



21

PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

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QUEENSLAND REJECTS FEDERAL FUNDS

The Queensland Government has displayed a cavalier approach to funds provided by the Federal Government.

It has rejected Commonwealth funds on a number of occasions over the years for totally unsatisfactory reasons. The people of Queensland have been the big losers.

The following are just some examples over the last decade of Commonwealth funds rejected by the Queensland Government:

1973-75	Land Commission	\$78 million
1975-78	Aboriginal Grants	\$3 million
1982-83	\$45,000 Aboriginal welfare offered by both Mr Fraser and myself.	
1981-82	\$6.77 million. Commonwealth/State Hospital Cost Sharing Agreement.	
1982	\$3.1 million. Emergency Mortgage relief. Programme for low income earner rental housing construction.	
1975	\$7 million lost because Queensland delayed joining Medibank.	
1976-77	\$12,692 for Women's refuges refused because the Queensland Government was not prepared to make a \$ for \$ grant.	
1977-78	\$33,534 Women's refuges refused - same reason.	
1973-75	\$4.2 million refused under the Decentralisation Growth Centre Programme. Areas affected by loss of homes under this programme were Townsville, Fitzroy and Moreton regions.	

As part of the National's election promises they have at last graciously decided to participate in the Mortgage Relief Scheme of the Federal Government and in Rent relief assistance to the homeless, women and families in crisis.

Of the State's \$100 million saved by the wages pause up to 30 June, only \$46 million had been spent.

Queensland was the last State to agree to the Community Employment Programme. It remains the only State not to have proposed names for the Consultative Committee needed for the Programme to get off the ground.

Townsville