

Disability funding cut a tragic blow

A STATE Government move to cut more than half a million dollars in funding from 10 disability services has been labelled a tragedy by a local welfare agency.

As of July, Anglican Community Care will no longer be able to run their recreational link up service, which incorporates various programs, including Sports Ability.

Anglican Community Care Recreation Link Up Officer Jodie Sturges said the cut in funding was a shame.

"It does not only affect disabled people, but also family members because it works as an alternative form of respite care," she said.

"It's very disappointing because as far as I know, there's no other program like it in the South East."

Ms Sturges said Sports Ability linked people with disabilities into mainstream activities to help build up their confidence and skills.

"Once they have these skills they can start joining those mainstream activities and it should continue so that people with disabilities in the South East, especially kids, have somewhere to go and continue being active," she said.

"This program is basically it for them, they have nowhere else to go."

Disability Minister Jay Weatherill said the government had been forced to prioritise funding.

"These are very good services who do good jobs, but what we have done is prioritise our resources to fund frontline services," he said.