



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 29 March 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Community Cabinet, Mackay

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.52 am): By way of report, on 19 and 20 March the Queensland cabinet met in Mackay for the 93rd community cabinet since my government's election in 1998. I seek leave to have the remainder of my ministerial statement incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

We are a Government for all Queenslanders, no matter where they live, and Community Cabinets are an opportunity for all Queenslanders to meet myself; my Ministers; and their Directors-General, face to face to talk about the issues that affect them.

We received 94 deputations for the Mackay Cabinet, bringing the total number of formal deputations since June 1998 to 7,571.

On Sunday 19 March we were at the Mackay North State High School, and then on Monday 20 March, Cabinet met at the Mackay City Council administration building in Gordon Street.

Community Cabinets this year have targeted some of the most dynamic and fastest growing regions in Queensland—Bundaberg, Springfield, Mackay, and this week on the Gold Coast.

This is exactly what Community Cabinet is about—getting out into the regions and witnessing first hand the challenges and opportunities Queenslanders are facing in their own backyard.

I would like to thank Mackay for their warm welcome, and also thank you to all the local residents and community representatives who came along to meet us—your involvement is essential to the success of the Community Cabinet process.