



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

Thursday, 28 November 2024

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THURSDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2024


The Legislative Assembly met at 9.30 am.

Mr Speaker (Hon. Pat Weir, Condamine) read prayers and took the chair.

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I acknowledge the Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people of this state and their elders past, present and emerging. I also acknowledge the former members of this parliament who have participated in and nourished the democratic institutions of this state. Finally, I acknowledge the people of this state, whether they have been born here or have chosen to make this state their home and whom we represent to make laws and conduct other business for the peace, welfare and good government of this state.

MOTION

Order of Business

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.31 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That the sessional orders setting out the order of business for this day's sitting as circulated be agreed to.

ORDER OF BUSINESS AND TIMES FOR THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2024

(1) Order of business

*From 9.30am—10.15am—Preliminary Business**

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Appointment of Deputy Speaker

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Citizen's Right of Reply

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.15am—11.15am—

Question Time

11.15am—1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm—1.30pm—

Lunch break

1.30pm—6.30pm—

Government Business

6.30pm—7.00pm—

Dinner break

7.00pm—until adjournment moved at 12.00am (no adjournment debate)—

Government Business

** (If completed before 10.15am, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*

(2) Adjournment

Notwithstanding Standing Order 56, there shall be no adjournment debate and the question "That the House do now adjourn" shall be immediately put without debate.

(3) Time limits

The maximum time limits that apply to debates, speeches and statements are contained in the schedule below.

Schedule—Maximum time limits for debates, speeches and statements

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
Address in Reply Debate —Total time —Mover —Other members —Mover in reply	Sessional Order 3 & SO 47	28 hours 20 minutes 20 minutes 30 minutes
Adjournment debate	SO 56	Suspended
Bills—Government Bills		
Introduction of Bills (explanatory speech)	SO 129	1 hour
First reading	SO 130	No debate
Government Bills declared urgent and not referred to or not reported on by a committee		
Second reading debate	SO 129, SO 137 & SO 138	
—Minister		To speak once only as per SO 129 for 1 hour
—Leader of the Opposition (or nominee)		1 hour
—Other members		15 minutes
—Mover in reply		30 minutes
Consideration in detail	SO 146, SO 147 & SO 156	
—Mover		No limit
—Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) (on each question)		1 x 20 minutes; or 2 x 10 minutes; or 1 x 10 minutes & 2 x 5 minutes
—Other members (on each question)		1 x 10 minutes or 2 x 5 minutes
Matters concerning privilege	Sessional Order 1, & SO 248 & 267	At discretion of Speaker
Motions	Chapter 15	
—Mover		10 minutes
—Other members		10 minutes
—Mover in reply		15 minutes
Personal Explanations—each member	Sessional Order 1	At discretion of Speaker

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
Tabling of Reports	Sessional Order 1	5 minutes
—Chairperson of Committee on presentation of committee report		2 minutes
Questions Without Notice	Sessional Order 1 & SO 113	1 hour
—Question time (total time)		At discretion of Speaker
—Member asking question		3 minutes
—Minister answering question		

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

ASSENT TO BILLS



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have to report that I have received from Her Excellency the Governor a letter in respect of assent to certain bills. The contents of the letter will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the letter for the information of members.

The Honourable C.W. Pitt MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

I hereby acquaint the Legislative Assembly that the following Bills, having been passed by the Legislative Assembly and having been presented for the Royal Assent, were assented to in the name of His Majesty The King on the date shown:

Date of assent: 19 September 2024

A bill for an Act to provide for the regulation of the use of technology to assist human reproduction and for a donor conception information register, and to amend this Act, the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 and the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2023 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991, the Corrective Services Act 2006, the Criminal Code, the District Court of Queensland Act 1967, the Human Rights Act 2019, the Judicial Remuneration Act 2007, the Magistrates Act 1991, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992, the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009, the Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991, the Youth Justice Act 1992 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 2 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Attorney-General Act 1999, the Corrective Services Act 2006, the Criminal Code, the Evidence Act 1977, the Evidence Regulation 2017, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to establish child safe standards and a reportable conduct scheme to promote and protect the rights, interests and wellbeing of children in Queensland, and to amend this Act, the Evidence Act 1977, the Family and Child Commission Act 2014, the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000 and the legislation mentioned in schedules 4 and 5 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Child Protection Act 1999, the Childrens Court Act 1992, the Disability Services Act 2006, the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011, the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998, the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Regulation 2021 and the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Mineral Resources Act 1989 for a particular purpose

These Bills are hereby transmitted to the Legislative Assembly, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Yours sincerely


Governor

19 September 2024

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 19 September 2024, from Her Excellency the Governor to the Speaker advising of assent to certain bills on 19 September 2024 [\[193\]](#).

APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Speaker


 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.31 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That Mr Jon Krause, member for Scenic Rim, be appointed Deputy Speaker.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH OR AFFIRMATION

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I have to report that Her Excellency the Governor has been pleased to issue a commission under the public seal of the state authorising me to administer the oath or affirmation of allegiance and of office to such members as might hereafter present themselves to be sworn. I now ask the Clerk to read the commission to the House. I table the commission for the information of members.

Queensland

Constitution of Queensland 2001

To the Honourable PATRICK THOMAS WEIR, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland.

I, DR JEANNETTE ROSITA YOUNG AC PSM, Governor, acting under section 22 of the *Constitution of Queensland 2001*, authorise you to administer to any member of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance and of Office that is required to be taken or made by every member before the member is permitted to sit or vote in the Legislative Assembly.

(Sgd)

Signed and sealed with the Public Seal of the State on 26 November 2024.

By Command

D Crisafulli


RECORDED in the Register of Patents, No. 54, page 5, on 26 November 2024.

(Sgd)

Clerk of the Executive Council

Tabled paper: Commission, dated 26 November 2024, authorising the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Hon. Patrick Weir, to administer the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance and of Office [[194](#)].


GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I have to report that Her Excellency the Governor on Wednesday, 27 November 2024 delivered a speech to parliament of which for greater accuracy I have obtained a copy. I table a copy for the information of members.


Tabled paper: Opening Speech: Governor's speech to the Opening of the First Session of the Fifty-Eighth Parliament, dated 27 November 2024 [[195](#)].

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Photographs in Chamber

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I have approved for staff of the Parliamentary Service to take photographs in the chamber this morning during preliminary business for use in parliamentary social media and education promotions. Photographs will be taken from the gallery and from the rear of the chamber. I have also given permission for photographs to be taken of members during their first speeches.

Operation of Parliament

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, it has become the practice for new Speakers early in their term to set out their expectations and refresh members' knowledge of the most important parliamentary rules, practice and procedure in this House. I have circulated a statement in the chamber to members

for incorporation in the parliamentary record. This incorporation sets out my expectations and reinforces the basic but important rules of the House. I am obviously indebted to the statements of previous Speakers from which some of this material is drawn. Is leave granted to incorporate the statement?

Leave granted.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE SPEAKER AND COMMON PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Members need to rise and call

Whilst the Whips oftentimes produce speaking lists, it is emphasised that they are guides only. Standing Order 247 provides that Members wishing to speak shall rise and address the Speaker. If more than one Member rises, the Speaker shall call upon the Member who, in the Speaker's opinion rose first.

If Members do not rise and address the Speaker, the Speaker is entitled to call any Member who has risen and if no Member has risen to call on the next item of business or the Member in charge of the matter under consideration to close the debate as the case may be.

Addressing the Chair and the use of "you"

Standing Order 247 provides that "Members wishing to speak shall rise and address the Speaker". This means that Members should not address each other directly across the Chamber—all statements should be made through the Chair.

This standing order, among others, is designed to promote civilised debate in the Chamber by having statements and questions directed through the Chair, rather than personally towards other Members. As such, reference to another Member needs to be in the third person such as "the Minister" or "the Member for". When a second-person personal pronoun, such as "you", is used it is indicating that the Member is not addressing the House through the Speaker.

Referring to Members by their correct title

A related issue is that Members must refer to other Members by their correct title, either their Ministerial or Parliamentary Office or their electorate. Words like "he" or "she" tend to indicate when this is not happening.

Interrupting other Members

I draw to the attention of Members Standing Order 251, which provides the general rule that when a Member is speaking no other Member may converse, make any noise or disturbance so as to interrupt the Member speaking.

There are limited exceptions to this rule. Interjections are part of parliamentary debate and will be tolerated where welcomed by the Member on their feet or which are reasonable and temperate.

Unfortunately, a number of Members seek to use points of order or matters of privilege inappropriately to either interrupt other Members or interrupt the order of business generally. Frivolous interruptions are disorderly.

Points of order

A point of order is essentially a question as to whether the present proceedings are in order or allowed by the rules of the House or parliamentary practice and procedure generally.

An attempt to allegedly correct the record, or allege that another Member is misleading the House, or put the Member's own position on a matter, or introduce another topic or material, is not a point of order.

A Member's point of view is not a point of order and is merely disorderly.

Persistent, deliberately disruptive or frivolous points of order, being disorderly, may result in a Member being warned under Standing Orders 252-254.

I make it very clear to Members that I will be quick in warning Members who abuse the rules by making frivolous points of order.

Matters of privilege

A genuine matter of privilege, suddenly arising, may be raised by a Member at any time under Standing Order 248. To satisfy the requirements of Standing Order 248, a matter must firstly be a matter of privilege and secondly, it must be a matter that has suddenly arisen and requires immediate redress.

The reality is that few matters fall within the definition of a matter of privilege suddenly arising.

Matters that may fall into that category include: Members being unable or prevented from entering the Chamber, strangers being present in the House and interrupting proceedings, or required material not being available for proceedings before the House.

Unfortunately, as with points of order, some Members attempt to use matters of privilege to allegedly correct the record, or allege that another Member is misleading the House, or put the Member's own position on a matter, or introduce another topic or material.

These matters are not matters of privilege suddenly arising and are simply yet another example of abuse of the rules.

If any Member believes another Member has deliberately misled the House, then the appropriate procedure is contained in Standing Order 269. The Member should write to the Speaker with all evidence available supporting the allegation.

I will not allow other Members to simply rise and allege a deliberate misleading of the House during the course of business.

Persistent, deliberately disruptive or frivolous matters of privilege, being disorderly, may result in a Member being warned under Standing Orders 252-254.

I also note that matters of order, dealt with on the floor of the House by withdrawals, suspensions or other remedies should generally not be escalated to matters of privilege.

Correcting the record

The former Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee, has made a number of statements over the years, about the importance of Members correcting their own errors at the earliest opportunity.

A Member who has the courage to recognise that they have done something wrong, whether deliberately or not, and takes appropriate action is to be strongly commended and supported.

I am extremely unlikely to refer a member to the Ethics Committee who has taken the initiative to correct or clarify the record, or does so at my request.

I will allow Members to rise at an appropriate point in proceedings to correct incorrect or misleading statements that they themselves have made in proceedings. Members in making their correction should say, at the beginning of their speech, "I wish to advise the House that I have (insert time) made an incorrect statement and I wish to correct the record" or words to that effect.

I suggest that Members attempt to confer with the Speaker in the chair for an appropriate time.

Personal explanations

There is time in the Order of Business each day for personal explanations.

A personal explanation is just that, an opportunity for a Member to explain their position on a matter raised about them, whether it be in the House or outside, such as in the media.

However, it is not an opportunity for a Member to attack another Member.

Language

Members need also to remember that Standing Orders and practice and procedure also prevent:

- unparliamentary language, and
- personal reflections on other Members.

These rules are aimed at ensuring civilised debate and questioning on issues rather than personal attacks across the Chamber.

Unparliamentary language is difficult to define and no exhaustive list of expressions can be provided. Largely, what is unparliamentary by necessity lays in the realm of who is in the Chair; but generally it is any language or expression that is unworthy of the dignity of the House or Parliament as an institution.

What may be acceptable language in some places outside Parliament, indeed may even be common usage in some places or forums, does not necessarily mean it is acceptable in this forum.

In the last Parliament there was a tendency to focus on words that had previously been ruled unparliamentary, rather than the words in context. This tended to result in matters being ruled unparliamentary that would otherwise be used in appropriate daily conversation. I will be reminding all temporary Speakers (and the Clerks at the Table that advise them) to concentrate on unparliamentary phrases, not words and to take a light hand.

A further separate matter relates to personal reflections. Standing Order 234 provides that imputations of improper motives, personal reflections, and unbecoming or offensive words in relation to another Member are disorderly. A Member has a right to require the withdrawal of such personal reflections.

Generally, if the affected Member believes a statement is a personal reflection and objects to the words used, then the Chair will require withdrawal and not make an objective assessment.

My observations of recent parliaments is that there are an increasing number of members with glass jaws, that took offence to the mildest of imputations or reflections and often times took offence at matters of administration or policy, not personal conduct. I would implore members to not be overly sensitive, as this is supposed to be a House of debate and scrutiny.

Tabling documents

As previous Speakers' have noted, the tabling of documents in this House is very liberal compared with other houses of parliament. In this House members have an almost unfettered right to table documents, at least in the first instance. It is a very great privilege to table documents in a relatively unfettered manner, but it must be balanced by the right of the chair, assisted by officers at the table, to ensure that the standing orders of the House and rulings of the House are not transgressed or subverted by the tabling of documents or the contents of documents.

Tabled documents should not contain sub judice material, unparliamentary material or material that otherwise offends standing orders.

We largely rely on members to self-regulate the right to table material. Members in turn should be wary of persons seeking to use them as a conduit to table documents that harm the reputation of members of the public, and about which the member may have little actual knowledge of the truth.

I note that Speakers have previously made rulings regarding the types of documents being tabled where they serve no purpose and where members can make their point without tabling those items. I remind all honourable members that there is a cost to the public purse when documents and items are tabled. They must be recorded, registered and stored at public expense forever. Documents already tabled should not be tabled again.

I am informed that it has become common practice for documents transmitted by Ministers for tabling on non-sitting just short of the 5.00pm deadline.

The transmission of documents to the Clerk for tabling on non-sitting days is not an immediate process. Whilst the Clerk and his delegates process documents in a timely manner, there are a range of compliance checks that are required to be undertaken before the document can be tabled.

The transmission of documents shortly before 5.00pm does not assist the Clerk to rectify any compliance issues to ensure the document is tabled in a timely manner.

If a compliant document is not received before 5.00pm, I have instructed the Clerk not to proceed with the tabling until the next business day.

Absence or state of Member

Speaker Mickel enforced a rule about not allowing reference to the absence of a Member in the Chamber during debate. Speaker Mickel's rule has become part of our practice and I intend to enforce it.

I also note that it is a longer standing rule that the state of a Member should not be commented upon.

Question Time

I urge all Members to consider carefully Standing Orders 113 and 115 which provides the general rules for Questions.

Questions may only be asked of Ministers if the question relates to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected or to any matter of administration for which the Minister is responsible or proceedings pending in the Legislative Assembly for which the Minister is responsible (but discussion must not be anticipated).

Questions should be brief and relate to one issue. Questions should not contain: lengthy or subjective preambles; arguments; inferences; imputations; hypothetical matters; or names of persons, unless they are strictly necessary to render the question intelligible and can be authenticated.

Importantly questions should not ask for: an expression of opinion; a legal opinion; or an answer that would contravene the rules relating to matters sub judice.

Question Time is a pivotal part of the Legislative Assembly's function to scrutinise and check the activities of the Government. Question Time provides an avenue to test a Minister's knowledge of their portfolio and to hold them to account for their activities and the conduct of their portfolio.

Members asking questions are entitled to be heard. Ministers answering questions are also entitled to be heard. This is, however, a House of robust debate. I will not, therefore, expect total silence in Question Time, nor prevent interjections.

If members or Ministers provoke interjections or accept interjections I will not interfere in debate. If a member or Minister cannot speak or be heard because of interjections or if interjections are unprovoked and unwelcome or disruptive, I will rise to my feet.

As noted above, when I rise to my feet, I expect the House to come to order and for members to be silent.


I would urge Members asking questions to be brief and that their questions be unpolluted by political argument, inferences or imputations. If questions are used to simply "attack", rather than seek information or a genuine answer or if they are lengthy and canvass a number of matters, then the questioner is likely to receive an answer that they do not desire. Usually the questions asked set the tone for the answers given.

In terms of questions on notice and answers to those questions, at this stage I intend to adopt the procedures set out by Speaker Pitt on 17 March 2022.

Mr SPEAKER: I encourage members to read it and refresh their memory on some of the rulings made.


SPEAKER'S RULING

First Speeches

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, a member's first speech is the first speech made by a member following their election to the Legislative Assembly. Previous rulings, including by Speaker Wellington on 26 March 2015, have made it clear that some speeches are not regarded as a first speech because it is understood that some speeches are not given by a member's own choice or timing. Practice in Queensland and other Australian jurisdictions indicates that a speech made in relation to a condolence motion, the asking of a question without notice, the answering of a question without notice and a speech by a newly elected member in their capacity as minister or opposition spokesperson are not first speeches.


