



Speech by

# Lillian van Litsenburg

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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## SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

**Ms van LITSENBURG** (Redcliffe—ALP) (9.59 pm): The Beattie Labor government has embarked on record road, transport, health, water and other infrastructure development. This has been vital due to the immense and rapid growth of the state. While this growth is exciting, it is people who are important. I am proud to be a part of this Beattie Labor government, a government that puts people first. The benefits of money spent on social infrastructure are that it reaches not only those who receive those services but also those with whom they have contact and often several generations into the future. A good example of this is the Skilling Queenslanders for Work funding, which has given a large number of long-term unemployed people in Redcliffe the skills they need to join the workforce. In my electorate just under \$50,000 was given for emergency assistance to St Vincent de Paul, the Salvation Army and the Redcliffe Welfare Council. This has provided a much needed safety net for many people and families in crisis.

The Redcliffe Neighbourhood Centre has a proud history of service provision, including family relationship counselling, family support services, domestic violence and YACCA. These are essential programs to enable people to recover from traumatic experiences, gain skills and move on with their lives. To extend their services, the Neighbourhood Centre has just received 'it's no secret' funding of \$6,179 from the Department of Communities. This will fund an Indigenous worker to provide culturally and linguistically targeted domestic and family violence information. I have every confidence that this will enrich the services currently provided.

ROPE, Horizons Respite and Recreation, and Breakaway Respite Services have also been granted funds of around \$18,000. Pender, a recently established riding for the disabled facility, has been granted \$5,000. All of this money enables people to improve their lives so that they can improve the quality of their relationships and their learning. This social infrastructure is our insurance that things will improve for people in the community, which liberates them to use their abilities and enrich the community around them, and that is what good government is all about.