

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 984**

**Asked on 14 October 2015**

Mr Whiting asked the Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (MS FENTIMAN)—

### **QUESTION**

Will the Minister advise the House how the recent opening of a dedicated domestic violence service in the area of Pine Rivers will assist the residents of Murrumba?

### **ANSWER**

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to taking action to eliminate domestic and family violence, investing \$49 million statewide over five years from 2014–15 to deliver innovative and flexible support to address this issue and make our homes safer.

The Palaszczuk Government has accepted all 121 recommendations made by the special taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence relating to government agencies, and supports the remaining 19 recommendations directed at non-government bodies.

The recent devastating deaths in our state as a result of domestic and family violence have led the Queensland Government to act quickly and take immediate action to implement key recommendations in the Taskforce Report, with Dame Quentin Bryce to chair a new Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council to oversee implementation of the government's response.

For the residents of Murrumba, the recent opening of both the Pine Rivers and Redcliffe Domestic and Family Violence Support Service outlets will ensure they have access to much needed domestic violence counselling and court support for women and children impacted by domestic and family violence. It is critical families affected by domestic and family violence have timely access to assistance to meet their safety and support needs.

Services at these two new outlets are being provided by the Caboolture Regional Domestic Violence Service, which has received new funding of \$800,518 per annum to provide adult and children's counselling, and court-based services. The court-based service links with Queensland Corrective Services, the Queensland Police Service, and the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services' Redcliffe Child Safety Service Centre, to provide flexible and innovative responses to families affected by domestic and family violence.

A key innovation in these arrangements is locating a domestic violence worker in the local police station to provide support to those needing help, when it's safe to do so.

The significant statewide investment by the Queensland Government of \$49 million towards addressing domestic and family violence is a critical part of a broader \$406 million initiative over the same period to strengthen Queensland families in line with recommendations of the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry. The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring Queensland families have access to early intervention and support services when they need them.