APPOINTMENTS

Panel of Temporary Speakers

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, in accordance with standing order 11, I advise that I have appointed the following members to the Panel of Temporary Speakers: Mr James Lister, member for Southern Downs; Mr Jim McDonald; member for Lockyer; Ms Natalie Marr, member for Thuringowa; Mr David Kempton, member for Cook; Mr Mark Furner, member for Ferny Grove; Mr James Martin, member for Stretton; Mr Chris Whiting, member for Bancroft; and Dr Barbara O'Shea, member for South Brisbane.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Absence of Member

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I have received a notification and supporting certification regarding the member for Stafford's absence from the House through to Thursday, 28 November 2024. The member's notification complies with standing order 263A.

PRIVILEGE

Speaker's Rulings, Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, on 20 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the then minister for police and community safety alleging that the member for Burdekin deliberately misled the House on 20 August 2024.

On 20 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt also tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the member for Nanango alleging that the then premier and deputy premier, treasurer and minister for trade and investment deliberately misled the House on 2 May and 21 May 2024 respectively.

On 20 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt also tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the then minister for police and community safety alleging that the member for Ninderry deliberately misled the House on 20 August 2024.

On 25 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt also tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint from the then minister for transport and main roads and minister for digital services alleging that the member for Buderim deliberately misled the House on 13 June 2024.

On 25 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt also tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint from the member for Glass House alleging that the then minister for police and community safety deliberately misled the House on 22 August 2024.


On 27 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt also tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint from the member for Glass House alleging that the then assistant minister for health and regional health infrastructure deliberately misled the House on 21 August 2024.

On 27 September 2024 former Speaker Pitt also tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint from the then minister for fire and disaster recovery and minister for corrective services alleging that the member for Burdekin deliberately misled the House on 20 August 2024.

Former Speaker Pitt ruled that all these matters did not warrant the further attention of the House via the Ethics Committee. I now refer to these matters so that if any member wishes to exercise their right in respect of these matters under standing orders they should do so immediately.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Visitors to Public Gallery; Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I wish to advise members that we will be visited in the gallery this morning during question time by youth members of the 2024 Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament and their mentors. Eric Deeral, the former member for Cook, became the namesake of the Indigenous Youth Parliament in 2012, after an initiative driven by the then Speaker, the member for


Maroochydore. Mr Deeral was elected in 1974 and then became the first Aboriginal member of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland. His legacy of leadership and community engagement lives on through the youth members who meet today in his name.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth members, aged 18 to 25, travel from all over Queensland to participate in the Queensland Indigenous Youth Leadership Program, with the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament an important element of the week. Facilitated by the Parliamentary Education and Liaison team, youth members will have the opportunity to learn more about how to engage in parliamentary processes. They will also participate in a mock debate in the Legislative Council chamber, commencing at 1.45 pm. All honourable members are welcome to enter the red chamber to witness that parliament in action. Seating will be available at the back of the chamber.

Honourable members, I wish to advise members that we will be visited in the gallery this morning by students and teachers from Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School in the electorate of South Brisbane and Casino Public School in the electorate of Clarence, New South Wales.

APPOINTMENTS

Ministry

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.41 am): I wish to inform the House of ministerial arrangements consequent upon the state election on 26 October 2024, the resulting change of government and my appointment as Premier. On 28 October 2024 and 1 November 2024, in accordance with the Constitution of Queensland 2001, Her Excellency the Governor accepted a number of resignations and subsequently made a number of appointments to the ministry and the Executive Council. Her Excellency, acting by and with the advice of the Executive Council, also appointed a number of assistant ministers on 14 November 2024. I table the relevant *Extraordinary Government Gazettes* for the information of the House.

Tabled paper: Extraordinary Queensland Government Gazette No. 55, dated 28 October 2024, appointing the Premier and Deputy Premier [\[196\]](#).

Tabled paper: Extraordinary Queensland Government Gazette No. 57, dated 1 November 2024, regarding the appointment of the ministry and changes to administrative arrangements [\[197\]](#).

Tabled paper: Extraordinary Government Gazette No. 65, dated 14 November 2024, regarding the appointment of assistant ministers [\[198\]](#).

I also seek leave to incorporate the details of these appointments in the *Record of Proceedings*.

Leave granted.

Ministers

The Honourable David Frank Crisafulli MP, Premier and Minister for Veterans

The Honourable Jarrod Pieter Bleijie MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations

The Honourable David Carl Janetzki MP, Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership

The Honourable Rosslyn Mary Bates MP, Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training

The Honourable Dale Raymond Last MP, Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development

The Honourable Timothy James Nicholls MP, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

The Honourable Deborah Kay Frecklington MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity

The Honourable John-Paul Honore Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and the Arts

The Honourable Daniel Gerard Purdie MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services

The Honourable Laura Jane Gerber MP, Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services

The Honourable Brent Andrew Mickelberg MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads

The Honourable Ann Leahy MP, Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers

The Honourable Samuel Thomas O'Connor MP, Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth

The Honourable Anthony John Perrett MP, Minister for Primary Industries

The Honourable Fiona Stuart Simpson MP, Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism

The Honourable Andrew Cary Powell MP, Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation

The Honourable Amanda Jane Camm MP, Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

The Honourable Timothy Leonard Mander MP, Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

The Honourable Steven James Minnikin MP, Minister for Customer Services and Open Data and Minister for Small and Family Business.

Assistant Ministers

Christian Andrew Carr Rowan MP, Assistant Minister to the Premier on Matters of State and New Citizens

Trevor John Watts MP, Assistant Minister to the Premier for Cabinet and South West Queensland

Amanda Jane Stoker MP, Assistant Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training

Hermann Heinrich Carl Vorster MP, Assistant Minister for Multicultural Affairs and International Student Attraction

Rebecca Young MP, Assistant Minister to the Deputy Premier and Assistant Minister for Planning, Housing and Better Regulation

Janelle Maree Poole MP, Assistant Minister for Community Safety, Defence Industry, Veterans and North Queensland


Bryson Warwick Head MP, Assistant Minister for Regional Development, Resources and Critical Minerals

Bree Georgina James MP, Assistant Minister for Tourism, Early Learning, Creative Industries and Far North Queensland


Donna Marcia Kirkland MP, Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, Families and Seniors and Central Queensland

Sean Micheal Dillon MP, Assistant Minister for Primary Industry Development, Water and Western Queensland.


Leader of the House

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.42 am): I have to inform the House that arrangements have been made, and the Honourable the Speaker informed accordingly, for Dr Christian Rowan MP, the member for Moggill, to be Leader of the House.

Government Whips

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.42 am): I have to inform the House that: Mr Mark Boothman MP, the member for Theodore, has been appointed Chief Government Whip; Ms Kendall Morton MP, the member for Caloundra, has been appointed Senior Government Whip; and Mr Glen Kelly MP, the member for Mirani, has been appointed Deputy Government Whip.

Opposition

 **Mr MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (9.42 am): I rise to inform the House that the parliamentary Labor Party caucus has elected me as Leader of the Opposition and the member for Woodridge as the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. For the information of the Legislative Assembly, I table a list of opposition appointments including the shadow ministry, the shadow assistant ministry and other appointments. I seek leave to have the appointments incorporated into the official *Record of Proceedings* of the parliament.

Leave granted.

SHADOW CABINET	
Steven Miles MP Member for Murrumba	Leader of the Opposition
Cameron Dick MP Member for Woodridge	Deputy Leader of the Opposition Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Planning and Regional Development
Grace Grace MP Member for McConnel	Shadow Minister for Trade Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations Shadow Minister for Olympic and Paralympic Games Shadow Minister for Racing
Shannon Fentiman MP Member for Waterford	Shadow Treasurer Shadow Minister for Women
Meaghan Scanlon MP Member for Gaven	Shadow Attorney-General Shadow Minister for Justice Shadow Minister for Housing, Homelessness and Home Ownership
Charis Mullen MP Member for Jordan	Shadow Minister for Public Works Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Di Farmer MP Member for Bulimba	Shadow Minister for Education and the Early Years Shadow Minister for Youth Justice
Mark Bailey MP Member for Miller	Shadow Minister for Health and Ambulance Services Shadow Minister for Mental Health

SHADOW CABINET	
Glenn Butcher MP Member for Gladstone	Shadow Minister for Police and Crime Prevention Shadow Minister for Corrective Services Shadow Minister for Sport
Bart Mellish MP Member for Aspley	Shadow Minister for Transport and Main Roads Shadow Minister for Veterans
Leeanne Enoch MP Member for Algester	Shadow Minister for Closing the Gap and Reconciliation Shadow Minister for Seniors and Disability Services Shadow Minister for Integrity Shadow Minister for the Arts
Leanne Linard MP Member for Nudgee	Shadow Minister for Environment, Science, Innovation and Climate Change Shadow Minister for Youth
Nikki Boyd MP Member for Pine Rivers	Shadow Minister for Local Government and Water Shadow Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery, Emergency Services and Volunteers
Lance McCallum MP Member for Bundamba	Shadow Minister for Energy
Michael Healy MP Member for Cairns	Shadow Minister for Tourism Shadow Minister for Jobs and Training
Tom Smith MP Member for Bundaberg	Shadow Minister for Primary Industries and Rural Development Shadow Minister for Manufacturing
Linus Power MP Member for Logan	Shadow Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
Corrine McMillan MP Member for Mansfield	Shadow Minister for Child Safety, Communities and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Joan Pease MP Member for Lytton	Shadow Minister for Small Business Shadow Minister for Customer Service and Open Data
SHADOW ASSISTANT MINISTRY	
Wendy Bourne MP Member for Ipswich West	Shadow Assistant Minister for State and Regional Development and Jobs
Jonty Bush MP Member for Cooper	Shadow Assistant Minister for Treasury Shadow Assistant Minister for Women
Peter Russo MP Member for Toohey	Shadow Assistant Minister for Justice
Chris Whiting MP Member for Bancroft	Shadow Assistant Minister for Housing and Homelessness
Jess Pugh MP Member for Mount Ommaney	Shadow Assistant Minister for Education, Early Years and Putting Queensland Kids First
Joe Kelly MP Member for Greenslopes	Shadow Assistant Minister for Health
Jen Howard MP Member for Ipswich	Shadow Assistant Minister for Communities and Mental Health
Mel McMahon MP Member for Macalister	Shadow Assistant Minister for Community Safety and Ambulance Services Shadow Assistant Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Shane King MP Member for Kurwongbah	Shadow Assistant Minister for Transport and Connected Communities
Bisma Asif MP Member for Sandgate	Shadow Assistant Minister for Multiculturalism and Citizenship Shadow Assistant Minister for the Environment
PARLIAMENTARY APPOINTMENTS	
Mick de Brenni MP Member for Springwood	Manager of Opposition Business Shadow Cabinet Secretary
Mark Ryan MP Member for Morayfield	Opposition Whip
Margie Nightingale MP Member for Inala	Opposition Deputy Whip

Tabled paper: Appointments of the Opposition Shadow Ministers and other roles [199].

PETITIONS

The Clerk presented the following paper petition, sponsored by the Clerk and the following e-petition lodged by the honourable member indicated—

Hervey Bay Esplanade, Development Application

From 3,665 petitioners, requesting the House to call in the development application for Hervey Bay Esplanade (MCU23/0090 Material Change of Use—Multiple Dwelling, Short Term Accommodation and Hotel) and refuse it or amend it to comply with the Fraser Coast Regional Planning Scheme [169] [170].

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the honourable members indicated—

Ferny Grove-Upper Kedron Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Furner, 1,269 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the Brisbane City Council conduct fair and accurate community consultations to amend the Ferny Grove-Upper Kedron Neighbourhood Plan [\[171\]](#).

Victoria Park

Mr Berkman, from 2,892 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a range of measures to protect Victoria Park in perpetuity [\[172\]](#).

Mackenzie, Subdivision Application

Ms McMillan, from 222 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the Brisbane City Council refuses the sub-division application of 15 Eucalypt Close, Mackenzie [\[173\]](#).

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the Clerk—

Government, Referendum

1,138 petitioners, requesting the House to put forward a referendum to amend our current laws to address the imbalance in power wielded by elected representatives and government in the period between general elections [\[174\]](#).

Marine Rescue Services, Management

1,160 petitioners, requesting the House to address the conflict of interest between law enforcement services and rescue services by separating Marine Rescue Services from the management of the Queensland Police Service [\[175\]](#).

Local Government, Elections

559 petitioners, requesting the House to address the problems experienced by voters in the 2024 local elections and ensure all elections are conducted in a professional manner; people have reasonable opportunity to vote; and votes be recounted until an outcome is clear [\[176\]](#).

Respect at Work Legislation

829 petitioners, requesting the House to reframe the Respect at Work Bill in a way that allows faith communities free speech, free from the threat of litigation and does not undermine fundamental human rights for beliefs and moral convictions [\[177\]](#).

Noosa Junction and Tewantin Village, Development Applications

1,734 petitioners, requesting the House to refuse the development applications for 194 residential units in Noosa Junction and 40 units in Tewantin Village which exceed the size, scale and height development allowance under the Noosa Plan 2020 [\[178\]](#).

Local Government, Representation

791 petitioners, requesting the House to apply the proportionality formula of 45% in local government elections to protect communities from control by groups and to amend local government laws to limit any party or group to a maximum of 45% elected councillors in any term of the council [\[179\]](#).

Peak Downs Highway, Overtaking Lanes

700 petitioners, requesting the House to increase the number of safe over-taking lanes to the Peak Downs Highway, west of Nebo [\[180\]](#).

Brisbane Arena

2,107 petitioners, requesting the House to relocate the proposed Brisbane Arena and to maintain the viability of Roma Street Parkland as a social, economic and environmental asset in perpetuity [\[181\]](#).

Members of Parliament, Property Ownership

816 petitioners, requesting the House to declare which members own short term rentals, how many they own; and for the list to be published regularly [\[182\]](#).

Local Government, Electronic Petitions

669 petitioners, requesting the House to alter the *Local Government Act 2009*, the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and the relevant Brisbane City acts to include electronic petitions [\[183\]](#).

Incorporated Associations

495 petitioners, requesting the House to amend the *Associations Incorporated Act 1981* to restrict unfair practices within some incorporate associations [\[184\]](#).

Bahrs Scrub, Road Infrastructure

260 petitioners, requesting the House to install traffic lights and upgrade the roads leading to the intersection of Beaudesert-Beenleigh Road at Belivah Road and Bannockburn Road, Bahrs Scrub [\[185\]](#).

TABLED PAPERS

PAPERS TABLED DURING THE 57TH PARLIAMENT (SO 31)

The Clerk informed the House that the following papers, received after the last sitting day of the 57th Parliament on 12 September 2024, and prior to the dissolution of the 57th Parliament on 1 October 2024, were tabled on the dates indicated—

13 September 2024—

- [1834](#) Committee of the Legislative Assembly: Report No. 39, 57th Parliament—Report on the 2024 Budget Estimates Process
- [1835](#) Community Support and Services Committee: Report No. 53, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 12 June 2024 and 20 August 2024
- [1836](#) Queensland Training Ombudsman—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1837](#) Gladstone Area Water Board—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1838](#) Queensland's Category 2 Water Authorities—Consolidated Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1839](#) Mount Isa Water Board—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1840](#) Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1841](#) Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1842](#) Queensland's River Improvement Trusts—Consolidated Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1843](#) Unitywater—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1844](#) Urban Utilities—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1845](#) Silkwood Drainage Board—Final Report 2023-2024
- [1846](#) Consolidated Fund Financial Report 2023-24
- [1847](#) Queensland Treasury Holdings Pty Ltd—Consolidated Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [1848](#) Brisbane Port Holdings Pty Ltd—Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [1849](#) DBCT Holdings Pty Ltd—Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [1850](#) Queensland Lottery Corporation Pty Ltd—Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [1851](#) Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1852](#) Department of the Premier and Cabinet—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1853](#) Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1854](#) Office of the Governor—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1855](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs (Hon. de Brenni) pursuant to section 56A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Electricity Regulation 2006, and the Gas Supply Regulation 2007
- [1856](#) Ministerial Gifts Register—Reportable Gifts 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024
- [1857](#) Office of the Information Commissioner—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1858](#) Public Sector Commission—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1859](#) Queensland State Archives—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1860](#) Queensland Veterans' Council—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1861](#) Queensland Performing Arts Centre—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1862](#) Library Board of Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1863](#) Board of the Queensland Museum—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1864](#) Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1865](#) Queensland Art Gallery Board of Trustees—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1866](#) Letter, dated 11 September 2024, from the Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Leeanne Enoch, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, regarding the preparation and tabling of the First Nations Treaty Institute Annual Report

16 September 2024—

- [1867](#) Overseas Travel Report: Report on overseas visit to Singapore by the member for Miller (Hon. Mark Bailey) to attend the CPA & UNDP Conference regarding Artificial Intelligence and Disinformation: Democracy in the Age of Deepfakes, 18-20 June 2024
- [1868](#) Sunwater—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1869](#) Seqwater—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1870](#) Sunwater—Final Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [1871](#) Seqwater—Operational Plan 2023-24
- [1872](#) Clean Economy Jobs, Resources and Transport Committee: Report No. 14, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 13 June 2024 and 21 August 2024

