Question on Notice No. 176 Asked on 18 March 2014

MR JUDGE asked the Premier (MR NEWMAN)—

With reference to the Premier's election pledge to reduce cost of living pressures and to the increases in stamp duty on insurance premiums from 7.5 to 9 per cent—

Will the Premier confirm the percentage of stamp duty on insurance premiums that will be directly applied to assist Queensland to fund its share of the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

ANSWER:

In December 2012, the Queensland Government announced a commitment to provide an additional \$868 million over the period to 2018-19 to address the historical underfunding of disability services in Queensland and to support implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The 2013-14 Budget included a measure to increase the rate of insurance duty. This measure will assist in meeting part of the State's contribution to implementation of the NDIS, along with existing funding allocations for disability services and the State's share of the 0.5% Medicare levy increase. Queensland's insurance duty regime remains competitive with other states.

Over time, the State's contribution to NDIS will significantly exceed the additional revenue raised from the increase in insurance duty rates. For example, the Queensland Government is expecting to fund \$2.03 billion of NDIS costs in 2019-20 with the Australian Government funding the balance.

With regards to the cost of living, this Government has implemented a number of measures aimed at improving the cost of living, including:

- freezing car registration fees for three years from 2012–13 saving a family with a 6 cylinder car \$23.85 in 2013–14;
- re-instating the principal place of residence concessional rate for stamp duty, providing savings of up to \$7,175 when buying a home;
- a one off water rebate of \$80 to households supplied by the SEQ bulk water grid;
- freezing the standard electricity tariff in 2012-13, saving families an average of \$120;
- halving public transport fare increases set by the previous government that had been due in 2013 and 2014; and
- allowing passengers on the TransLink network to travel free after nine journeys in a week.