Question on Notice

No. 1772

Asked on Tuesday, 14 September 2010

Mrs Scott asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations (Mr Dick) -

QUESTION:

Will the Attorney-General advise how the residents of the Woodridge Electorate can access legal services when private solicitors are financially out of reach and what legal services are available?

ANSWER:

Like all Queenslanders, residents of the Woodridge electorate can access free legal information and advice by calling Legal Aid Queensland's Client Information Service on 1300 65 11 88. The service is free and can be accessed for the cost of a local call from anywhere in Queensland.

Legal Aid Queensland has an office located at Woodridge Place, on the corner of Ewing Road and Carmody Street, which is dedicated to meeting the legal needs of financially disadvantaged members of the community. The office employees 16 staff, including lawyers and administrative officers. The office provides residents with face-to-face legal advice on criminal, family and some civil law matters, as well as legal representation in courts such as the Beenleigh Magistrates Court. Legal representation is provided subject to Legal Aid Queensland's standard means and merit tests.

Legal Aid Queensland also has a large number of preferred supplier law firms in the Woodridge area who provide free legal services (subject to means and merit test) to financially disadvantaged Queenslanders on Legal Aid Queensland's behalf.

There are also two state and federally funded community legal centres in the Woodridge area that can provide assistance to residents.

The Logan Legal Advice Centre (LLAC) provides legal information and referrals by phone, email and internet. There is one part-time solicitor employed by the service and a volunteer service is provided one night per week. The LLAC also operates and outreach service to Beenleigh one day a week. The LLAC can be contacted as follows: Tel: (07) 3826 1599, email: llac@yfs.org.au.

The Logan Youth Legal Service provides general legal services including information, advice and casework services. The service represents young

people in the courts and also assist young people with legal matters ranging from domestic violence and family law to care and protection issues. The service can be contacted as follows: Tel: (07) 3826 1500, email: legal@yfs.org.au.