

Question on Notice

Number. 607

Asked on Tuesday, 10 May 2005

Mr McNamara MP asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**Mr Pitt**) -

With reference to the establishment of a new high needs respite centre in Hervey Bay – Will he advise on the progress of this important project for Hervey Bay?

ANSWER:

As part of the 2004-05 State budget commitment, funding was announced for the establishment of a Disability Services Queensland (DSQ) respite centre in Hervey Bay. Funding was allocated for both the construction of the facility and operating costs. The facility will provide a centre based respite option for up to 60 families a year and have the capacity to provide respite for 5 people at any one time.

In January 2005 an appropriate property was purchased at 164 Doolong Road Kawungan, Hervey Bay. On 20 April 2005 Project Services, Department of Public Works, was commissioned to proceed with the project management for the construction of the new facility.

It is anticipated that the tender process for construction will commence in early November 2005 with construction commencing in early January 2006. The suggested completion date for the new facility is May 2006 with the facility becoming operational by mid next year.