of the figures to Treasury and the Estimates Hearing, is of concern to the non-Government members of the Committee.

3. ROMA STREET PARKLAND UNDER-EXPENDITURE

The financial year 1999/2000 represents the second consecutive year that this project has not reached its expenditure target. The actual under-spend by the end of 1999/2000 is \$2.28M which equates to 1629 person weeks of employment not provided to out of work Queenslanders.

4. SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AND SWARA

It is of considerable concern to non-Government Members that no assurance could be given that the Smithsonian Institution Project is definitely proceeding despite claims by the Premier twelve months ago that the "deal has been sealed".

We do note, however, the commitment made to the Committee that the SWARA ladies won't be moved.

5. Q BUILD 15% SURCHARGE

We also have concerns regarding the cost of delivering housing maintenance services. The 7.5% contract fee plus a 7.5% program management fee payable to Q Build whatever terminology is used, still represents 15% of the housing maintenance budget not spent on actual maintenance.

6. PRE-QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

Non-Government Members express their concerns with the pre-qualification system for Government tendering, in that it does not require a higher level of financial responsibility than that required by the BSA. Just as builders working on Government projects have a much higher expectation of payment, so too should sub-contractors be equally assured.

7. \$14,400 FIVE DAY CONSULTANCY

We have concerns regarding the needs for the Government to spend \$14,400 on a five day consultancy awarded to Dale Bracken of Clayton Utz to ascertain the Departments legal position on proposed legislation. Such legal advice should be available within Government or at less cost from outside.

8. GO PRINT RESERVED SERVICES

Non-Government Members do not accept that the costs of providing reserved services by Go Print and revenues received for them should not be available for examination. Such information provides the appropriate and businesslike method of assessing the level of CSO payment that should be paid rather than using this payment as a balancing item.

9. Q BUILD OPERATING DEFICIT

Concern is expressed in relation to the operating deficit of Q Build in 1999/2000 despite a substantial CSO payment for the year.

10. REDUCTION IN STATE MATCHING FUNDING

Non-Government Committee Members express their concern at the reduction in State Government matching funds from \$110.734M in 1998/99 to \$93.834M in 2000/01.

11. ADMIN SAVINGS PAYMENTS TO TREASURY

We also note with concern that over the three year period 1998/2001 dividend payments totalling \$41.301M will have been paid by the Department of Housing back to State Treasury.

12. UNSUSTAINABLE EQUITY INJECTION

Non-Government Members express concern at the unsustainable raid on the Auctioneers and Agents Fidelity Guarantee Fund of \$35M, which is approximately three times the amount withdrawn in recent years, to prop up the housing budget.

13. REVENUE FROM STAMP DUTY

We are also concerned that the Minister has not secured the funds flowing from the State's retention of the stamp duties on unlisted securities which were offered back to the States to compensate them for the loss of public housing rental increases which might have flowed following the increase in social security payments after the introduction of the new tax system. This would have provided approximately \$5M extra per year for housing.

MR V JOHNSON, MLA
MEMBER FOR GREGORY

14. LATE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING BUILDING PROGRAM

Non-Government Members express concern that 221 (44%) of houses were not even commenced until the last month of the year. This failure missed the opportunity to have much needed housing constructed earlier and at lower costs. For HITT scheme construction, more than half of the commencements did not occur until the last month of the year which may well have caused work flow difficulties for group training companies.

15. COMMUNITY RENEWAL UNDER-SPEND

We were also concerned that the Community Renewal Program was under-expended by \$7.4M in 1999/2000 and that the Minister failed to complete four of the eleven action plans set down for this program last financial year, this despite being a central plank to the Government's crime prevention strategy.

16. SENIORS HOUSING IN RURAL QUEENSLAND

Non-Government Committee Members note that despite the Minister's calls to the Federal Government to provide extra funding for seniors housing in rural areas, only 8% of the 2000/01 budget has been allocated for seniors units outside the south east corner of the State.

MR B LAMING, MLA
MEMBER FOR MOOLOOLAH

MR J KNUTH MLA
MEMBER FOR BURDEKIN

