**Addendum to the Department of Public Works Annual Report 2009-10**

**Queensland Carers (Recognition) Act 2008**

The Department of Public Works fully supports the principles and aims of the *Queensland Carers (Recognition) Act 2008* (the Act). In accordance with compliance requirements, the following information outlines how the department has adhered to section 9 of the Act from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

**Internal compliance**

The department’s human resource management policies provide flexible working arrangements to assist carers to meet their commitments, including flexible hours and part-time work arrangements. A carer’s room is also provided in the Brisbane CBD.

Information regarding the department’s Disability Services Plan, the Reasonable Adjustment for People with a Disability policy, and the Work and Family policy is provided to all new employees at corporate inductions. In addition, there is also provision for free employee access to an aged care referral service, a child care referral service and employee assistance providers.

Human Resources regularly delivers information sessions on diversity in the workplace.

**External service delivery**

Smart Service Queensland works closely with the Department of Communities’ Office for Carers, and Carers Queensland to ensure programs delivered have operational policies, procedures and practices which take into account the views of carers and those for whom they care.

The Carer Business Discount Card and the Companion Card program were initiatives borne out of the Queensland Government Carer Recognition Policy and the Queensland Government Carer Action Plan. Carers were consulted in the development of both cards and feedback from carers informs program delivery enhancement.

Information about each card is available through the Department of Communities’ website; by calling Smart Service on 13QGOV; and over the counter at the Queensland Government Service Centre in the Brisbane CBD.