

Question on Notice

No. 829

Asked on Wednesday, 24 May 2006

Ms MALE asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice (Mrs Lavarch) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the dedication to community service of the many Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations throughout Queensland which I acknowledge –

What avenues are available for them to advise residents of their appointment and services they provide.

ANSWER:

On appointment as a Justice of the Peace or Commissioner for Declarations, contact details are immediately placed on the Department of Justice and Attorney-General Justice of the Peace data base.

The Justices of the Peace Branch receives over 300 calls a day on their 1300 number from community members requiring the services of a Justice of the Peace. The contact details are provided to callers on request.

Some Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations choose to have their contact details on the Department of Justice and Attorney-General website under the "Finding a JP in your area" section. As of 23 May 2006, there were 8,411 justices registered on this website.

Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations are also advised to display letter box signs and/or window stickers advertising their services. Some, on their own initiative, advertise in the local press or advertise on business cards.

Over the past two years the Department of Justice and Attorney-General has focused on making Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations more accessible to the public through the "JPs in the Community" Program. Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declaration are able to volunteer in selected shopping centres, court registries and libraries throughout the State, assisting local members of the community on a daily basis.