




Speech By
Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Record of Proceedings, 16 September 2015

ADJOURNMENT

Domestic and Family Violence

 **Miss BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (1.35 am): Domestic and family violence has no place in our community. There is universal agreement from us in this place that it is a complex, multifaceted and critical issue, one that requires a cultural change and a total community response. Previously in this place I have informed the House of my commitment to eradicate domestic violence. Domestic and family violence is a violation of the basic right we all have to healthy, supportive and safe relationships and lives. When I addressed the House back in May and spoke of my recent visit to DVConnect I reported that 140 to 260 calls were being averaged overnight and these figures indicated a spike in the period from October 2014 to May 2015.

Yesterday we saw the Premier announce that the funding commitment for this year to the DVConnect helpline would be increased to \$5.1 million. This 24/7 crisis line is now receiving 400 calls per day. This extra funding will boost staffing and provide emergency accommodation and supplies to ensure DVConnect are able to answer all calls for help from women and men.

I consider it a good thing that Queensland women and men are seeking assistance and help and I hope that we see more of it. This week we have seen the fast-tracking of legislation to increase penalties for breaches of domestic violence orders, to ensure domestic violence is specifically recorded on a person's criminal history and to provide special witness status for victims in court.

Last week in Pine Rivers I held a community domestic and family violence prevention round table at the Pine Rivers State High School. There, with local community providers and community leaders, we discussed the challenge that domestic and family violence is for our community. We know that meaningful partnerships need to be built with the community and private sectors, because government cannot tackle this issue alone. My round table in Pine Rivers is part of that consultation process. At the round table we spoke about the shared vision for our community in eradicating domestic and family violence. We discussed how we can shift attitudes locally, what an integrated support system looks like, how we can best form community partnerships and what gaps exist in the services in Pine Rivers. Additionally, the round table allowed for community services and leaders to form connections with one another in a way that had not been seen before. I am hopeful that with the investment from the Palaszczuk Labor government we will continue to see more investment in this area and implementation of the *Not now, not ever* task force review from Dame Quentin Bryce.