

**Question on Notice
No. 792
Asked on 23 May 2006**

MRS J CUNNINGHAM asked the Minister for Small Business, Information Technology Policy and Multicultural Affairs (MR CUMMINS) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the *Bundaberg NewsMail* business awards which were held very successfully on 19 May 2006 —

What support did the Department of State Development provide to help make this event so successful?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and for her strong support for small business within her electorate. The Beattie Government recognises that small business represents 96.5% of all Queensland businesses and employs around 50% of all private sector workers, and as such, this Government is committed to driving economic growth and innovation, developing business and industry and securing employment opportunities for Queenslanders.

The 14th annual *Bundaberg NewsMail* Business Awards were held on 19 May 2006 with 183 people attending.

The Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation have sponsored the Awards since 2000. In 2006, the Department again provided significant support by way of:

- Sponsorship of \$6,000 (excluding GST). This sponsorship allows the department to display banners and advertisements at the event, to appear in an advertising lift out in the Bundaberg Newspaper, to present an award and have our departmental logo displayed on award trophies and certificates.
- In-kind support through input into the organisation and judging of the Awards. A senior officer of Bundaberg State Development Centre served on the Awards Steering Committee and a second senior officer served on the judging panel.

The People's Choice Awards segment received in excess of 260 nominations. Winners were:

- Coral Coast and Country Trader – Micro Business of the Year;
- Coral Cove and Coast Foodworks – Small Business of the Year;
- ANZ Bank – Medium Business of the Year; and
- Cornett's IGA Supermarket – New Business of the Year.

Winners of the judged award categories were:

- Country Comfort Bundaberg International Motor Inn – Micro Business of the Year;
- Freshfields Foodworks – Small Business of the Year;
- ANZ Bank – Medium Business of the Year;
- Cornett's IGA Supermarket – Large Business of the Year;
- Bundaberg Shuttle Service – New Business of the Year;
- Hire-a-driver/Bundaberg Shuttle Service – Tourism Operator of the Year; and
- Alexandras New Orleans Café – Hall of Fame recipient 2006.

The Queensland Government recognises the valuable contribution that small businesses in regional Queensland makes to the State's economy and continues to provide support to assist these businesses to grow.