

Question on Notice

No. 25

Asked on Tuesday 12 February 2019

MR D BATT ASKED MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES AND SENIORS (HON C O'ROURKE) —

QUESTION

With reference to the Minister's answer to Question on Notice No. 1447 of 2018—

Will the Minister (a) advise what process and specific data was used in 'broader consideration of the regions, trends, services and demographic aspects' and (b) provide this data or links to the relevant sources?

ANSWER

As previously advised, while Bundaberg was identified as an area of need, broader consideration of the regions, trends, services and demographic aspects prioritised the establishment of new seniors legal and support services in the locations of Gladstone, Rockhampton, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Mackay.

Both a quantitative and qualitative analysis informed the Queensland Government's investment decision.

As advised in the answer to QON 1447, statistical profiles were compiled using data from the Queensland Government's Statisticians' Office. Regional profiles are available at <https://statistics.qgso.qld.gov.au/qld-regional-profiles>

Another key consideration was the availability of face-to-face services. At the time, there were no elder abuse specific face-to-face support services operating within Gladstone, Rockhampton, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Mackay, representing a service delivery gap.

As outlined in the answer to QON 1447, Bundaberg already has a funded face-to-face and phone service, including free legal advice delivered via outreach to Bundaberg through Taylor Street Community Legal Service (funded by the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General), as well as information, advice, referral and assistance to families through the Bundaberg Family Relationship Centre (funded by the Australian Government).

All Queensland residents, no matter where they live, have access to the Elder Abuse Prevention Unit line and the Seniors Enquiry line.

My department, in partnership with our service provider Relationships Australia Queensland, continually monitors the demand for elder abuse services across the state. Recently there has been opportunity for the Bundaberg office of Relationships Australia Queensland to commence face to face seniors legal and support services in Bundaberg.