

DISABILITY JUSTICE CENTRES — BASSENDEAN ELECTORATE

**305. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Premier:**

I ask a supplementary question. I asked why the Premier has placed these centres so close to schools when his own criteria for the selection of these sites says to not place them in close proximity to schools. Why has he ignored his own criteria?

**Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:**

As I said before, the facility in Lockridge is half a kilometre from the school. If we are going to have housing for people with an intellectual disability in the metropolitan area, they will be close to a school no matter where we put them. There are hundreds of government and private schools in the metropolitan area. They will be close to a school. The key matter is to ensure that anyone who is housed in this new accommodation is in no way a threat to the community. These people will not be out wandering the streets. They will be supervised 24/7 because, to be honest, they are not capable. They have varying degrees of intellectual disability. Yes, they will be in that environment as much to protect them as the community. They are not a threat to the community. These are people who are not capable —

**Ms M.M. Quirk:** We know that.

**Mr C.J. BARNETT:** Members opposite are just showing a complete lack of compassion. The Labor Party has never been able to get over the fact that this government allocated \$600 million to not-for-profit and community causes—something that the Labor Party was asked to do and it failed. It has never got over the fact that the Liberal–National government has done more in social justice, mental health, and disability in this case than any government in our history. Members of the Labor Party are the bleeding hearts on social injustice. When it comes to the crunch, the Liberal Party and the National Party have led the way.