

Question on Notice

No. 1316

Asked on Tuesday, 31 October 2006

MS DARLING MP asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services, Seniors and Youth (**MR PITT**) -

With reference to the Queensland Government which has done much to address the historic underfunding of disability services, but some families are still struggling financially and emotionally as they provide for loved ones with a disability.

How has funding to NGOs servicing the Sandgate Electorate improved over the last five years and what are his department's plans to increase funding for respite?

ANSWER:

Disability Services Queensland's 2006-07 funding allocation will provide \$20,172,299 in recurrent funding to NGOs servicing Sandgate and the surrounding electorates of Aspley, Clayfield, Nudgee and Redcliffe, to deliver: respite, lifestyle and accommodation support services; day services; community access services; and, rehabilitation services. The geographic service area of these NGOs covers the Sandgate electorate. Of that funding, \$868,254 is provided specifically for services within the Sandgate electorate and \$19,304,045 is provided for services within the broader area.

Disability Services Queensland funding for the Sandgate electorate increased from \$226,528 in 2001-02 to \$868,254 in 2006-07, with this funding enabling support to be provided to individuals and families through the Adult Lifestyle Support, Post School Services, and Family Support programs.

Under the Adult Lifestyle Support and Post School Services programs, Disability Services Queensland provides \$319,545 in recurrent funds for 11 adults with a disability living in the Sandgate electorate. There are currently nine people receiving support through the Adult Lifestyle Support Program and two receiving support through the Post School Program. Funding levels for people living in the electorate under these programs has doubled from \$165,216 in the 2001-02 financial year.

Under the Family Support Program, Disability Services Queensland provides \$291,163 recurrently to 13 families living in the Sandgate electorate - a substantial increase from \$33,733 in the 2001-02 financial year.

Disability Services Queensland has significant investments in the provision of respite and day services in the electorates surrounding Sandgate namely Redcliffe, Clayfield, Aspley and Nudgee. These services, while not located within Sandgate, have a geographical service catchment that covers the electorate.

In the 2006-07 financial year, Disability Services Queensland will provide \$3,417,227 to deliver day services and respite to people with a disability living in the northern suburbs of Brisbane and Redcliffe, of which \$2,435,871 is to provide day and recreation services for adults with a disability.

Of the allocation for day and recreation services for adults with a disability, \$981,356 in recurrent funds is to provide centre based respite services and \$500,774 in non-recurrent funds is for equipment acquisition, emergency respite, and the establishment of the Disability Sector Quality System.

Disability Services Queensland is considering submissions for the establishment of a centre based respite service for adults with a disability in the north-eastern suburbs of Brisbane. Funding for this initiative will be available from 1 January 2007. The department is also considering submissions for the establishment of a service to provide support for older carers in the northern suburbs of Brisbane. This initiative will provide non-recurrent funds for older carers to receive in-home, community access and emergency respite. Funding for this initiative will be available from 1 January 2007.

Disability Services Queensland will also establish a four-bed and emergency respite facility at Deception Bay. The facility is expected to open in mid 2007 and will provide centre based overnight respite services for adults and children for 363 days of the year. The geographic service area of this respite facility will cover the Sandgate electorate.