



Speech by

CHRIS FOLEY

Member for MARYBOROUGH

Hansard 14 October 2003

SEWERAGE AND WATER, HOWARD AND ALDERSHOT

Mr CHRIS FOLEY (Maryborough—Ind) (12.21 p.m.): I had the pleasure last night of attending two progress association meetings in Howard and Aldershot. One of the issues for the Howard community that is of a long-term nature is sewerage. I regret to inform the House that every time there is a decent downpour of rain in Howard the septic system backs up and rather unsavoury things have been known to float around the streets creating a significant health hazard. I call on the minister to help Hervey Bay City Council to provide reasonably priced sewerage to the township of Howard.

Mr McNamara interjected.

Mr CHRIS FOLEY: I take that interjection from the member for Hervey Bay but there was a different feeling last night in the meeting. Aldershot is another community some 10 minutes away from Maryborough, and in one of the driest continents on the earth the folks from Aldershot have no town water, which is a significant problem affecting their lifestyle. Town water, ironically, is only a stone's throw away at the Maryborough Correctional Centre, but as Aldershot is under the Hervey Bay City Council one of the councillors from Hervey Bay who attended the meeting last night said they had no desire to take water to Aldershot as it is too far away, and I do not disagree with them on that point.

There is also some resistance in the township of Aldershot to water being made available to locals as they are afraid of skyrocketing rates. In this situation I would call on the minister to see if anything could be done to make affordable town water available to residents in Aldershot without a subsequent hike in rates.