



Speech by

Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Hansard Wednesday, 10 March 2010

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Floods, Replacement of Certificates; Annual Reports

Hon. CR DICK (Greenslopes—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations) (10.10 am): As we have heard over the past few days, extraordinary floods have been experienced across large parts of southern and central-western Queensland. The homes of many residents have been inundated by, in some cases, one in 100 year floods, with furniture and personal items being damaged or lost. I am pleased to inform the House that the Department of Justice and Attorney-General will assist residents of flood ravaged communities who have lost important documents in the floodwaters. The department will replace, free of charge, birth, marriage or death certificates for flood affected residents. This replacement offer applies to residents in the southern and central-western council areas of Balonne, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Bulloo, Diamantina, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Quilpie and Western Downs.

The recent floods, particularly those in the areas I mentioned above, have turned many residents' lives upside down, and it is important that we help in any way possible. While the loss of a birth certificate, marriage certificate or death certificate is minor compared to personal injury or the loss of property, I hope waiving the usual fees will make it easier for people recovering from the flood. People who need replacement certificates should present their damaged certificates or provide advice that they have been destroyed to any Queensland courthouse or Queensland Government Agent Program office. The free replacement certificates will be offered until 30 June 2010 for eligible residents. Sometimes it is the little things in life that make a difference. This small but hopefully helpful gesture to flood affected communities is part of this government's determination to help get affected lives back into some order after a traumatic event and help individuals get back on their feet as soon as possible.

While I am on my feet, I lay upon the table of the House the following annual reports: the Guardianship and Administration Tribunal annual report 2008-09, the Adult Guardian annual report 2008-09, and the Office of the Public Advocate annual report 2008-09.

Tabled paper: Adult Guardian—Annual Report 2008-09 [[1864](#)].

Tabled paper: Office of the Public Advocate Queensland—Annual Report 2008-09 [[1865](#)].

Tabled paper: Guardianship and Administration Tribunal—Annual Report 2008-09 [[1866](#)].