17 September 2024—

- [1873](#) Cost of Living and Economics Committee: Report No. 14, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 12 June 2024 and 20 August 2024
- [1874](#) Cost of Living and Economics Committee: Report No. 15, 57th Parliament—Inquiry into the Report on the 2023 Strategic Review of the Queensland Audit Office
- [1875](#) Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee: Report No. 22, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 22 May 2024 and 20 August 2024
- [1876](#) Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (Hon. D'Ath), to an ePetition (4121-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 304 petitioners, requesting the House to withdraw the power of Office of Liquor and Gaming Revenue or any other government body to force any gaming venue to require patrons to provide private detailed personal financial information or face banning from the facility
- [1877](#) President of the Industrial Court of Queensland (in respect of the Industrial Court of Queensland, Queensland Industrial Relations Commission and the Queensland Industrial Registry)—Annual Report 2023-2024

18 September 2024—

- [1878](#) Non-State Schools Accreditation Board—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1879](#) Department of Education—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1880](#) Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1881](#) Department of Youth Justice—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1882](#) Jobs Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1883](#) Queensland Reconstruction Authority—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1884](#) Queensland Fire and Emergency Services—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1885](#) Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee: Report No. 11, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 14 February 2024 and 3 September 2024

19 September 2024—

- [1886](#) Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1887](#) Central West Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1888](#) Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1889](#) Mackay Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1890](#) North West Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1891](#) Townsville Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1892](#) Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1893](#) Community Support and Services Committee: Report No. 48, 57th Parliament—Disability Services (Restrictive Practices) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, government response
- [1894](#) Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1895](#) Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1896](#) Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1897](#) South West Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1898](#) Metro South Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1899](#) Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1900](#) Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1901](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to a paper petition (4151-24) presented by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, and an ePetition (4108-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 8 and 298 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to provide for a designated junior school playground and refrigerated water bubblers at Pimpama State Secondary College
- [1902](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4109-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 342 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure a school hall is provided for Woongoolba State School
- [1903](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4110-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 292 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure a new administration building is delivered to Woongoolba State School
- [1904](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4111-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 312 petitioners, requesting the House to provide replacement classroom furniture and upgraded playground facilities at Woongoolba State School
- [1905](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4112-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 196 petitioners, requesting the House to upgrade the car park at Cedar Creek State School

- [1906](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4113-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 199 petitioners, requesting the House to establish a kindergarten on the grounds of the Cedar Creek State School
- [1907](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4114-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 187 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure a number of critical infrastructure upgrades for Cedar Creek State School
- [1908](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4122-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 307 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure a number of critical infrastructure upgrades for Ormeau Woods State High School
- [1909](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4123-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 310 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure a designated playground facility for Years 3-6 at Pimpama State Primary College
- [1910](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4124-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 387 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure shade structure is installed over the existing multipurpose court at Ormeau State School
- [1911](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to a paper petition (4170-24) presented by the member for Hill, Mr Knuth, and an ePetition (4131-24) sponsored by the member for Hill, Mr Knuth, from 34 and 373 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to save our non-state democratic school, Darlingia Forest School
- [1912](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4132-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 265 petitioners, requesting the House to provide an open space nature playground for Norfolk Village State School
- [1913](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4134-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 291 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure construction of a larger canteen at Pimpama State School
- [1914](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4135-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 261 petitioners, requesting the House to establish sun-safe areas and walkways at Pimpama State School
- [1915](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4143-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 134 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure tiered seating, shade sails and a retaining wall for the school oval is installed at Coomera Rivers State School
- [1916](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4144-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 166 petitioners, requesting the House to concrete the outdoor break area before the P&C funded outdoor seating and tables are installed at Picnic Creek State School
- [1917](#) Response from the Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery and Minister for Corrective Services (Hon. Boyd), to a paper petition (4150-24) presented by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, and an ePetition (4032-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 46 and 2,284 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to deny any application for parole submitted by Francesco Surace who is serving an 11-year sentence with a non-parole period of 8 years
- [1918](#) Metro North Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1919](#) West Moreton Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1920](#) Department of Tourism and Sport—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1921](#) Bundaberg Health Services Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1922](#) Central Queensland Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1923](#) Tourism and Events Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1924](#) Stadiums Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1925](#) Children's Hospital Foundation Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1926](#) Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1927](#) Gold Coast Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1928](#) Ipswich Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1929](#) Mackay Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1930](#) Response from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner), to an ePetition (4067-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 787 petitioners, requesting the House to amend the provisions of the Animal Care and Protection Act 2007 that permit prolonged unsupervised confinement and/or tethering of a dog
- [1931](#) Response from the Minister for Tourism and Sport (Hon. Healy), to an ePetition (4073-24) sponsored by the member for Currumbin, Mrs Gerber, from 453 petitioners, requesting the House to expand the eligibility criteria of FairPlay voucher providers to include creative and/or artistic pastimes
- [1932](#) Response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Linard), to an ePetition (4126-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,197 petitioners, requesting the House to note the Code of Practice for native forest timber production on Queensland State Forest Estate 2020 is not fit for purpose

- [1933](#) Response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Linard), to an ePetition (4101-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 993 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the original conservation commitments of the South East Queensland Forests Agreement are honoured
- [1934](#) Department of Health—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1935](#) Response from the Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs (Hon. de Brenni), to an ePetition (4103-24) sponsored by the member for Southern Downs, Mr Lister, from 2,278 petitioners, requesting the House to prevent any further development of current and future wind and solar projects within the district of Southern Downs
- [1936](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4055-24) sponsored by the member for Maiwar, Mr Berkman, from 643 petitioners, requesting the House to implement a range of measures to improve pedestrian safety along the Kelvin Grove Road corridor
- [1937](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4057-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,571 petitioners, requesting the House to increase highway speed limits along the vast majority of our modern highway network to an appropriate 130 km/h
- [1938](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4082-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 454 petitioners, requesting the House to upgrade the Frasers Bridge pedestrian underpass and install a pedestrian crossing to provide safe access to Oakleigh State School
- [1939](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4084-24) sponsored by the member for Chatsworth, Mr Minnikin, from 1,311 petitioners, requesting the House to install safety fencing on both sides of Bulimba Creek under the Old Cleveland Road Bridge to provide safer passage for koalas
- [1940](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4100-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,229 petitioners, requesting the House to urgently provide a safe land-bridge fauna crossing for wildlife between Burleigh Heads National Park and Burleigh Ridge Conservation Reserve
- [1941](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4153-24) presented by the member for Hill, Mr Knuth, and an ePetition (4102-24) sponsored by the member for Hill, Mr Knuth, from 146 and 3,564 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to ensure the urgent repair of the current Barron River Bridge and to fast track a new inland highway from the Tablelands to Cairns
- [1942](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4107-24) sponsored by the member for Buderim, Mr Mickelberg, from 1,002 petitioners, requesting the House to alter Queensland legislation to allow parents and/or carers of a child with a disability to apply for and obtain a Disability Parking Permit for each parent and/or carer
- [1943](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4115-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 464 petitioners, requesting the House to install a signalised crossing on Foxwell Road, Coomera for Coomera State Special School
- [1944](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4120-24) sponsored by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, from 677 petitioners, requesting the House to prioritise critical upgrades to the Flinders Highway
- [1945](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4127-24) sponsored by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, from 357 petitioners, requesting the House to prioritise critical upgrades to the intersection of Ramsay and King Streets, Cloncurry
- [1946](#) Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (Hon. D'Ath), to an ePetition (4050-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,040 petitioners, requesting the House to consider Recommendation 20 of the federal "Inquiry into current barriers to patient access to medicinal cannabis"
- [1947](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to an ePetition (4094-24) sponsored by the member for Redcliffe, Hon. D'Ath, from 930 petitioners, requesting the House to support a public enquiry into the dangers of living in methamphetamine contaminated housing and to adequately protect tenants and landlords so properties can be made safe from this dangerous chemical
- [1948](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to a paper petition (4156-24) presented by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(3), and an ePetition (4106-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 168 and 2,297 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to consider enacting legislation that will give the right to take up the option of medically administered euthanasia for a dignified and compassionate "end of life"
- [1949](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to a paper petition (4154-24) presented by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, and an ePetition (4117-24) sponsored by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, from 363 and 645 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to establish an Ambulance Station at Rollingstone

20 September 2024—

- [1950](#) Response from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works (Hon. Scanlon), to an ePetition (4093-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,704 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure appropriate and sustainable, smaller developments, generally aligned with local planning schemes

- [1951](#) Response from the Minister for Police and Community Safety (Hon. Ryan), to an ePetition (4045-24) sponsored by the member for Mirani, Mr Andrew, from 1,801 petitioners, requesting the House to revise the participation conditions for a Category H weapons licencing to provide a fairer and more equitable means of counting pistol range participation days
- [1952](#) Response from the Minister for Police and Community Safety (Hon. Ryan), to an ePetition (4085-24) sponsored by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, from 15,586 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake widespread community consultation on the Queensland Community Safety Bill
- [1953](#) Response from the Minister for Police and Community Safety (Hon. Ryan), to an ePetition (4119-24) sponsored by the member for Coomera, Mr Crandon, from 513 petitioners, requesting the House to restore the staffing levels at the Eagleby Police Beat to eight officers
- [1954](#) Response from the Minister for Police and Community Safety (Hon. Ryan), to a paper petition (4152-24) presented by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, and an ePetition (4078-24) sponsored by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, from 68 and 878 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to ensure a PCYC is built in Gympie
- [1955](#) Response from the Minister for Police and Community Safety (Hon. Ryan), to a paper petition (4155-24) presented by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(3), and an ePetition (4072-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 491 and 957 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to consider a permanent mobile police van for Victoria Point and to prioritise extra police resources for Redland Bay and Cleveland
- [1956](#) PA Research Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1957](#) Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1958](#) Sunshine Coast Health Foundation (Wishlist)—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1959](#) Toowoomba Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1960](#) Townsville Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1961](#) Auditor-General Report 1: 2024-25—2024 status of Auditor-General’s recommendations
- [1962](#) Oath for appointment as Queensland Deputy Auditor-General of Mr Patrick Flemming, dated 12 September 2024
- [1963](#) Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee: Report No. 15, 57th Parliament—Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024
- [1964](#) Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee: Report No. 16, 57th Parliament—Consideration of Auditor-General Report 1: 2023-24—Managing invasive species
- [1965](#) Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee: Report No. 17, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 12 June 2024 and 20 August 2024
- [1966](#) Office of the Information Commissioner—Annual Report 2023-24: Erratum
- [1967](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4033-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 4,615 petitioners, requesting the House to legislate a range of measures to address the issue of escalating youth crime and for this legislation to be known as ‘Vyleen’s Law’
- [1968](#) Wet Tropics Management Authority—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1969](#) Wet Tropics Management Authority—State of Wet Tropics 2023-2024: Outstanding Universal Value: now and future generations
- [1970](#) Department of Environment, Science and Innovation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1971](#) Newstead House Board of Trustees—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1972](#) Annual Report on the administration of the Nature Conservation Act 1992—1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024
- [1973](#) Annual Report on the administration of the Marine Parks Act 2004—1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024
- [1974](#) Annual Report on the administration of the Environmental Protection Act 1994—1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024
- [1975](#) Queensland Mine Rehabilitation Commissioner—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1976](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish) pursuant to section 56A of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the exemption from expiry of the Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Standard 2010
- [1977](#) The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1978](#) Prostitution Licensing Authority—Final Report
- [1979](#) Queensland Law Society—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1980](#) Queensland Ombudsman—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1981](#) Parole Board of Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1982](#) Queensland Corrective Services—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1983](#) Legal Practitioners Admissions Board—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1984](#) Queensland Public Trustee—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1985](#) Crime and Corruption Commission—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1986](#) Queensland Family and Child Commission—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1987](#) Professional Standards Councils—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1988](#) Professional Standards Councils—Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

- [1989](#) Queensland Human Rights Commission—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1990](#) Legal Aid Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1991](#) Racing Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1992](#) Department of State Development and Infrastructure—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1993](#) South Bank Corporation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1994](#) WorkCover Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1995](#) Contract Cleaning Industry (Portable Long Service Leave) Authority—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1996](#) Community Services Industry (Portable Long Service Leave) Authority—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1997](#) Brisbane Organising Committee for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [1998](#) Building and Construction Industry (Portable Long Service Leave) Authority—Annual Report 2023-24
- [1999](#) Office of the Work Health and Safety Prosecutor—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2000](#) Letter, dated 19 September 2024, from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Hon. Yvette D'Ath, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, enclosing The Law Society of New South Wales Professional Standards Scheme
- [2001](#) Professional Standards Act 2004: Professional Standards (Law Society of New South Wales Professional Standards Scheme) Notice 2024, No. 229
- [2002](#) Professional Standards Act 2004: Professional Standards (Law Society of New South Wales Professional Standards Scheme) Notice 2024, No. 229, explanatory notes
- [2003](#) Professional Standards Act 2004: Professional Standards (Law Society of New South Wales Professional Standards Scheme) Notice 2024, No. 229, human rights certificate
- [2004](#) Department of Justice and Attorney-General—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2005](#) Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2006](#) Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board—Intimate partner sexual violence case review: System issue report
- [2007](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4157-24) presented by the member for Ipswich West, Mr Zanow, and an ePetition (4116-24) sponsored by the member for Ipswich West, Mr Zanow, from 1,706 and 941 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to fix the intersection of Haigslea-Amberley Road, Schultz Road and the Warrego Highway
- [2008](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4118-24) sponsored by the member for Warrego, Ms Leahy, from 387 petitioners, requesting the House to implement a range of measures to upgrade the Tara Kogan Road and the Wambo Creek, Stockyard Creek and Kogan Creek bridges
- [2009](#) Response from the Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Hon. Grace), to an ePetition (4070-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 809 petitioners, requesting the House to reconfigure the PDA boundaries to protect Moreton Bay from offshore development
- [2010](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the member for Burdekin
- [2011](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Premier and member for Murrumba and the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment and member for Woodridge
- [2012](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the member for Ninderry
- [2013](#) Department of Agriculture and Fisheries—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2014](#) Darling Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2015](#) Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2016](#) Safe Food Production Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- 23 September 2024—
- [2017](#) Queensland Small Business Commissioner—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2018](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals (Hon. Stewart) pursuant to section 56A of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the exemption from expiry of the Aboriginal Land Regulation 2011, the Torres Strait Islander Land Regulation 2011, and the Mineral Resources Regulation 2013
- [2019](#) Resources Safety & Health Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2020](#) Surveyors Board Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2021](#) Valuers Registration Board of Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2022](#) GasFields Commission Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2023](#) Department of Resources—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2024](#) Health and Wellbeing Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2025](#) Department of Employment, Small Business and Training—Annual Report 2023-2024

- [2026](#) TAFE Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2027](#) Community Enterprise Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2028](#) Queensland Racing Integrity Commission—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2029](#) Queensland Police Service—Surveillance Device Warrants Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2030](#) Queensland Police Service—Annual Report for Assumed Identity Authorisation and Use—2023-2024
- [2031](#) Queensland Police Service—Dangerous Attachment Devices 2023-24
- 24 September 2024—
- [2032](#) Office of the Chief Psychiatrist—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2033](#) Office of the Health Ombudsman—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2034](#) Mental Health Court—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2035](#) Mental Health Review Tribunal—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2036](#) QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2037](#) Queensland Mental Health Commission—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2038](#) Child Protection Offenders Registry: Device Inspection Powers—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2039](#) Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2040](#) Controlled Operations Committee—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2041](#) Queensland Police Service—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2042](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Police and Community Safety (Hon. Ryan) pursuant to section 56A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Police Powers and Responsibilities Regulation 2012
- [2043](#) Gold Coast Waterways Authority—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2044](#) Cross River Rail Delivery Authority—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2045](#) Queensland Rail—Annual and Financial Report 2023-2024
- [2046](#) Queensland Rail Limited—Financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [2047](#) Department of Transport and Main Roads—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2048](#) Overseas Travel Report: Report on overseas visit to Singapore by the member for Burnett (Mr Stephen Bennett) to attend the CPA Conference regarding Artificial Intelligence and Disinformation: Democracy in the Age of Deepfakes, 18-20 June 2024
- [2049](#) Queensland Parliamentary Service—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2050](#) Gladstone Ports Corporation—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2051](#) Gladstone Ports Corporation—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2052](#) Queensland Hydro Pty Ltd—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2053](#) Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Limited (Trading as Ports North)—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2054](#) Ports North—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2055](#) Port of Townsville Limited—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-2024
- [2056](#) Port of Townsville Limited—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2057](#) North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2058](#) North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2059](#) Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements—Queensland Government's Sixth Implementation Progress Report—July 2024
- [2060](#) Queensland Investment Corporation Private Capital Pty Ltd—Annual financial statements and directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [2061](#) Queensland Investment Corporation Properties Pty Ltd—Annual financial statements and directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [2062](#) Queensland Investment Corporation—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2063](#) Queensland Treasury—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2064](#) Queensland Investment Corporation—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2065](#) Queensland Investment Corporation Limited—Consolidated annual financial statements and directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [2066](#) Queensland Treasury Corporation—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2067](#) Motor Accident Insurance Commission—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2068](#) National Injury Insurance Agency Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2069](#) Trade and Investment Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2070](#) Queensland Competition Authority—Annual Report 2023-24

