

## Question on Notice

No. 1426

Asked on Wednesday 7 October 2009

**MR CRIPPS** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (MS PALASZCZUK)—

With reference to home modifications to allow people with disabilities to live independently in their own homes—

- (1) What is total expenditure on these modifications?
- (2) How many requests for home modification assistance were refused?
- (3) How many modifications were completed in each region in 2007–08, 2008–09 and 2009–10 to date?

### ANSWER:

The Bligh and Rudd Governments are investing \$429.2 million this year to help frail older and younger disabled Queenslanders live independently for longer.

This year we will assist around 163,000 eligible Queenslanders to continue to live independent lives, and avoid entering residential care prematurely.

The funds will be invested to deliver home modifications as well as better transport options, allied health care, and support for carers so that people can remain living in their own homes and communities.

(1) Total reported expenditure on all home modifications undertaken by Home and Community Care (HACC) funded service providers was \$7,971,055 in 2007–08 and \$8,510,949 in 2008–09.

(2) Requests would normally only be refused if the prospective client was ineligible for the service or the requested home modification was outside the scope of the provider's contract.

(3) While expenditure from 2007–08 to 2008–09 has increased, the department advises there have been increased average costs per home modification. Some home modifications are major, involving significant structural changes to a client's home, while others are of a minor nature such as adding rails or other equipment to the existing home. Therefore, individual home modifications can vary significantly in cost.

HACC funding region	2007–08	2008–09
Central	1,140	1,167
Darling Downs / South West	318	197
North Brisbane	4,231	4,437
Northern	627	477
Peninsula	359	278
South Brisbane	2,005	2,024
West Moreton / South Coast	3,265	3,058

Figures for the first quarter of 2009–10 are not yet available.