

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR EDUCATION**



MEDIA RELEASE

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\$6.2 million to ease Covid-19 pain

Interest-free loans, cash, food vouchers and food parcels are part of a massive \$6.2 million Emergency Relief Funding promised by Palaszczuk Government.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said the additional \$6.2 million, over the next two years, will make sure emergency support services were extended to vulnerable Queenslanders.

Ms Lauga said the investment was much needed.

“Unfortunately, COVID-19 has put significant financial pressure on families in my area,” she said.

“We don’t want those families to feel as though they have to turn to predatory pay day lenders.

“By providing assisting those who are financially vulnerable in obtaining no interest loans, the Palaszczuk Government is ensuring that all Queenslanders can get through this difficult time, without being crippled with debt.”

She said the funding would be vital in ensuring that all Queenslanders could unite and recover.

“This emergency relief funding forms part of our Economic Recovery Plan and will make sure that no Queenslanders falls through the cracks.”

The funding includes \$2.2 million to go towards emergency support services, like the provision of cash, food vouchers and food parcels and \$4 million for 20

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NGO workers to provide financial resilience counselling to vulnerable Queenslanders, including helping them apply for no interest loans.

“Our Financial Literacy and Resilience services have made 27 financial counsellors and financial resilience workers available across the State to help Queenslanders facing financial vulnerability.

“And our Good Money Stores have provided a safe alternative to pay day lenders.

“I can only hope that the Federal Government will take action to crack down on the predatory behaviour of some pay day lenders,” said Ms Lauga.

ENDS

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