25 September 2024—

- [2071](#) Response from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works (Hon. Scanlon), to an ePetition (4095-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 3,700 petitioners, requesting the House to declare a state of emergency for people experiencing homelessness and deploy all appropriate measures to provide shelter and support
- [2072](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works (Hon. Scanlon) pursuant to section 56A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Local Government Regulation 2012, the City of Brisbane Regulation 2012, the Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014, and the Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Regulation 2009
- [2073](#) Ministerial direction, dated 23 September 2024, from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works, Hon. Meaghan Scanlon, to the Queensland Building and Construction Commission under section 9 of the Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991 and letter, dated 9 September 2024, from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works, Hon. Meaghan Scanlon, to the Chair, Queensland Building and Construction Board, Ms Michelle James, titled 'Statement of expectations for Queensland Building and Construction Commission'
- [2074](#) Response from the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment (Hon. Dick), to an ePetition (4044-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,058 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure an increase of the land tax thresholds takes into account the doubling of unimproved land value changes over the past 16 years
- [2075](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the member for Buderim
- [2076](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Minister for Police and Community Safety and member for Morayfield

26 September 2024—

- [2077](#) Queensland Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2078](#) Letter, dated 26 September 2024, from the Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing, Hon. Grace Grace, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, regarding the preparation and tabling of the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority Annual Report
- [2079](#) Department of Transport and Main Roads: Port overlay—Priority Port of Hay Point/Mackay, 2024
- [2080](#) Department of Transport and Main Roads: Port overlay—Priority Port of Abbott Point, 2024
- [2081](#) Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee: Report No. 17, 57th Parliament—Trusts Bill 2024, interim government response
- [2082](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner) pursuant to section 56A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Brands Regulation 2012, and the Rural and Regional Adjustment Regulation 2011
- [2083](#) Board of Architects of Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2084](#) Office of the Independent Assessor—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2085](#) Queensland Building and Construction Commission—Annual Report 2023-2024

27 September 2024—

- [2086](#) Auditor-General Report 2: 2024-25—Delivering forensic medical examinations (follow-up audit)
- [2087](#) Auditor-General Report 3: 2024-25—Central agencies' coordination of the state budget
- [2088](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the member for Keppel
- [2089](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the member for Burdekin
- [2090](#) Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2091](#) Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2092](#) Residential Tenancies Authority—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2093](#) Ethics Committee: Report No. 232, 57th Parliament—Matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 7 June 2024 relating to an allegation of publishing a false or misleading account of proceedings of the House
- [2094](#) Ethics Committee: Report No. 233, 57th Parliament—Matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 7 June 2024 relating to an allegation of encouraging a member's refusal to follow a direction of the Speaker
- [2095](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish) pursuant to section 56A of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Transport Infrastructure (Waterways Management) Regulation 2012
- [2096](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (Hon. D'Ath) pursuant to section 56A of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Regulation 2008, the Associations Incorporation Regulation 1999, the Body Corporate and Community Management Regulation 2008, the Body Corporate

and Community Management (Specified Two-lot Schemes Module) Regulation 2011, the Building Units and Group Titles Regulation 2008, the Casino Control Regulation 1999, the Charitable and Non-Profit Gaming Regulation 1999, the Collections Regulation 2008, the Fair Trading (Code of Practice-Fitness Industry) Regulation 2003, the Fair Trading (Safety Standards) Regulation 2011, the Funeral Benefit Business Regulation 2010, the Gaming Machine Regulation 2002, the Information Privacy Regulation 2009, the Interactive Gambling (Player Protection) Regulation 1998, the Keno Regulation 2007, the Liquor (Approval of Adult Entertainment Code) Regulation 2002, the Liquor Regulation 2002, the Lotteries Regulation 2007, the Property Law Regulation 2013, the Right to Information Regulation 2009, the Second-hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers Regulation 2004, the Security Providers (Crowd Controller Code of Practice) Regulation 2008, the Security Providers Regulation 2008, the Security Providers (Security Firm Code of Practice) Regulation 2008, the Security Providers (Security Officer-Licensed Premises-Code of Practice) Regulation 2008, the Tattoo Industry Regulation 2013, the Tourism Services (Code of Conduct for Inbound Tour Operators) Regulation 2003, the Tourism Services Regulation 2003, the Trust Accounts Regulation 1999, the Wagering Regulation 1999 and the Wine Industry Regulation 2009

- [2097](#) Annual Report of Electorate and Communication Allowance Expenditure by Members of the Legislative Assembly—1 July 2023-30 June 2024
- [2098](#) Annual Report of General Travel Allocation Expenditure by Members of the Legislative Assembly—1 July 2023-30 June 2024
- [2099](#) Annual Report of Air Warrant and Alternate Travel Expenditure by Members of the Legislative Assembly—1 July 2023-30 June 2024
- [2100](#) Department of Energy and Climate—Annual Report 2023-2024
- [2101](#) Energy & Water Ombudsman Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2102](#) Cleanco Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2103](#) Cleanco Queensland—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-2024
- [2104](#) Ergon Energy Queensland—Annual Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- [2105](#) CS Energy—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2106](#) CS Energy—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2107](#) Powerlink Queensland—Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023-24
- [2108](#) Powerlink Queensland—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2109](#) Stanwell—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2110](#) Stanwell—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- [2111](#) Energy Queensland—Annual Report 2023-24
- [2112](#) Energy Queensland—Statement of Corporate Intent 2023-24
- 30 September 2024—
- [2113](#) Queensland Energy System Advisory Board—Annual Progress Statement 2023-24
- [2114](#) Annual Report on the administration of the Nature Conservation Act 1992—1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024: Erratum
- [2115](#) South West Hospital and Health Service—Annual Report 2023-2024: Erratum
- [2116](#) Letter, dated 26 September 2024, from the member for Theodore, Mr Mark Boothman MP, to the Chair of the Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee, Mr Peter Russo MP, regarding a correction to the Statement of Reservation in the Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: Report No. 16, 57th Parliament—2024-25 Budget Estimates
- [2117](#) Email, dated 27 September 2024, from the member for Scenic Rim, Mr Jon Krause MP, to the Chair of the Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee, Mr Peter Russo MP, regarding a correction to the Statement of Reservation in the Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: Report No. 16, 57th Parliament—2024-25 Budget Estimates
- [2118](#) Queensland Independent Remuneration Tribunal—Remuneration Determination: Electorate and Communication Allowance Band Adjustment 2024—Determination 32/2024, 30 September 2024

PAPERS TABLED PRIOR TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE 58TH PARLIAMENT (SO 31 AND S 59A OF THE PARLIAMENT OF QUEENSLAND ACT 2001)

The Clerk informed the House that the following papers, received after the dissolution of the 57th Parliament on 1 October 2024, and before the constitution of the 58th Parliament on 26 November 2024 were tabled in accordance with s 59A of the Parliament of Queensland Act 2001 and Standing Order 31, on the dates indicated—

1 October 2024—

- 1 Interim response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (Hon. D'Ath), to an ePetition (4140-24) sponsored by the member for Maroochydore, Ms Simpson, from 2,700 petitioners, requesting the House to repeal the gag laws at section 114a of the Guardianship Act that prohibit people living under guardianship and administration orders from speaking publicly; and to change the default ban on speaking publicly to a default approval unless QCAT otherwise decides in alignment with the recommendations of the Disability Royal Commission
- 2 Interim response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (Hon. D'Ath), to an ePetition (4098-24) sponsored by the member for Burnett, Mr Bennett, from 1,530 petitioners, requesting the House to implement a range of measures to provide stronger legal protections and expedited judicial processes for children who are victims of sexual assault

9 October 2024—

- [3](#) Interim response from the Minister for Tourism and Sport (Hon. Healy), to a paper petition (4166-24) presented by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, and an ePetition (4145-24) sponsored by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, from 117 and 1,123 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to work collaboratively with the Gympie Regional Council to develop multipurpose indoor and outdoor sporting facilities for the region

10 October 2024—

- [4](#) Interim response from the Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Hon. Grace), to an ePetition (4136-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 468 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a range of measures to ensure that the new priority development at Waraba, Caboolture West, is an environmental and energy efficient development
- [5](#) Interim response from the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works (Hon. Scanlon), to an ePetition (4141-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 473 petitioners, requesting the House to resume unused blocks of land; give the owners a year to begin building on the land and if they fail to do that resume the land for the price paid by the owner
- [6](#) Interim response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Linard), to an ePetition (4090-24) sponsored by the member for Maiwar, Mr Berkman, from 4,183 petitioners, requesting the House to revoke the part of section 35 of the Nature Conservation Act 1992 that provides for the establishment of ecotourism facilities in National Parks
- [7](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4165-24) presented by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, and an ePetition (4133-24) sponsored by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, from 137 and 548 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to upgrade the Gympie-Woolooga Road from the Exhibition Road intersection to the Wide Bay Highway
- [8](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4167-24) presented by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, and an ePetition (4161-24) sponsored by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, from 381 and 222 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to prioritise critical upgrades to the intersection of Ramsay and King Streets, Cloncurry
- [9](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4168-24) presented by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, and an ePetition (4162-24) sponsored by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, from 101 and 432 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to prioritise critical upgrades to the Flinders Highway
- [10](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4142-24) sponsored by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, from 342 petitioners, requesting the House to upgrade the Glastonbury and Exhibition Roads intersection at Southside, Gympie
- [11](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4160-24) sponsored by the member for Warrego, Ms Leahy, from 1,325 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a range of measures to address the safety of the Warrego Highway
- [12](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4137-24) sponsored by the member for Toowoomba North, Mr Watts, from 738 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a range of traffic and pedestrian safety measures at Highfields State School along the New England Highway
- [13](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4148-24) sponsored by the member for Callide, Mr Head, from 636 petitioners, requesting the House to upgrade the single lane sections of the Mundubbera-Durong Road between Boondooma and Brovinia
- [14](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4147-24) sponsored by the member for Gympie, Mr Perrett, from 905 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a range of measures to upgrade the Bruce Highway between Curra and the planned Tiaro bypass

11 October 2024—

- [15](#) Interim response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4171-24) presented by the member for Hill, Mr Knuth, from 3,858 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the urgent repair of the current Barron River Bridge and to fast track a new inland highway from the Tablelands to Cairns

14 October 2024—

- [16](#) Interim response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Linard), to an ePetition (4104-24) sponsored by the member for Callide, Mr Head, from 1,443 petitioners, requesting the House to make Rockhampton an Active Removal Zone for crocodiles in the same way that Cairns and Townsville are classified

22 October 2024—

- [17](#) Queensland Ombudsman—Inspector of Detention Services: Annual operational report 2023-24, October 2024
- [18](#) Crime and Corruption Commission—Searching places for high-risk missing persons: Review of Chapter 7, Part 3A of the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 (Qld), October 2024

24 October 2024—

- [19](#) Queensland Integrity Commissioner—Annual Report 2023-24

25 October 2024—

[20](#) Transmax—Annual Report 2023-2024

13 November 2024—

[21](#) Land Tribunal—Annual Report 2023-2024

[22](#) Land Court of Queensland—Annual Report 2023-2024

[23](#) Legal Services Commission—Annual Report 2023-24

21 November 2024—

[24](#) Electoral Commission Queensland—2024 Inala and Ipswich West State By-Elections Report

[25](#) Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) & National Boards—Annual Report 2023-24

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32) TO BE TABLED ON 28 NOVEMBER 2024

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

The following statutory instruments were tabled by the Clerk, received during the recess—

State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971:

[30](#) State Development and Public Works Organisation (Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project Exploratory Works) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 202

[31](#) State Development and Public Works Organisation (Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project Exploratory Works) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 202, explanatory notes

[32](#) State Development and Public Works Organisation (Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project Exploratory Works) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 202, human rights certificate

Work Health and Safety Act 2011:

[33](#) Work Health and Safety (Amenities for Construction Work) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 203

[34](#) Work Health and Safety (Amenities for Construction Work) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 203, explanatory notes

[35](#) Work Health and Safety (Amenities for Construction Work) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 203, human rights certificate

Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991:

[36](#) Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 204

[37](#) Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 204, explanatory notes

[38](#) Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 204, human rights certificate

Police Service Administration Act 1990:

[39](#) Police Service Administration Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 205

[40](#) Police Service Administration Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 205, explanatory notes

[41](#) Police Service Administration Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 205, human rights certificate

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006:

[42](#) Education (General Provisions) (Alpha State School) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 206

[43](#) Education (General Provisions) (Alpha State School) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 206, explanatory notes

[44](#) Education (General Provisions) (Alpha State School) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 206, human rights certificate

Water Act 2000:

[45](#) Water Plan (Mary Basin) Amendment Plan 2024, No. 207

[46](#) Water Plan (Mary Basin) Amendment Plan 2024, No. 207, explanatory notes

[47](#) Water Plan (Mary Basin) Amendment Plan 2024, No. 207, human rights certificate

Economic Development Act 2012:

[48](#) Economic Development (Affordable Housing) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 208

[49](#) Economic Development (Affordable Housing) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 208, explanatory notes

[50](#) Economic Development (Affordable Housing) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 208, human rights certificate

Property Law Act 2023:

[51](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 209

[52](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 209, explanatory notes

Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997, Building Units and Group Titles Act 1980:

- [53](#) Body Corporate and Community Management (Body Corporate Certificates) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 210
- [54](#) Body Corporate and Community Management (Body Corporate Certificates) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 210, explanatory notes
- [55](#) Body Corporate and Community Management (Body Corporate Certificates) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 210, human rights certificate

Property Law Act 2023:

- [56](#) Property Law Regulation 2024, No. 211
- [57](#) Property Law Regulation 2024, No. 211, explanatory notes
- [58](#) Property Law Regulation 2024, No. 211, human rights certificate

Crime and Corruption Act 2001, Criminal Code Act 1899, Witness Protection Act 2000:

- [59](#) Justice Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 212
- [60](#) Justice Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 212, explanatory notes
- [61](#) Justice Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 212, human rights certificate

Magistrates Courts Act 1921:

- [62](#) Domestic and Family Violence Protection Amendment Rule 2024, No. 213
- [63](#) Domestic and Family Violence Protection Amendment Rule 2024, No. 213, explanatory notes
- [64](#) Domestic and Family Violence Protection Amendment Rule 2024, No. 213, human rights certificate

Oaths Act 1867:

- [65](#) Oaths Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 214
- [66](#) Oaths Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 214, explanatory notes
- [67](#) Oaths Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 214, human rights certificate

Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991:

- [68](#) Criminal Practice (Decriminalising Sex Work) Amendment Rule 2024, No. 215
- [69](#) Criminal Practice (Decriminalising Sex Work) Amendment Rule 2024, No. 215, explanatory notes
- [70](#) Criminal Practice (Decriminalising Sex Work) Amendment Rule 2024, No. 215, human rights certificate

Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991:

- [71](#) Criminal Practice (Queensland Community Safety) Amendment Rule 2024, No. 216
- [72](#) Criminal Practice (Queensland Community Safety) Amendment Rule 2024, No. 216, explanatory notes
- [73](#) Criminal Practice (Queensland Community Safety) Amendment Rule 2024, No. 216, human rights certificate

Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024:

- [74](#) Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) (Transmission Ring-fencing Rule) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 217
- [75](#) Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) (Transmission Ring-fencing Rule) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 217, explanatory notes
- [76](#) Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) (Transmission Ring-fencing Rule) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 217, human rights certificate

Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024:

- [77](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 218
- [78](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 218, explanatory notes

Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994:

- [79](#) Rural and Regional Adjustment (E-mobility Rebate Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 219
- [80](#) Rural and Regional Adjustment (E-mobility Rebate Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 219, explanatory notes
- [81](#) Rural and Regional Adjustment (E-mobility Rebate Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 219, human rights certificate

Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994:

- [82](#) Rural and Regional Adjustment Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 220
- [83](#) Rural and Regional Adjustment Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 220, explanatory notes
- [84](#) Rural and Regional Adjustment Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 220, human rights certificate

Nature Conservation Act 1992:

- [85](#) Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) (Omission of Lawn Hill Resources Reserves) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 221

[86](#) Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) (Omission of Lawn Hill Resources Reserves) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 221, explanatory notes

[87](#) Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) (Omission of Lawn Hill Resources Reserves) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 221, human rights certificate

Forestry Act 1959, Nature Conservation Act 1992:

[88](#) Forestry and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 222

[89](#) Forestry and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 222, explanatory notes

[90](#) Forestry and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 222, human rights certificate

Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024:

[91](#) Transport and Other Legislation Amendment (Postponement) Regulation 2024, No. 223

[92](#) Transport and Other Legislation Amendment (Postponement) Regulation 2024, No. 223, explanatory notes

[93](#) Transport and Other Legislation Amendment (Postponement) Regulation 2024, No. 223, human rights certificate

Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995:

[94](#) Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Accreditation and Other Provisions) (AIS approvals) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 224

[95](#) Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Accreditation and Other Provisions) (AIS approvals) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 224, explanatory notes

[96](#) Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Accreditation and Other Provisions) (AIS approvals) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 224, human rights certificate

Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995, Transport Planning and Coordination Act 1994:

[97](#) Transport Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 225

[98](#) Transport Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 225, explanatory notes

[99](#) Transport Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 225, human rights certificate

Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021:

[100](#) Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 226

[101](#) Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 226, explanatory notes

[102](#) Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 226, human rights certificate

Casino Control and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024:

[103](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 227

[104](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 227, explanatory notes

[105](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 227, human rights certificate

National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Act 2014:

[106](#) National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 228

[107](#) National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 228, explanatory notes

[108](#) National Energy Retail Law (Queensland) Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2024, No. 228, human rights certificate

Medicines and Poisons Act 2019:

[109](#) Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Amendment Regulation (No. 3) 2024, No. 230

[110](#) Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Amendment Regulation (No. 3) 2024, No. 230, explanatory notes

[111](#) Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Amendment Regulation (No. 3) 2024, No. 230, human rights certificate

Liquor Act 1992:

[112](#) Liquor (Approval of Adult Entertainment Code) Regulation 2024, No. 231

[113](#) Liquor (Approval of Adult Entertainment Code) Regulation 2024, No. 231, explanatory notes

[114](#) Liquor (Approval of Adult Entertainment Code) Regulation 2024, No. 231, human rights certificate

Youth Justice Act 1992:

[115](#) Youth Justice (Conduct of Searches and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 232

[116](#) Youth Justice (Conduct of Searches and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 232, explanatory notes

[117](#) Youth Justice (Conduct of Searches and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 232, human rights certificate

Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023:

- [118](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 233
- [119](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 233, explanatory notes

Nature Conservation Act 1992:

- [120](#) Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) (Eastern Kuku Yalanji Area) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 234
- [121](#) Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) (Eastern Kuku Yalanji Area) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 234, explanatory notes
- [122](#) Nature Conservation (Protected Areas) (Eastern Kuku Yalanji Area) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 234, human rights certificate

Electrical Safety Act 2002, Work Health and Safety Act 2011:

- [123](#) Electrical Safety (Codes of Practice) and Other Legislation Amendment Notice 2024, No. 235
- [124](#) Electrical Safety (Codes of Practice) and Other Legislation Amendment Notice 2024, No. 235, explanatory notes
- [125](#) Electrical Safety (Codes of Practice) and Other Legislation Amendment Notice 2024, No. 235, human rights certificate

Legal Profession Act 2007:

- [126](#) Legal Profession (Barristers Rules) Notice 2024, No. 236
- [127](#) Legal Profession (Barristers Rules) Notice 2024, No. 236, explanatory notes
- [128](#) Legal Profession (Barristers Rules) Notice 2024, No. 236, human rights certificate

Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Amendment Act 2024:

- [129](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 237
- [130](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 237, explanatory notes
- [131](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 237, human rights certificate

Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Act 2003:

- [132](#) Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 238
- [133](#) Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 238, explanatory notes
- [134](#) Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 238, human rights certificate

Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024:

- [135](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 239
- [136](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 239, explanatory notes
- [137](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 239, human rights certificate

State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999, Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995:

- [138](#) State Penalties Enforcement (Vehicle Related Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 240
- [139](#) State Penalties Enforcement (Vehicle Related Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 240, explanatory notes
- [140](#) State Penalties Enforcement (Vehicle Related Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 240, human rights certificate

Electrical Safety Act 2002, Safety in Recreational Water Activities Act 2011, State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999, Work Health and Safety Act 2011:

- [141](#) Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 241
- [142](#) Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 241, explanatory notes
- [143](#) Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 241, human rights certificate

Legal Profession Act 2007:

- [144](#) Legal Profession (Australian Solicitors Conduct Rules) Notice 2024, No. 242
- [145](#) Legal Profession (Australian Solicitors Conduct Rules) Notice 2024, No. 242, explanatory notes
- [146](#) Legal Profession (Australian Solicitors Conduct Rules) Notice 2024, No. 242, human rights certificate

Integrity Act 2009:

- [147](#) Integrity Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 243
- [148](#) Integrity Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 243, explanatory notes
- [149](#) Integrity Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 243, human rights certificate

Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Act 1992:

- [150](#) Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 244
- [151](#) Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 244, explanatory notes
- [152](#) Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 244, human rights certificate

Disaster Management Act 2003:

- [153](#) Disaster Management (QDMC and SDM Group Membership) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 245
- [154](#) Disaster Management (QDMC and SDM Group Membership) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 245, explanatory notes
- [155](#) Disaster Management (QDMC and SDM Group Membership) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 245, human rights certificate

Education (General Provisions) Act 2006:

- [156](#) Education (General Provisions) (Corymbia State School) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 246
- [157](#) Education (General Provisions) (Corymbia State School) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 246, explanatory notes
- [158](#) Education (General Provisions) (Corymbia State School) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 246, human rights certificate

Biosecurity Act 2014:

- [159](#) Biosecurity (Updating of Code of Practice and Biosecurity Zone Map) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 247
- [160](#) Biosecurity (Updating of Code of Practice and Biosecurity Zone Map) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 247, explanatory notes
- [161](#) Biosecurity (Updating of Code of Practice and Biosecurity Zone Map) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 247, human rights certificate

Planning Act 2016:

- [162](#) Planning (Rural Workers' Initiative and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 248
- [163](#) Planning (Rural Workers' Initiative and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 248, explanatory notes
- [164](#) Planning (Rural Workers' Initiative and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 248, human rights certificate

Local Government Act 2009:

- [165](#) Local Government (Townsville City Council—Suspension of Mayor) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 249
- [166](#) Local Government (Townsville City Council—Suspension of Mayor) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 249, explanatory notes
- [167](#) Local Government (Townsville City Council—Suspension of Mayor) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 249, human rights certificate
- [168](#) Local Government (Townsville City Council—Suspension of Mayor) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 249, impact analysis statement

PAPER TABLED BY THE CLERK

The following paper, received on the date indicated after the dissolution of the 57th Parliament on 1 October 2024 and before the constitution of the 58th Parliament on 26 November 2024, was tabled by the Clerk—

1 October 2024—

- [186](#) Proclamation (Dissolution of Parliament) dated 1 October 2024

REPORTS BY THE CLERK

The following reports were tabled by the Clerk—

- [187](#) Report pursuant to Standing Order 169 (Acts to be numbered by the Clerk) and Standing Order 165 (Clerical errors or formal changes to any bill) detailing amendments to certain Bills, made by the Clerk, prior to assent by Her Excellency the Governor, *viz*—

Criminal Justice Legislation (Sexual Violence and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2024

Amendments made to Bill

Clause 2 (Commencement)—

At page 6, line 10—

Omit—

'(c) sections 8, 9, 10 and 11;'

Insert—

'(b) sections 8, 9, 10 and 11;'

- [188](#) Published Indexed Thresholds to amounts contained in Schedule 2—Register of Interests
- [189](#) Members' Register of Interests Forms 1 to 4 updated to take into account the Published Indexed Thresholds tabled 28 November 2024

SPEAKER'S PAPER

The following Speaker's paper was tabled by the Clerk—

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (Hon. Weir)—

[190](#) Oaths or Affirmations of Allegiance taken by members of the 58th Parliament

MINISTERIAL PAPER

The following ministerial paper was tabled by the Clerk—

Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Hon. Nicholls)—

[191](#) Queensland Health: Notifiable Dust Lung Disease Register—Annual Report 2023-2024

MEMBER'S PAPER


The following member's paper was tabled by the Clerk—

Member for Lytton (Ms Pease)—

[192](#) Report on visit to Sydney by the member for Lytton (Ms Joan Pease) to attend the 67th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC), 3-8 November 2024

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Crisafulli LNP Government

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.47 am): On 26 October, Queenslanders voted for change. They voted for a fresh start. Since the result of the election became clear on that night, my team and I have set about delivering on that promise of a fresh start for our great state. We have heard and we have listened to the concerns of Queenslanders and now we are getting to work on delivering. This is what we will deliver: safety where you live, health services when you need them, respect for your money, a place to call home and a government that works for you. It was those issues—health, housing, cost of living and youth crime—that Queenslanders spoke on loudly and clearly. It has been just over three weeks since the swearing in of our ministry and we have taken immediate action to address these crises head-on. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the Queensland Public Service for their professionalism and dedication in facilitating the smooth transition to office as our cabinet and I go to work.


I have handed down chartered letters to each minister. In those, I have outlined and confirmed the values, deliverables, goals and KPIs for their respective portfolios. The instruction has been given to axe the patient tax so appointments with GPs remain affordable and accessible while the rising cost of living continues to place a strain on household budgets. We have already taken the first steps to remove stamp duty for first home buyers on new builds. That will be abolished. It will improve affordability and help drive new supply into the market. Our housing ministerial taskforce will also work to identify where other opportunities exist to increase supply across our state.

Today, our government will introduce the Making Queensland Safer Bill. The legislation we introduce today will be law by Christmas, just as we promised. My colleagues and I have stood shoulder to shoulder with families who have lost loved ones to crime. We have seen their grief, their pain and their suffering. That has driven our relentless focus in delivering these laws. The laws include Adult Crime, Adult Time. There will be consequences for actions and they will be restored for the perpetrators of serious offences. These laws will properly remove detention as a last resort and they will put the rights of victims ahead of the rights of offenders.

In addition, courts will be allowed to consider a person's full youth justice criminal history when sentencing them as an adult. These laws will serve to act as a deterrent to crime. They will serve to reduce the number of victims. It is important to remember that the laws we will bring before the House today are just one part of a suite of measures this government will implement to start turning the tide on the youth crime crisis in Queensland.

Turning around the lives of juveniles who commit crimes is something we are passionate about. That is why improving access to early intervention and rehabilitation will also play a key role in tackling this problem—as we have often spoken about—but those services must be complemented by strong laws for those serious, repeat offenders, and that is what we are delivering today. It has not yet been a month since the government was sworn in but we are doing what we said we would do for the people of Queensland: we are delivering the fresh start that this state needs.

Crisafulli LNP Government

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (9.51 am): I start by congratulating you, Mr Speaker, on your elevation to high office and the member for Scenic Rim on his elevation to the Deputy Speaker role. Just over one month ago, Queenslanders voted for change. Queenslanders voted for a fresh start and, with it, an end to the 10 years of failed policies, countless scandals and cover-ups and wrong priorities from the former Labor government. The first piece of legislation the LNP will bring before parliament this week is the Making Queensland Safer Laws, which will entrench Adult Crime, Adult Time and will restore consequences for actions in the Youth Justice Act after it was amended by previous Labor governments. After we pass these laws, the rights of victims will be put before the rights of offenders in this state once again.

I know that tens of thousands of Queensland crime victims are watching very intently to see if the Leader of the Opposition and the Labor Party will support these measures. Queenslanders want to know whether Labor are on the side of victims, as we are, or if they are going to stand on their weak record when it comes to youth crime. Our state now has a government dedicated to working harder for them and a government that will fix the failures left by our predecessors. This includes ending 1,200 days of Olympic and Paralympic chaos by delivering an independent infrastructure coordination authority, which will take the politics out of the games. This was promised as part of our 100-day plan and it will be delivered. The former government would have seen Queensland embarrassed on the world stage with its plans for QSAC.

Mr Krause: Too worried about the red carpet.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection about the red carpet, the glitz and glamour. This independent authority will get the games back on track and will ensure the games deliver a lasting legacy for all Queenslanders, including generational infrastructure, including rural and regional Queensland. Labor would never have been able to deliver the games Queenslanders deserve on time and on budget. Today, I will introduce legislation to fix it and get the Olympic and Paralympic Games back on track. Labor's culture of blowouts will and must end.

The Crisafulli LNP government is committed to also restoring productivity on Queensland worksites and we will end the culture of fear and intimidation that was allowed to run rampant under former Labor governments. I do note, honourable members, that productivity on worksites was slightly down yesterday although sales in the pub were up but not for long because they all got booted out.


Already, the LNP has taken serious steps to disentangle the Queensland government from the stranglehold of the CFMEU. No longer will Queenslanders be ripped off by sweetheart deals done between Labor and the CFMEU. The LNP government has already dismissed CFMEU members from the Work Health and Safety Board, has hung up the special CFMEU bat phone and has released elements of a secret report that detailed the abuse of workplace health and safety inspectors by CFMEU members on construction sites.

Importantly, the government has also announced that it has now suspended BPIC, aka the CFMEU tax. We will restore productivity to worksites. I will also introduce laws today to reintroduce the notice provision of 24 hours notice because this new government will not tolerate a culture of fear, intimidation or bullying by the CFMEU of workers in Queensland or the independent workplace health and safety inspectors.

The CFMEU tax meant 22,000 fewer homes for Queenslanders will be built over the next five years, resulting in seven per cent higher rents for Queensland renters. This is something the government cannot and will not accept. The steps the LNP government is taking will save Queenslanders from paying for Labor's failures. In suspending BPIC, the Crisafulli LNP government is on the side of Queenslanders, unlike the Labor Party who sold out Queenslanders to their grubby union mates in the CFMEU.

We will stand up for the hardworking construction tradies who want to work safe and be well paid, and we will put in place a pipeline of construction projects that can actually be delivered. Because we have suspended the CFMEU tax, we can deliver more infrastructure that is funded and what our growing state needs. The LNP will pick Queenslanders any day of the week over the CFMEU.

Youth Crime, Legislation

 **Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (9.55 am): Today, the Crisafulli government will be taking a pivotal step in implementing the mandate from the people of Queensland to hold youth offenders accountable and put

victims at the centre of the youth justice system. On 26 October, Queenslanders said they had had enough. They had had enough of wondering if their car would still be outside when they woke in the morning. They had had enough of listening to the tragic stories of Queenslanders whose lives had been changed forever by the actions of out-of-control teens. They had had enough of a soft-on-crime Labor government which, under this Leader of the Opposition, ignored their pleas to keep dangerous young offenders off the streets.

To be introduced after just 30 days in office, the Making Queensland Safer Bill will deliver a strong response to the youth crime crisis in Queensland. Key features of this bill include Adult Crime, Adult Time and removing the principle of detention as a last resort. The bill amends the Youth Justice Act to apply the same maximum, minimum and mandatory penalties to young offenders as currently apply to adults in relation to 13 of the most serious Criminal Code offences.

Significantly, and consistent with putting victims at the centre of youth justice proceedings, the bill will expand access to the Childrens Court. Right now, section 20 of the Childrens Court Act limits access to the Childrens Court for matters that do not proceed by way of indictment—for example, where the matter is heard by a magistrate. Unlike previous claims by those opposite, our government's amendments will unwaveringly support the rights of victims of crime and their families to access the court. We will remove the court's ability to exclude victims, the relatives or representatives of victims and deceased victims, persons with a proper interest in the proceedings and, of course, accredited media. The Crisafulli government is committed to protecting and promoting the rights of victims and ensuring they are at the centre of youth justice proceedings.

The bill will also amend the act to enable the admissibility of an adult's childhood criminal history for up to five years after the outcome for the last childhood offence. Our changes will also rewrite the sentencing provisions to ensure the impact of the crime on the victim is the primary consideration rather than being one of the numerous factors that the court must consider.

Since the moment I was sworn in as Attorney-General, the Minister for Youth Justice, the Premier and I have made it our top priority to get these laws ready to be introduced into parliament today. I have also been progressing other important election commitments that we made for our first 100 days in office. I have initiated a review into Labor's DNA debacle. I am working with the Crime and Corruption Commission to strengthen its reporting laws. Strengthening the CCC is something that is well overdue. Unlike the previous government, I have acted on this straightaway and, after just a month in office, I have already met with the chair of the CCC twice. We are well on our way to delivering the fresh start Queenslanders asked for.

Rural and Regional Queensland



Hon. DR LAST (Burdekin—LNP) (Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development) (9.59 am): It is an honour to again stand in this place and speak on behalf of rural and regional Queenslanders. For the first time in nearly 10 years there is hope, because rural and regional Queenslanders know that the Crisafulli government recognises their contribution to this state and will treat them with the respect they deserve. They know that this government's priorities are their priorities. Just like their fellow Queenslanders across the state, one of their highest priorities is making Queensland safe.

I have lost count of the number of times I have stood up in this chamber and spoken about the victims of crime in places like Townsville and Cairns and other North Queensland communities. North Queenslanders have borne the brunt of Labor's decision to remove breach of bail as an offence and to reinstate the principle of detention as a last resort.

Regional Queenslanders are sick and tired of having their homes broken into and their cars stolen. Members of the public who spoke out about their own experiences were ridiculed, blocked and ignored by the former Labor government. Despite the seemingly endless calls for help from victims, we had at least one Labor member who called the youth crime crisis a 'media beat-up' and the then police minister who, when asked about the value of property and vehicles stolen, called the question irrelevant.

Like other Queenslanders across the state, regional Queenslanders now have not only a government that has listened but also a government that is delivering on its commitments. Queenslanders deserve to be safe. I want all those Queenslanders living and working in regional Queensland to know that they matter. We will work every single day to make their community safer.


