



Speech by
**Mr DENVER
BEANLAND**

MEMBER FOR INDOOROOPILLY

Hansard 27 April 1999

CHALLINOR CENTRE

Mr BEANLAND (Indooroopilly—LP) (10.18 a.m.): Shortly after coming to Government, the Minister for Families, Youth and Community Care and Minister for Disability Services made a commitment to prioritise the construction of two new centre-based care facilities for former residents of the Challinor Centre in Ipswich. This commitment was warmly welcomed by all involved with the Challinor community and was considered to be an end to the anguish caused by the decision to close and redevelop into a university the antiquated and below-standard facilities which had been in use for some 85 years.

Unfortunately, in a manner to which we have become accustomed under Minister Bligh, this announcement has turned out to be nothing more than a false promise—a promise that she has indicated she will not fulfil because now, all of a sudden, everything seems too hard. As soon as the sun has set and all media opportunities have faded, Minister Bligh very quickly forgets about her responsibilities and the people for whom she is responsible.

In fact, the word has spread quickly that if the media is not interested, neither is the Minister. The promise by Minister Bligh to construct a new centre-based care facility in the Ipswich region for the former residents of the Challinor Centre seems to be just another on the long list of broken promises and false hopes that have been peddled by this can't do Minister since the end of June last year. These people have been residents of Ipswich for up to 60 years. I am calling on the Minister to focus on ensuring that facilities are available in the Ipswich area for up to 24 former Challinor residents, and not somewhere else on the north side of Brisbane.

There is no good reason why Minister Bligh cannot get on with the job of fulfilling her commitments to the Challinor family and all the other people whom she is purporting to look after. There is no good reason at all. It is about time that the Minister forgot about how much fun it would be to lead her party and start delivering the promises that she has made so publicly to the people of Queensland, particularly those of Challinor.
