

press clip



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CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS



Yvette D'Ath.

\$119m boost for state legal centres

ALEXANDRIA UTTING

QUEENSLAND community legal centres will receive more than \$119 million in funding across the next five years.

The long-awaited announcement late yesterday by Attorney-General Yvette D'Ath is a joint state-Commonwealth injection of funds, which will be provided to legal assistance services throughout the state – including regional centres such as Cairns, Townsville,

Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone and Hervey Bay.

“Queensland’s community legal sector delivers vital services to thousands of Queenslanders,” Mrs D'Ath said.

“Our community legal centres provide advice and assistance to some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people.”

The announcement was made after consultation with the sector’s peak body, Community Legal Centres Queensland, she said.

This is the first time the funding commitment has been for five years, previously only covering a three-year period.

The Courier-Mail understands community legal centres had been anxiously awaiting the funding announcement after expecting the news in March.

Those in the sector said they had been unsure about whether to renew contracts for staff as they did not know when the funding would be announced.