Regional Queenslanders also need to be respected for the contribution they make to this great state. There is no greater contribution than that made by the resources sector. Close to 1,000 people attended the annual Queensland Resources Council lunch last week. I share these figures with pride,

because that is how every worker in our resources industry should feel: proud—proud of the work they do and proud of the contribution they make to this state. After just one month, we are already seeing increased optimism and confidence from the resources sector—a buoyancy that we have not seen for 10 years. That was clearly evident last Friday at the QRC annual luncheon.

In 2023-24, the resources sector delivered a record \$120.2 billion to Queensland's economy, representing approximately 24 per cent of the state's total economic output, directly generated 62,730 jobs and overall supported more than half a million direct and indirect jobs. That means that one in every six jobs in Queensland is linked to the resources sector.

Under the Crisafulli government, no longer will projects and opportunities languish for years without a decision. I have already established the Resources Cabinet Committee and this committee will meet, as I promised, before the end of the year to ensure that resource companies can move forward with confidence. My message to the industry last week was very simple: our resources sector and Queensland is open for business.

Youth Justice; Victims of Crime

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.03 am): After a decade, Queensland now has a government that will put the voices and the needs of victims front and centre of our youth justice system. I stand here today as the Crisafulli government's Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services. I know how important real action is for victims of crime. Too many families have had their lives ripped apart by the youth crime crisis under the former government. Many victims have bravely told their stories in the hope for change. My message to all victims of crime is: we hear you. You called for action and today the Crisafulli government will deliver.

The Making Queensland Safer Laws will be law by Christmas. These laws will rebalance the scales of justice towards victims and ensure there are consequences for action. Alongside these strong laws, the Crisafulli government is taking real action and investing in early intervention and rehabilitation programs to turn young lives around. There is \$100 million for early intervention programs, \$175 million for the Staying on Track program, \$80 million for circuit-breaker sentencing, \$50 million for the Regional Reset program, \$40 million for our early intervention schools and \$40 million for our crime prevention youth justice schools. All of this investment will bring local and sector experience and insight to the table so we can tackle youth crime—side by side with our community. We are wasting no time getting it underway. Our 100-day plan will begin the tender process for the Regional Reset program and the Staying on Track program, both of which will help to break the cycle of crime and rehabilitate young offenders.


On top of all this, the Crisafulli government is putting victims front and centre of our justice system, rewriting the sentencing principles in the Making Queensland Safer Laws to give primary regard to the impact of youth crime on victims and investing \$40 million to support victims of crime with a professional victims advocate service. Too many victims have been left alone and feeling helpless and unheard within the system, and this must change. We will cloak victims in support from beginning to end of the youth justice system because this is the care they deserve.

Sadly, for the last 10 years, under those opposite, victims of crime have had a government that created a generation of repeat young offenders. In the last financial year there were 46,130 finalised proven offences by young people. This is a 12 per cent increase over the previous 12 months, or more than 4,975 additional offences—a 51 per cent increase over the last five years and a 98 per cent increase over the last 10 years. That is the true picture of youth crime in this state and that is their record. That is what the former government tried to hide from Queenslanders. With every year that crime went up, the number of victims of crime grew in this state.

Meanwhile, our youth detention centres are reaching crisis point. The remand facility at Wacol, which those opposite said would be built by now, will not be built until mid next year. Those opposite knew when they stood up in September and said it would be built that it was behind schedule and would not be built. That is not all. Those opposite consistently underfunded the corrections system. They did not meet their targets, they did not keep pace with growing demand and they did not make meaningful investment or build the infrastructure needed to keep our community safe. It was a former LNP government that funded the business case for the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre in 2014—an investment that was needed by 2015. It took those opposite five years to act on this much needed investment and now, a decade later, our prisons are at breaking point.

The Crisafulli government is a government that stands ready to deliver on our commitment to Queenslanders. We made a promise to deliver strong laws matched by new investment in prevention and rehabilitation. We are delivering for victims of crime by restoring safety where you live. We will work every single day to make our communities safe again.

Residential Care

 **Hon. AJ CAMM** (Whitsunday—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.08 am): Since becoming a member of this House, I have travelled the state over the past four years and have engaged with foster carers, kinship carers, residential care providers, peak bodies, families, and survivors of domestic and family violence, and they have shared their concerns for community safety. They were also vocal about the connection that exists between youth crime and parts of the child safety system that have resulted in the growing correlation of youth offenders—a residential care program that is not fit for purpose.


Currently, more than 12,000 children are living away from home under the care of Child Safety. An estimated 2,100 of these are in residential care. One-third are under the age of 12—shame. This is unacceptable. As a government, we have inherited a broken residential care system and a residential road map to nowhere. This is why we announced a \$383 million Safer Children, Safer Communities policy, which includes a plan to reform the overburdened and unsustainable residential care system. I look forward to progressing this reform, working alongside the sector. The actions in this policy will not only help to protect our most vulnerable children but also work to stop children in the child safety system from heading down a path of crime. Our plan will ensure children who first come into contact with the child safety system receive the critical support and intervention they need to turn their lives around.

Over the past few weeks, as the new Minister for Child Safety, I have visited child safety services in Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns and across Brisbane. I have met the passionate and committed staff and have heard firsthand the need for additional resources and support and what they need to undertake their vital work to protect children and support families in our great state. To support our frontline services we have pledged to boost the number of frontline staff by 20 per cent, and I look forward to progressing this with my department. This will aim to end soaring caseloads and ensure that safety concerns raised about children are investigated on time to keep them safe.

When it comes to residential care facilities, we know many currently just have one worker on at any time. Given the often complex needs and behaviours of young people, we want to make sure that appropriate staffing models are in place. We will address this by developing and delivering a new dual-carer model which will be in place in full by 2030. It will provide two carers to be rostered on at residential care facilities 24 hours a day when it is needed. This will provide safety, restore behavioural consequences for children and support children in attending school and undertaking extracurricular activities. We will also deliver Queensland's first SecureCare facility to provide safer care to children who are a danger to themselves and others; we will pilot a new professional foster care program for children with disability and complex needs who are currently in the residential care system; and we will increase the allowance for extracurricular activities and education support for children in out-of-home care.

Queenslanders have told us clearly and repeatedly that public safety is a priority. Together, the Crisafulli government will work to build a brighter future for all Queensland children and families because we know safer children will deliver safer communities.

Energy, Government Owned Corporations

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (10.12 am): Mr Speaker, with your indulgence I want to offer my personal congratulations to you for your elevation to this high office. I cannot think of a more decent man to fulfil it, not just as my electoral neighbour but also as a Central Downs farmer. Congratulations, Mr Speaker.

In the early afternoon of 25 May 2021, a new battery charger was ready to be installed into CS Energy's Callide Power Station unit C4. The unit was plugged in to the Queensland power grid, exporting electricity from its system, as it had done for decades—but the process failed. Unit C4 was without a power source. It had not been disconnected from the grid properly; nor had it been shut down safely. Control room screens went blank. Operators could not see the power plant systems reverse and start importing power from the grid. They were unaware that hydrogen was escaping, likely causing fires, or of the rotor shaft and bearings grinding together.

At 2.07 pm, the tensions combined with dramatic effect. The rotor shaft blew apart into nine parts. One part, weighing more than two tonnes, flew across the turbine hall. Another 300-kilogram part punched through the air. The resulting electrical fault sent the system haywire and destabilised the entire Queensland power grid. Fortunately, no-one was killed. We know what happened after that: secrecy and subterfuge from CS Energy and the Labor government; buck-passing; blame-shifting; and Callide C4 was offline for more than 1,100 days, creating widespread blackouts and adding insult to the injury of rising household and business power bills.

The investigative Brady report into the incident condemned the organisation's 'failure to value and implement effective process safety practices'. We learned about the 2020 shareholding ministers' mandate that prioritised cost savings and constrained the government owned corporations' investment strategies. We also learned that over the past five years executives at our energy government owned corporations, the GOCs, have pocketed over \$2 million in performance bonuses. This even included bonuses to CS Energy senior executives in the aftermath of the 2021 Callide C explosion.

Well, no more. Today we introduce the Crisafulli government's new Electricity Maintenance Guarantee. The guarantee is a new investment, performance and accountability framework for Queensland's publicly owned electricity generators. The guarantee will give us greater oversight than ever before of our GOCs' maintenance and overall performance. We need to ensure GOCs are investing back into the assets owned by Queenslanders so they are properly maintained.

Under the guarantee, Stanwell, CS Energy and CleanCo will be provided with investment certainty to deliver on their five-year maintenance programs. This represents an investment of more than \$1.4 billion to 2028-29. This will ensure GOCs prioritise maintenance expenditure, with no immediate budget impact or additional funding from government. There is no excuse not to maintain assets.

GOCs will also be accountable for performance, including clear KPIs across maintenance, personal safety, process safety and plant performance. Under the guarantee, all senior executives will be subject to the same 'no performance payments' policy if KPIs are not met. This is made clear in the letters addressed to the three energy GOC chairs sent by me and the finance minister this morning which I now table.


Tabled paper: Letter, undated, from the Treasurer and Minister for Energy, Hon. David Janetzki, and the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, Hon. Ros Bates, to the Chair, CleanCo Queensland Limited, Ms Allison Warburton, regarding strategic performance expectations [\[200\]](#).

Tabled paper: Letter, undated, from the Treasurer and Minister for Energy, Hon. David Janetzki, and the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, Hon. Ros Bates, to the Chair, CS Energy Limited, Mr Adam Aspinall, regarding strategic performance expectations [\[201\]](#).

Tabled paper: Letter, undated, from the Treasurer and Minister for Energy, Hon. David Janetzki, and the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, Hon. Ros Bates, to the Chair, Stanwell Corporation Limited, Mr Paul Binsted, regarding strategic performance expectations [\[202\]](#).

The guarantee will restore focus and responsible economic management of our GOCs after years of Labor government mismanagement. We are about rebuilding public trust in our operations and ensuring worker safety. Unlike those opposite, we will drive real reform to put downward pressure on Queenslanders' power bills.

Health System; Measles

 **Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (10.17 am): Mr Speaker, again, congratulations to you on your elevation to the high office of Speaker.

The Crisafulli government's Easier Access to Health Services plan was developed after 39 health crisis town halls were held the length and breadth of Queensland. Hundreds of Queenslanders shared their stories about our health and hospital system and the failures that they were experiencing under a tired Labor government. I want to particularly pay tribute to the member for Mudgeeraba for her diligence and hard work as the shadow health minister in driving and listening to the complaints—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! I will have order before we proceed.

Mr NICHOLLS: She did more as the shadow minister than the three failed Labor health ministers did in a decade. More people, more investment and more services are being delivered because of the shadow health minister's unrelenting commitment to the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders.

Mr Bailey: Couldn't do the job.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: We will just have a little bit of calm, please.

Mr NICHOLLS: I take the interjection from the member for Miller. At least she did not exclude herself and quit from taking the job, member for Miller, like you did a year ago! Thank you very much. We listened. We listened to the doctors—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr NICHOLLS: Mr Speaker, can I say it is wonderful to be back on this side of the House—just how wonderful those on that side of the House are going to find out over the next four years!

We listened to the doctors, we listened to the nurses and we listened to the paramedics who were on the front line, and we are continuing to do so. We also listened to the Queenslanders who have tragically lost loved ones because of ramping—people like Lauren Hansford and Barbara Irving, who lost their father and husband, Wayne, and who are still suffering loss, and we will be doing some things to help them along the line. We will be helping people and listening to people who lost loved ones because ambulances did not arrive in time, and we will continue listening to Queenslanders who are waiting for the change that a Crisafulli government will bring.

Under Labor, Queenslanders have suffered the worst ambulance ramping numbers in Australia. There is a record long waitlist for elective surgery and nearly 300,000 Queenslanders are waiting to see a specialist. Queenslanders are also paying more for Labor's health failure. Capital projects and infrastructure costs have ballooned, with more than \$6 billion in cost blowouts across the state. Of the 15 projects underway, I am advised that 13 will have delayed delivery or are at risk of delayed delivery. Under Labor, Queenslanders were paying more and getting less and getting it later than was ever promised.

We will heal Labor's health crisis by diagnosing the issues from within our health system. We will treat the causes and we will deliver long-term solutions to cure those problems. I can advise the House that this work is well underway. I have delivered on the commitment set to me by the Premier in the first month. We have instructed Queensland Health to begin the rollout of the health plan to reduce ambulance ramping and stabilise those waitlists. I have directed Queensland Health to prepare for the publication of transparent, real-time hospital data. In doing so, we will provide Queenslanders with the truth about what is happening in our hospitals in real time, not when it fits Labor's politically inspired narrative. I recently visited the Eight Mile Plains health facility. I announced the new website will be launched by February—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! We will have silence.

Mr NICHOLLS: I announced the new website platform will be launched in February 2025. It will include key metrics across emergency demand, capacity and waiting time for Queensland's 25 largest hospitals—something that Labor could not, would not and failed to do. They could not even tell Queenslanders what was happening in their emergency wards. The real-time reporting will make the health system more transparent and help Queenslanders make informed choices about their care.

I can also update the House on some other positive progress against our commitments in our health plan. Work is underway to assess current staffing levels across all of regional Queensland's maternity services. We are consulting with clinicians on the most appropriate name for Queensland's satellite hospitals. Unlike the member for Murrumba, we do not have a staff member employed hitting a keyboard thousands of times to change the name of the Lady Cilento children's hospital to the Children's Hospital. We know that story all too well. We are talking to real clinicians and real people who use the service who want to see positive change, not a political program.

We are also identifying the most appropriate sites for nine new CT machines and six MRI machines to provide faster diagnostics and reduce the need for patients to travel to another facility. They will be delivered, as promised in our election commitments, to Charleville and Ayr. They are guaranteed. We are on track to achieve all of these commitments in our first 100 days. Queenslanders deserve a world-class health system they can rely on no matter where they live, and the Crisafulli government will fix Labor's mess, end the cost blowouts and deliver to Queenslanders the health services they deserve.

I think it is also important before I close that I confirm that, as reported, a patient presented to the QEII Jubilee Hospital earlier this week and tested positive for measles, which, as we know, is highly contagious. The patient is believed to have contracted measles overseas. Metro South Health is undertaking contact tracing in accordance with the public health requirements and has offered measles vaccinations to staff and high-risk contacts who are current inpatients at that hospital. More details are available on the Metro South Health website. Again, this case highlights the need for ongoing vigilance about communicable disease in Queensland.

Mr SPEAKER: Before I go to the Leader of the House, it has come to my attention that a former member for Nudgee, Neil Roberts, who was a member between 1995 and 2012, is in the gallery. Welcome.

MOTIONS

Amendment to Standing Orders



Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (10.23 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That schedule 6 of the standing rules and orders of the Legislative Assembly be amended in accordance with the amendment circulated in my name, effective immediately.

SCHEDULE 6—PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

- (1) In accordance with s.88 of the Parliament of Queensland Act 2001, the following table establishes the Portfolio Committees of the Legislative Assembly and identifies their primary areas of responsibility; and
- (2) A reference to a Minister is deemed to include departments, statutory authorities, government owned corporations and other administrative units reporting to the Minister and parts thereof that report to the Minister with respect to the Minister's responsibilities as set out in the Administrative Arrangements.


Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility
Governance, Energy and Finance Committee (GEF)	Premier and Cabinet Veterans	Premier and Minister for Veterans	Auditor-General Cross-Border Commissioner
	Treasury, Energy and Home Ownership	Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership	Energy and Water Ombudsman Queensland
	Finance, Trade, Employment and Training	Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training	Energy and Water Ombudsman Queensland
State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee (SDIW)	State Development, Infrastructure, Planning and Industrial Relations	Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations	
	Transport and Main Roads	Minister for Transport and Main Roads	
	Housing, Public Works and Youth	Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth	Night-Life Economy Commissioner Queensland Building and Construction Commission
	Sport, Racing, Olympic and Paralympic Games	Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games	

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility
Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee (JICSC)	Attorney-General, Justice and Integrity Police and Emergency Services Youth Justice, Victim Support and Corrective Services	Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity Minister for Police and Emergency Services Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services	Electoral Commissioner Information Commissioner Integrity Commissioner Queensland Ombudsman Queensland Family and Child Commission Queensland Human Rights Commission Victims' Commissioner
Primary Industries and Resources Committee (PIRC)	Natural Resources, Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development Primary Industries	Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development Minister for Primary Industries	Queensland Food Farmers' Commissioner
Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee (LGSBCSC)	Local Government, Water, Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers Customer Services, Open Data, Small and Family Business	Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers Minister for Customer Services and Open Data and Minister for Small and Family Business	Independent Assessor
Health, Environment and Innovation Committee (HEIC)	Health and Ambulance Services Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	Minister for Health and Ambulance Services Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation	Health Ombudsman
Education, Arts and Communities Committee (EACC)	Education and Arts Women, Women's Economic Security, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism Families, Seniors, Disability Services, Child Safety and Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence	Minister for Education and the Arts Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence	Family Responsibilities Commission

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

Sessional Orders

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (10.24 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That the sessional orders for the 58th Parliament circulated in my name be agreed to and effective from Friday, 29 November 2024.

