

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 435
Asked on Thursday, 24 March 2005

MR HOBBS asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR PALASZCZUK)—

QUESTION:

As approximately half of Queensland is drought declared by Government and conditions in many other areas are deteriorating very quickly as the winter months approach and as the Federal Government has committed their share of funding for the Community Managed Rural Financial Counselling Services to 30 December 2005, when will he commit his share of funding to keep these services operating?

ANSWER:

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) fully funds fourteen Farm Financial Counselling positions across Queensland. In addition, DPI&F provides support to a number of financial counsellors engaged under the Community Managed Rural Financial Counselling Service.

Farm Financial Counsellors employed by the State Government are located in areas where demand for these services by primary producers is high. The financial counselling needs of primary producers are continually reviewed by DPI&F.