

**Question on Notice
No. 590
Asked on Friday 21 April 2006**

MR WALLACE asked the Minister for Police and Corrective Services (MS SPENCE)-

QUESTION:

Will she detail the assistance provided by the Department of Corrective Services to the cyclone relief effort in north Queensland communities?

ANSWER:

An Innisfail Cyclone Larry Support Camp was established on 29 March 2006. 16 low risk Work Camp prisoners and three supervising staff members from Darling Downs Correctional Centre supplied immediate assistance with Departmental tools and vehicles, including a bobcat and tilt truck. This camp was self-contained and established in a local building. A second camp of 12 prisoners arrived from Capricornia Correctional Centre on 26 April 2006 and is scheduled to remain until 11 May 2006. Further assistance is available depending on continued accommodation options. From 29 March 2006 until the present date, approximately 2,200 hours of assistance has been provided with the cleaning up of public areas and removal of debris under extreme conditions.

A Malanda Cyclone Larry Support Camp was established on 5 April 2006 with 12 Work Camp prisoners and a supervisor from Townsville Correctional Centre. This camp assisted local communities with staff from Parks and Wildlife and SES members to clean up public areas in the Eacham and Herberton Shires. This camp is scheduled to remain until 7 May 2006. Further Work Camp prisoners can be deployed if continuing accommodation is available. To date 1,440 community services hours have been provided.

A work gang of low risk farm prisoners from the Lotus Glen Correctional Centre has been working in the local area on a daily basis under the supervision of a correctional officer. This work gang completed clean up projects at the Atherton Cemetery, Hospital and Lions Park, and the Carinya Home for the Aged. The work gang provided daily assistance for five days a week for four weeks. The prisoners contributed approximately 1,000 community service hours.

Cairns and Mareeba area offices provided one month's support in special projects for the clean up in the Innisfail and Mareeba district. A supervisor transported 10 offenders on community services orders two days per week to assist. Approximately 600 community service hours were spent on local projects at Woree, Mirriwinni, Eacham, Babinda and Malanda.

Community Corrections Managers will provide ongoing long term support by utilising existing projects in the affected areas and offenders on community service orders.