SESSIONAL ORDERS—58TH PARLIAMENT (FIRST SESSION)

Days and Hours of Sitting and Order of Business

1. (a) The House shall sit on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- (b) The House shall sit on Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am until 9.30pm.
- (c) The House shall sit on Wednesday from 2.00pm until 9.30pm.
- (d) The Order of Business for each Sitting Day shall be as follows—

Tuesday

*9.30am—10.15am—Preliminary Business**

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning Privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Citizen's Right of Reply

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.15am—11.15am—

Question Time

11.15am—1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm—2.00pm—

Lunch break

2.00pm—3.00pm—

Matters of Public Interest

3.00pm—5.00pm—

Government Business

5.00pm—6.30pm—

Disallowance Motions, Private Members' Bills or Government Business (in accordance with Sessional Order 1(e))

6.30pm—7.30pm—

Dinner break

7.30pm—9.00pm—

Government Business

9.00pm—9.30pm—

Adjournment Debate

** (If completed before 10.15am, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*

Wednesday

*2.00pm—2.45pm—Preliminary Business**

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments
 Petitions
 Citizen's Right of Reply
 Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk
 Ministerial Papers
 Ministerial Notices of Motion
 Ministerial Statements
 Any other Government Business
 Personal Explanations
 Tabling of Reports
 Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument
 Notice of motion for debate during Private Members' Motion (5.30pm—6.30pm) (Notice may be stated in the House and delivered to the Clerk)
 2.45pm—3.45pm—
 Question Time
 3.45pm—4.15pm—
 Introduction of Private Members' Bills#
 4.15pm—5.30pm—
 Government Business
 5.30pm—6.30pm—
 Private Members' Motion (motion for which notice was given during Preliminary Business)
 6.30pm—7.30pm—
 Dinner break
 7.30pm—9.00pm—
 Government Business
 9.00pm—9.30pm—
 Adjournment Debate
**(If completed before 2.45pm, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except the dinner break, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*
#(If there are no Private Members' Bills to introduce, or any introduction to complete, the next item of business to commence with starting times for all other items, except the dinner break, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)

Thursday

9.30am—10.15am—Preliminary Business*
 Prayers
 Messages from the Governor
 Matters concerning privilege
 Speaker's Statements
 Appointments
 Petitions
 Citizen's Right of Reply
 Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk
 Ministerial Papers
 Ministerial Notices of Motion
 Ministerial Statements
 Any other Government Business
 Personal Explanations
 Tabling of Reports
 Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument
 10.15am—11.15am—
 Question Time
 11.15am—1.00pm—
 Government Business
 1.00pm—2.00pm—
 Lunch break
 2.00pm—3.00pm—
 Private Members' Statements (Total time 60 minutes, 20 members x 3 minutes each)
 3.00pm—4.00pm—
 Debate of Committee Reports (in accordance with Sessional Order 4) or if no reports to debate, Government Business
 4.00pm—6.30pm—
 Government Business

6.30pm—7.30pm—
Dinner break

7.30pm—9.00pm—
Government Business

9.00pm—9.30pm—
Adjournment Debate

**(If completed before 10.15am, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*

- (e) On a Tuesday evening—
- (i) if there are no Disallowance Motions or Private Members' Bills to debate (in accordance with the requirements of Standing Order 59 or Sessional Order 6), the adjournment may be either moved immediately or otherwise the House will break for dinner between 6.30pm and 7.30pm and then commence with Government Business until 9.00pm;
- (ii) if there are Disallowance Motions or Private Members' Bills to debate (in accordance with the requirements of Standing Order 59 or Sessional Order 6), the House will break for dinner between 6.30pm and 7.30pm and then commence with Government Business until 9.00pm.
- (f) The motion "That the House do now adjourn" may only be moved by the Leader of the House or the Acting Leader of the House.
- (g) As soon as the motion in (f) is moved, there will be an Adjournment Debate for 30 minutes and then the question shall be put.
- (h) The motion "That the House do now adjourn" may be moved by the Leader of the House or the Acting Leader of the House at any time despite the order of business.
- (i) If the House sits on any day other than a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, then unless otherwise ordered, the order of business shall be as follows:

From 9.30 am—10.15 am—

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Citizen's Right of Reply

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.15am—10.45am—

Question Time

10.45am—1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm—2.00pm—

Lunch break

2.00pm—6.00pm—

Government Business

6.00pm—6.30pm—

Adjournment Debate

Budget Week—Days and Hours of Sitting and Order of Business

2. The days, hours of sitting and order of business for budget sitting weeks (as identified in the sitting calendar) are as follows:

Tuesday

*9.30am—10.15am—Preliminary Business **

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments
 Petitions
 Citizen's Right of Reply
 Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk
 Ministerial Papers
 Ministerial Notices of Motion
 Ministerial Statements
 Any other Government Business
 Personal Explanations
 Tabling of Reports
 Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.15am—11.15am—
Question Time

11.15am—1.00pm—
Government Business

1.00pm—2.00pm—
Lunch break

2.00pm—until adjournment moved
Government Business

** (If completed before 10.15am, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except the lunch break, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*

Wednesday

9.30am—10.15am—Preliminary Business *

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Citizen's Right of Reply

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

Notice of motion for debate during Private Members' Motion (5.30pm—6.30pm) (Notice may be stated in the House and delivered to the Clerk)

10.15am—11.15am—
Question Time

11.15am—12.00pm—
Introduction of Private Members' Bills #

12.00pm—2.00pm—
Lunch break

2.00pm—5.30pm—
Government Business

5.30pm—6.30pm—
Private Members' Motion (motion for which notice was given during preliminary business)

6.30pm—7.30pm—
Dinner break

7.30pm—9.00pm
Government Business

9.00pm—9.30pm—
Adjournment Debate

** (If completed before 10.15am, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*

(If there are no Private Members' Bills to introduce, or any introduction to complete, the next item of business to commence with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusted accordingly.)

Thursday*9.30am—10.15am—Preliminary Business **

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

Petitions

Citizen's Right of Reply

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.15am—11.15am—

Question Time

11.15am—1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm—2.00pm—

Lunch break

2.00pm—6.30pm—

Government Business

6.30pm—7.30pm—

Dinner break

7.30pm—until adjournment moved (no adjournment debate)—

Government Business

** (If completed before 10.15am, Question Time will commence earlier and continue for 1 hour with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.)*

Friday*From 9.30am—10.00am—*

Prayers

Messages from the Governor

Matters concerning privilege

Speaker's Statements

Appointments

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Citizen's Right of Reply

Notification and tabling of papers by the Clerk

Ministerial Papers

Ministerial Notices of Motion

Ministerial Statements

Any other Government Business

Personal Explanations

Tabling of Reports

Notice of motion for disallowance of statutory instrument

10.00am—10.30am—

Question Time

10.30am—1.00pm—

Government Business

1.00pm—2.00pm—

Lunch break

2.00pm—6.30pm—

Government Business

6.30pm—7.30pm—

Dinner break

7.30pm—until adjournment moved (no adjournment debate)—

Government Business

Change to sitting date or time

3. (1) Notwithstanding Standing Order 49, Sessional Order 1(a) or the House having already adjourned to a specified time and date, the Speaker, upon advice from the Government of the State, may set an alternative day or hour for the next sitting, and must notify each member of any change.
- (2) The Speaker's notification to each member may be by electronic means.

Debate of Parliamentary committee reports

4. (1) If a committee report is tabled that is not:
 - (a) a report on a bill pursuant to Part 5 of the Standing Orders;
 - (b) an annual report of a Committee;
 - (c) a report on travel undertaken by a Committee;
 - (d) a report of the Ethics Committee; or
 - (e) a report by a Committee on subordinate legislation
 then a motion shall be set down on the Notice Paper by the Clerk that the House is to take note of the committee report.
- (2) Motions that the House take note of committee reports will be brought on for debate in the time set aside each Thursday in the order in which they are placed on the Notice Paper.
- (3) A debate of a motion in (2) not completed may be adjourned to the following Thursday.
- (4) A motion in (2) cannot be amended.
- (5) A motion in accordance with (1) is set down on the Notice Paper regardless of whether the report is tabled whilst the House is sitting or not sitting.

Consideration of Ethics Committee reports in regard to Citizen's Right of Reply

5. When the Ethics Committee reports to the House regarding a Citizen's Right of Reply in accordance with Standing Order 283, the committee's recommendation will be considered by the House on the next sitting day following the tabling of the committee's report and at the time in the Order of Business as specified in Sessional Order 1.

Private Members' Bills

6. (1) A member who is not a Minister may introduce a Bill during time set aside in the Order of Business for Private Members' Bills. In such a case the Member introducing the Bill may either complete the speech in the time allotted or, if not completed, adjourn their speech to the next period allotted.
- (2) A Private Member's Bill which has been reported on by a portfolio or other committee, will be brought on for debate on the sitting Tuesday evening next following the passage of three calendar months after the tabling of the committee's report on the Bill.
- (3) The House will continue to debate the Bill on each following sitting Tuesday evening until consideration of that Bill has been finalised.

Condolence Motions

7. (1) A motion of condolence may be moved as the first item of business after Speaker's Statements in the Order of Business.
- (2) If a motion of condolence is moved in accordance with (1), the debate on such motion will last no more than one hour, after which time the question shall be put.
- (3) After a motion of condolence is moved, debated and resolved in accordance with (1) and (2), the Order of Business for the day shall then resume, with Question Time commencing 45 minutes after the motion of condolence was resolved and with starting times for all other items, except lunch and dinner breaks, in the Order of Business adjusting accordingly.

Private Members' Motions—amendments

8. For this session, in relation to Private Members' Motions, direct negative amendments may be moved.

Matters of Public Interest, Private Members' Statements and adjournment statements

9. During the time set aside for Matters of Public Interest, Private Members' Statements and Adjournment Debate, no questions can be put nor divisions called.

Incorporation of material—Address in Reply and Annual Appropriation Bills

10. During the Address in Reply debate and the debate on the Annual Appropriation Bills, it is not necessary for Members to seek leave of the House to incorporate material in the Record of Proceedings, provided members have shown the Speaker the material sought to be incorporated and have obtained the Speaker's consent as per Standing Order 25.

Address in Reply debate timeframe

11. So much of Standing Order 47 is suspended for this session to enable debate for no longer than 31 hours.

Maximum time limits for debates, speeches and statements

12. The maximum time limits that apply to debates, speeches and statements are contained in the schedule below.

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
Address in Reply Debate —Total time —Mover —Other members —Mover in reply	SO 47, Sessional Orders 10 and 11	31 hours 20 minutes 20 minutes 30 minutes
Adjournment debate —Total time —Each member	SO 56 & Sessional Order 1	30 minutes 3 minutes
Bills—Government Bills Introduction of Bills (explanatory speech) First reading Government Bills reported on by a committee Second reading debate —Minister —Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) —Other members —Minister in reply Consideration in detail —Mover (Minister) —Other members (on each question) Government Bills declared urgent and not referred or not reported on by a committee Second reading debate —Minister —Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) —Other members —Mover in reply Consideration in detail —Mover (Minister) —Leader of the Opposition (or nominee) (on each question) —Other Members (on each question)	SO 129 SO 130 SO 138 SO 146 & SO 147 SO 129, SO 137 & SO 138	1 hour No debate 30 minutes 30 minutes 10 minutes 20 minutes No limit 3 minutes To speak once only as per SO 129 for 1 hour 1 hour 15 minutes 30 minutes No limit 1 x 20 minutes; or 2 x 10 minutes; or 1 x 10 minutes & 2 x 5 minutes 1 x 10 minutes or 2 x 5 minutes
Bills—Private Members' Bills Introduction of Bills (explanatory speech) First reading Second reading debate —All members —Mover in reply Consideration in detail	SO 129 & Sessional Order 6 SO 130 SO 138 SO 146, SO 147 & SO 156	1 hour No debate 10 minutes 30 minutes

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
<p>Where Bill has been considered by portfolio committee</p> <p>—Mover —Other members (on each question)</p> <p>Where Bill has not been considered by portfolio committee</p> <p>—Mover —Other members (on each question) —Minister responsible for policy area (on each question)</p>		<p>No limit 3 minutes</p> <p>No limit 3 minutes 1 x 20 minutes; or 2 x 10 minutes; or 1 x 10 minutes and 2 x 5 minutes</p>
<p>Debate of Committee Reports—each member</p>	Sessional Order 4	5 minutes
<p>Disallowance of statutory instruments</p> <p>—Total time —Mover —Other members —Minister in reply</p>	SO 59	<p>1 hour 30 minutes 15 minutes 10 minutes 20 minutes</p>
<p>Dissent to ruling of Speaker</p> <p>—Total time —Each member</p>	SO 250	<p>1 hour 10 minutes</p>
<p>Election of Speaker—each member</p>	SO 39	5 minutes
<p>Extension of Time, by consent of a majority of the House, without debate</p> <p>—Motions and Second Reading Debates —Question Time</p>		<p>5 minutes 2 minutes</p>
<p>Matters concerning privilege</p>	Sessional Order 1, & SO 248 & 267	At discretion of Speaker
<p>Matters of Public Interest</p> <p>—Total time —Leader of Opposition or nominee —Other members</p>	Sessional Order 1	<p>1 hour 10 minutes 5 minutes</p>
<p>Motions</p> <p>—Mover —Other members —Mover in reply</p>	Chapter 15	<p>10 minutes 10 minutes 15 minutes</p>
<p>Personal Explanations—each member</p>	Sessional Order 1	At discretion of Speaker
<p>Private Members' Motions (Wednesday 5.30-6.30pm)</p> <p>—Total time —All members</p>	Sessional Order 1	<p>1 hour 5 minutes</p>
<p>Private Members' Statements</p> <p>—Total time —Each member</p>	Sessional Order 1	<p>1 hour 3 minutes</p>
<p>Tabling of Reports</p> <p>—Chairperson of Committee on presentation of committee report —Member tabling report</p>	Sessional Orders 1 & 2	<p>5 minutes 2 minutes</p>

Subject	Relevant Standing or Sessional Orders	Time
Questions Without Notice —Question time (total time) —Member asking question —Minister answering question	Sessional Order 1 & SO 113	1 hour, Tues, Wed, Thurs. 30 minutes on Friday At discretion of Speaker 3 minutes

Dress standards

13. Dress standards in the parliamentary chamber should be appropriate to the Queensland climate and reflect general community standards. All members and staff are expected to dress in business attire. Male members and staff may wear a long-sleeve business shirt and tie or coat and long-sleeve business shirt without tie.

14. Shadow Minister Diary Extracts

- (1) Shadow Ministers are required to publish on the Queensland Parliament website, on a monthly basis, information in relation to official Shadow Minister related meetings with external parties listed in their diaries, including as a minimum, the date of the meeting, name of the organisation or person and the purpose of the meeting.
- (2) For any meeting with a registered lobbyist or any person working for the lobbyist in any capacity, other than administrative staff, the diary must also include details about all attendees and a short description of the subject matter of the meeting.
- (3) Consideration should be given to the Information Privacy Principles contained in the *Information Privacy Act 2009* in determining what material is to be published.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

Committees, Membership



Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (10.24 am) by leave, without notice: I move—

That the order of appointment circulated in my name for the membership of parliamentary committees established by statute or standing orders be agreed to.

ORDER OF APPOINTMENT TO PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

That the following appointments for the membership of parliamentary committees established by statute or standing orders be agreed to:

- (a) Governance, Energy and Finance Committee—Michael Crandon (Chair), Bisma Asif, John Barounis, Lance McCallum, Kendall Morton, Chris Whiting.
- (b) State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee—Jim McDonald (Chair), Jonty Bush, Terry James, David Kempton, Shane King, Bart Mellish.
- (c) Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee—Marty Hunt (Chair), Michael Berkman, Russell Field, Natalie Marr, Melissa McMahon, Peter Russo.
- (d) Primary Industries and Resources Committee—Stephen Bennett (Chair), Nigel Dalton, Robbie Katter, Glen Kelly, James Martin, Tom Smith.
- (e) Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee—James Lister (Chair), Adam Baillie, Mark Boothman, Michael Healy, Margie Nightingale, Joan Pease.
- (f) Health, Environment and Innovation Committee—Rob Molhoek (Chair), Sandy Bolton, Kerri-Anne Dooley, Joe Kelly, David Lee, Barbara O'Shea.
- (g) Education, Arts and Communities Committee—Nigel Hutton (Chair), Wendy Bourne, Nick Dametto, Ariana Doolan, Jon Krause, Corinne McMillan.
- (h) Committee of the Legislative Assembly—Speaker (or alternate) (Chair), Leader of the House (or alternate), Premier (or alternate), Deputy Premier (or alternate), Leader of the Opposition (or alternate), Deputy Leader of the Opposition (or alternate), Manager of Opposition Business (or alternate), Cross-Bench Member Shane Knuth (or alternate)
- (i) Ethics Committee—Ray Stevens (Chair), Michael Crandon, Jennifer Howard, Jon Krause, Leanne Linaud, Peter Russo.
- (j) Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee—Mark Furner (Chair), Glenn Butcher, Marty Hunt, Jim McDonald, Jess Pugh, Ray Stevens, Amanda Stoker.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Disallowance of Statutory Instrument



Mr DAMETTO (Hinchinbrook—KAP) (10.25 am): I give notice that I will move—

That sections 4, 7, 12 and 13 of the Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024, subordinate legislation No. 188 of 2024, tabled in the House on 10 September 2024, be disallowed.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr SPEAKER: Question time will finish at 11.26 am.

