

Question on Notice

No. 861

Asked on Thursday, 25 May 2006

MRS J CUNNINGHAM MP asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**MR PITT**)

- (1) How much funding has the Government provided for disability services in Bundaberg in this financial year compared to five years ago?
- (2) What programs does this cover?
- (3) What new programs have been introduced by the Beattie Government?
- (4) What programs are provided by the Federal Government for our Queensland disabled people and their families?

ANSWER:

In 2005-06 the government has provided a total of \$6,465,664 across a range of disability services in the Bundaberg electorate. This equates to a massive 295% increase over the 2000-01 allocation of \$2,186,750.

This funding is used to provide support and services through a number of programs principally the Adult Lifestyle Support Program, Family Support Program, Institutional Reform Program, Project 300, Post School Services and respite services.

The Beattie Government has introduced a number of new programs that operate statewide to assist people with a disability and support non-government service providers. These include the Resident Support Program, Family Support Program for Adults, Spinal Cord Injuries initiative, Early Intervention Strategies and the provision of Viability Funding.

The Commonwealth Government plays a limited role in the provision of disability services to Queenslanders. Its principal operations relate to the Commonwealth Carers Respite Centres, Home and Community Care (HACC) program and the provision of funding to support Business Services operated by non-government service providers to provide employment to people with a disability. Some funding was provided under the National Respite for Carers Program but the Commonwealth Government re-directed this funding to aged care programs in June 2005, reducing the capacity of many organisations to provide respite services to Queenslanders with a disability and their families.