

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 1726**

**Asked on Wednesday, 11 November 2009**

**Mr KERRY SHINE** asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations (Mr Dick) -

### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the government's initiative in supporting JPs and Commissioners for Declarations who volunteer their services in public places—

Will the Attorney advise the extent to which this service operates in the city of Toowoomba, indicating where and when such services are provided?

### **ANSWER:**

Increasing the number of volunteers in our community is an important part of the Government's Toward Q2 blueprint for the future. The Department of Justice and Attorney-General's Q2 target for 2020 is to have established 170 operational community signing sites that involve over 5000 volunteer Justices of the Peace. The Queensland Government recognises the invaluable service provided by Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations across the State.

The "JPs in the Community" program operates state-wide with currently 134 community sites which include court registries, shopping centres, libraries, hospitals, universities and community centres. This program is currently supported by approximately 2400 volunteers who contribute over 56,000 hours per annum serving the community.

In the city of Toowoomba there are four community sites. These are:

- Toowoomba Courthouse (159 Hume Street) – Tuesday 10:00am -12:00 noon and 3:00pm – 4:00pm;
- Kmart Plaza ( 878 Ruthven Street) – Wednesday 10:00am – 12:00 noon;
- Grand Central Shopping Centre (Cnr. Margaret and Dent Streets) – Thursday 3:00pm – 7:00pm and Saturday 9:00am -11:00am;
- Clifford Gardens (James Street) – Thursday 5:00pm – 7:00pm and Saturday 10:00am – 12:00 noon.

Over thirty (30) volunteers support these centres in Toowoomba. The volunteer sites in Toowoomba provide members of the public accessible justice services at convenient locations and times.