

**Question on Notice
No. 946
Asked on 8 June 2007**

MR FENLON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM, FAIR TRADING, WINE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN (MRS KEECH)—

Will she outline the benefits Queensland women gain from the Women's Infolink?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question and his support in promoting opportunities for Queensland women.

The Women's Infolink provides a free confidential information and referral service to Queensland women. Receiving over 40,000 enquiries each year, Women's Infolink gives access to the information women need to increase participation in Queensland business, economic, social and community life.

The most frequent issues raised by women using this service include family law, counselling, family violence, health and wellbeing and accommodation matters. As many of the calls are of a very sensitive nature, clients are provided initial support, assessment and options through referrals to appropriate community and government services. Women are directly transferred to relevant agencies at no cost, to receive immediate support and expertise from services across the State.

Many women also access updates and information on current programs and initiatives through the Office for Women website, for example, information on the Negotiation Skills Workshops currently being held across the State, the Smart Women Smart State Awards and the Women in Hard Hats Strategy. Over 1,300 organisations contacted the line for assistance about events, resources and information about International Women's Day 2007.

From 2006 Queensland women have also been provided with access to over 2,000 government and community services through the website's online *Find A Service* database. This comprehensive database is easy to search, regularly updated and has State-wide referral coverage. Over 10,000 searches have been conducted since the launch of the database in March 2006.