Victims of Crime



Mr MILES (10.26 am): My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' Does the Premier stand by his promise to resign if the total victim number does not decrease, or will the Premier try to give himself wriggle room?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I have to say to the Leader of the Opposition that there will be change in terms of victims in Queensland. The change is that the number will go down. For the first time in 10 years, the number will go down. Isn't it refreshing that the change is someone who is willing to stand for accountability against so many failed faces? It is the same faces who look across the chamber—the same faces who did not listen when Queenslanders said 'enough is enough', the same faces who watered down the law, the same faces who refused to admit the crisis and, most troubling, the same faces who, in the shadows of an election, told Queenslanders figures that were not true. Can you possibly imagine a situation where a government would knowingly have figures that it withholds from the people of Queensland and would knowingly say something that is wrong? Can you imagine that? And you wonder why Queenslanders voted for change.

Today Queenslanders get change. They get the Making Queensland Safer Laws. After 10 years of a decision by a government to weaken the laws that have created a generation of hardcore, repeat young offenders, finally the change.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Mr Speaker, I take the interjection. It is from the same person who said 'making up stories'. I will tell you why I take the interjection. It is because it shows that nothing has changed. Nothing has changed.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance to the question. Standing order 118(b) is very clear. The Premier has been speaking for almost his entire time and has not answered the question that the Leader of the Opposition put to him. I would ask him to come back to the question that was put to him.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Let's just make it very clear: points of order are heard in silence. That is the last time I will say it.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, on the point of order under standing order 118(b) and relevance, the Premier is providing a fulsome response in relation to the question as asked, he is providing important information that Queenslanders want to hear, and he is providing a very good answer to the question as asked by the Leader of the Opposition.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: As I just stated, points of order will be heard in silence. It was a very broad-ranging question, a very wide question. I ask the Premier to conclude.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I was asked about victim numbers and I said they will go down. I was asked about accountability and I said I accept. I cannot understand why the guilty party, the ones that created the mess, would come in here and want to highlight the contrast between a Labor Party that created and ducked and dived and an LNP government that accepts responsibility. I am asked whether or not I accept accountability for victim numbers going down. The answer is yes. There will be fewer victims. Queenslanders will know it and, in 2028, Queenslanders will get the opportunity to again reward a government that does what it says.

Public Service

Mr MILES: The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' At a time when Queenslanders are feeling the pinch, can the Premier explain to Queenslanders how much the Crisafulli LNP government has spent sacking senior public servants, including directors-general, and does the Premier still support the Coaldrake review?

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. When the Leader of the Opposition began his question, he did not reference the Premier by name. I ask you to direct the question to the Premier under the standing orders.

Mr MILES: I can repeat the question.

Mr SPEAKER: If you would.

Mr MILES: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' At a time when Queenslanders are feeling the pinch, can the Premier explain to Queenslanders how much the Crisafulli LNP government has spent sacking senior public servants, including directors-general, and does the Premier still support the Coaldrake review?

Mr CRISAFULLI: The Queensland Public Service is so vital to what we need to achieve in this state. I want to say to the Queensland Public Service thank you for what you do. Thank you for the conditions you have worked under in recent years. I say to the Queensland Public Service, things will be different; you will not be treated the way that you have.

I have read the Coaldrake review. I was asked about the Coaldrake review. It paints a dire picture of a Labor Party that treated them as a political plaything. It painted a culture of ministerial staffers walking through like little generals. I am asked whether or not I support the Coaldrake review. I sure do because we called for it. We were told that it was not an issue. We called for it and called for it hard.

I am also asked about senior public servants and the importance of them. They are important. There are some qualities that make a good senior public servant. One of them is it is best not to be a former member of the Queensland parliament, another is it is good not to be a former state secretary of a political movement, and the third one—and this is probably the best one—it is best to have not been chased out of the parliament because of electoral roting. They are the three things, the three good qualities.

I am asked by the Leader of the Opposition about appointments of the senior Public Service. I note and reflect on some of the praise garnered by Mr Damien Walker, who will begin as the head of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet—praise that has come from both sides of the political aisle, praise that has come from a former minister. He is someone who will rise above what we have seen. I said to Queenslanders they would get a couple of things: a government that works for them and an independent Public Service.

Mr MILES: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order under standing order 118(b). We know the Premier does not like to answer questions, but this is question time.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My point of order is in relation to the Leader of the Opposition. The Premier is providing a fulsome response to the question as asked. He is addressing all elements of the question as asked and the broad nature of the question requires a broad answer, which he is doing.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, I would ask you to come back to the substance of the question. You have 40 seconds left to do so.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Thank you very much. I sure will. It should not surprise the Leader of the Opposition that people will be paid pursuant to their contracts—the contracts that were signed by the Labor Party. There is the answer. If I may, I would like to use the remaining 30 seconds—

Mr MILES: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The Premier has just acknowledged he does not know the answer. Will he take that question on notice?

Mr SPEAKER: It is up to the Premier if he wishes to take that on notice and provide substance. For the questioner to raise that is bordering on disorderly. Let's finish the last 20 seconds of the answer.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I come back to my commitment to the public servants of this state. You will be treated with respect. You will have a government that gives you vision and direction, but you will be able to give fearless and frank advice. The people leading those departments are people of great quality, of great standing, and Queenslanders know they will have their side.

Community Safety

Mr McDONALD: My question is of the Premier and Minister for Veterans. How will the LNP government's Making Queensland Safer Laws restore safety where Queenslanders live, and can the Premier outline any other contrasting approaches that Queenslanders pass judgement on?

Mr CRISAFULLI: To the honourable member for Lockyer, thank you for directing the question to me and for saying that in your opening remarks. I also want to thank the member for Lockyer for the way he has conducted himself and the work he has done, both as a police officer across this state and also as a member of this place. He is someone who values law and order, he is someone who values community safety and he is a fine member of parliament. I thank him very much for the question.

It has been over a decade since the decision to water down the youth justice laws in this state, and we have seen the result; we have seen the change year on year. Perhaps most troubling for Queenslanders is they were told by the former government that the crisis they were living through was not real. I want to pay tribute to the victims of crime who bravely spoke out against the tirade of abuse that was coming their way from those opposite. They bravely spoke out because they wanted to fight for change. I want to say to those victims of crime that we acknowledge how tough life has been for you. We acknowledge that this state is in the grip of a youth crime crisis. It has been a long time since someone stood in this position and said 'youth crime crisis' and said that it was created because of a decision and admitted and accepted blame for that and was prepared to face up to doing something about it. That is what we are doing today.

The member asked me about the changes that are coming. The changes have to occur because this is the first strike back against the youth crime crisis after a decision a decade ago to weaken the laws that created it. We are striking back today. We are striking back for the victims of crime. We are striking back for those people on the front line—the police officers who want to do their job and who cannot. We are striking back for small and family businesses that have seen higher insurance premiums. We are striking back for the workers who go to work in those small and family businesses and have their hours curtailed because of a decision that the business had to take to close the front doors in order to deal with another break-in.

I am talking about people like Ravi—half a dozen times in 18 months. I felt his pain when I went there and saw the look on his face. Ravi's biggest concern was not the impact on him; it was that his staff did not get a shift that day because he could not open the doors. They are the people who represent small and family business. I say to the member: there will be a change when it comes to the youth crime crisis. Laws will be changed, police will have a government that has their back and the days of excuses from a bad Labor government will be over.

(Time expired)

Thompson, Mr T

Mr DICK: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' At a time when Queenslanders are hurting from cost-of-living pressures—particularly Queenslanders in regional parts of our state—why did the government agree to the demand of Troy Thompson to be suspended on full pay for a year so that he could take a fully funded holiday at taxpayers' expense when, instead, this disgraced falsifier and fraudster could have been sacked?

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. With reference to standing order 115, questions must be brief, with no lengthy preamble. I put to you that that was a lengthy preamble.

Mr SPEAKER: I will allow the question.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Firstly, to the member: thank you. I note that for 250 days Councillor Thompson took a full salary. For 250 days Councillor Thompson caused chaos and dysfunction in the council.

Mr Dick: You should have sacked him.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I take the interjection from the former treasurer and remind him that he is the former treasurer. You are no longer in government, so let's work with that. I say to the former treasurer: for 250 days Councillor Thompson took a full salary. The ratepayers of that magnificent city wanted a circuit breaker and the circuit breaker was given. Within barely two weeks of coming to office, the minister did what the former government could not and provided a circuit breaker. The minister used

the circuit breaker as per the show cause notice given by those opposite. I wondered about the show cause notice so I had a look at the letter to the suspended mayor of the Townsville City Council. In it were some very interesting things. In fact, one of the paragraphs on page 4 says—

... in particular, I consider that the proposed dismissal ...

The reason it says 'proposed dismissal' is that I would suggest an earlier version had 'dismissal' rather than 'suspension', which is throughout the rest of it. I will tell you what I suspect. I believe that the former local government minister may have said that a dismissal was not possible, and I think there might have been a bit of toing and froing at the eleventh hour. There is a reason: when somebody did the 'track changes', they might have missed one. I would like the former minister to explain whether or not the former premier issued a direction.

After 250 days of dysfunction and 250 days of Councillor Thompson taking a full salary, a new minister in 2½ weeks accepted a suspension from that mayor. That has finally given clear air for the council to get to work and do what the former government did not allow it to for 250 days.

Youth Justice, Legislation

Mr LISTER: My question is to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity. Will the Attorney outline how the LNP government's Making Queensland Safer Laws will ensure there are consequences for action embedded into the Youth Justice Act, and is the Attorney aware of any alternative approaches to ensuring youth offenders are held to account for their crimes?

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I thank the member for Southern Downs for that most important question. The member for Southern Downs, like all of the members on this side of the House and a few members opposite, understands that one of the most important issues facing Queenslanders is the juvenile justice system. Crime rates have gone through the roof because of those members opposite. Those opposite today, within a short period of time, have shown that they have never been in opposition. They do not even understand how to ask a question to the Premier.

I say to the member for Southern Downs and all of those on this side of the House who care about the youth crime crisis: we are doing what we said we would do. We are introducing the Making Queensland Safer Laws. We will remove detention as a last resort. If you are a juvenile who does the crime, you will do the time. That will apply for the 13 most serious offences in Queensland. That is what is happening. People in Goondiwindi are dealing with juvenile crime. Just this week I was talking to the mayor, Lawrence Springborg, about what is going on in relation to that.

Mr Lister: A great man.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I take that interjection. He is a great man, a former member for Southern Downs. He understands what is going on in relation to the youth crime crisis. That is why we must look at those 13 serious offences. If juveniles commit those crimes, they will get the time. Let's reflect on some of them. Those who commit robbery will be liable for 14 years imprisonment rather than seven. That is what the soft-on-crime former Labor government did. When it comes to serious assault of a police officer, the Making Queensland Safer Laws will mean that a juvenile will be liable for 14 years imprisonment rather than the seven years they could have received under the soft-on-crime former Labor government.

I received a message from Kylie from my electorate—my former neighbour who had been broken into three times. She said—

The counselling my children are going through is not only a costly process but also the emotional roller-coaster due to being broken into three times is devastating.

When those opposite say that the juvenile crime rates are rubbish, I say: wake up and start listening to your constituents. The reason opposition members are on that side of the House and we are on this side is that we are doing what we said we would do: making Queensland safer.

Influenza, Vaccination

Ms GRACE: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' The government has said that it will listen to experts, so will the Premier listen to medical experts and commit to continuing Labor's free flu shot program for all Queenslanders, reducing the cost burden of health care on Queensland families?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the honourable member for what is an important question about an important issue. I want to acknowledge the fact that she has asked an important question about an important issue. It is one that the health minister is spending considerable time looking at. I can assure the member that he is working to make sure that a couple of things happen: that the important message about vaccines gets out there; and that we are able to deliver that service to Queenslanders across the state and in a way they can afford.

The question was a good one, if I may have the opportunity to answer it. The member asked a good question about that vaccine program and whether or not it should be delivered for free. The member will know that there has been some correspondence and some words in the media about the fact that it would be good to give a lot of notice on that. That is the case. It is why the health minister is working towards it and making sure he is in a position to find a way. He is also working with the Commonwealth. I make the point that that service will need to be delivered in March or April—an important time—so it would be contained in the current Queensland budget. The minister went looking for that, but I am afraid I have to report to the House that those opposite did not leave one dollar for it—not one dollar!

Within a month of an election loss the shadow Treasurer, who probably knew what was in that budget, comes in here and says, 'Perhaps the minister should look at funding this.' Yes, and he is doing all he can to try to find that money because it was not in the budget. How on earth could they have a situation where not one dollar was put in place for a program that ran the year before? If the program was worthy and it ran the year before, why would the member not put the money in it?

Mr BAILEY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order under standing order 118(b). The question was very specific about whether or not it will be free and the Premier has refused to answer the specific question to this point after two minutes and 20 seconds.

Mr SPEAKER: And the Premier still has 40 seconds remaining.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Allow me to go back to where I started for the benefit of the shadow minister who has come back to the frontbench. Is he ready? The minister is working towards finding a way and the reason he has to work towards finding a way is because there was not one dollar left. I cannot believe the gall of those opposite in coming in here and trying to lecture the health minister, who is working to try to make amends for their mess. How could we be in a situation where after one month—you would think those opposite would be ducking for cover out of embarrassment. The minister is trying to find the money to provide a worthy service that those opposite did not believe was worthy enough to fund.

Victims of Crime

Mr KRAUSE: My question is to the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services. How will the LNP government's Making Queensland Safer Laws put the rights of victims ahead of those who commit crime, and is the minister aware of previous contrasting approaches to protecting the rights of victims of crime?

Mrs GERBER: I thank the member for Scenic Rim for his advocacy for victims of crime in his own community. I have sat in this chamber for four years now and heard on many occasions the support and the voice he has provided to victims of crime in this state.

I am very pleased to be able to inform the member for Scenic Rim that our Making Queensland Safer Laws will put the rights of victims before the rights of offenders. We will rewrite the sentencing principles so the primary consideration for magistrates and judges in our courts is the impact of youth crime on victims. We will reopen the Childrens Court to victims, their families and the media so that victims can see justice done. We will ensure that the full criminal history of a youth offender is before the court if they are sentenced as an adult and we will remove the principle of detention as a last resort so there are consequences for action. This is what our Making Queensland Safer Laws will do, but that is not all. We have \$40 million on the table to deliver for victims of crime a professional victims advocate service—end-to-end support for victims of crime who for too long have fallen through the cracks in the system, who for too long have felt abandoned by the previous government and not heard.

Under the previous Labor government, 16 innocent Queenslanders lost their life to the youth crime crisis. A family member of one of them sits in the chamber today; the member for Capalaba, Russell Field. He lost his son and his unborn grandson to a child who has a rap sheet as long as my

arm, a youth criminal out on bail. He sits here in this chamber as evidence of the need for the Making Queensland Safer Laws—Adult Crime, Adult Time. Queenslanders need hope, change and new laws for victims of crime such as the member for Capalaba and all family members of those lost to the youth crime crisis created by those opposite. Every one of the over 280,000 people who have been victims of the youth crime crisis created by the former Labor government, which weakened laws, testifies to the need for the change that we will make and the laws that will make our communities safe again.

Mr SPEAKER: Before calling the member for Waterford, I remind honourable members that comments are to be directed through the chair. It does help to keep the House under control.

Electricity Prices

Ms FENTIMAN: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something,' and that governments should be driving down costs for Queenslanders. Will the Premier now commit to keeping Labor's \$1,000 energy rebate funded by progressive coal royalties so that Queenslanders can continue to benefit from this vital cost-of-living relief?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I would have thought the opposition could have scrambled to redraft a question. The fact that the same member who omitted the money in the budget for the flu jabs asked a question about a rebate that is not in the budget that the former government handed down will tell us everything we need to know. I look at the budget and if the honourable member can tell me where it is in the budget, the question might have a little more credibility. When asked during the campaign about it, the then premier, now Leader of the Opposition, refused to say that the thousand dollars was there.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Waterford, you have asked your question.

Mr CRISAFULLI: The now Leader of the Opposition refused to say the money was there.

We know how tough Queenslanders are doing it and I will tell honourable members why they are doing it tough. It is because Queensland has had the biggest power price rises across the country in the last 12 months, 19.9 per cent, three times the national average. What is unique to Queensland? The major power generation source in this state went offline because it was not maintained properly. A government failed to provide a maintenance guarantee to keep those power plants running and, on the back of that, it exploded. For 1,100 days they ducked, they dived, they refused to accept responsibility, they got a report, they refused to release the report and in the end—

Mr BAILEY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The question was very specific about power rebates. The Premier is going around the world on everything except the specifics of the question. I respectfully suggest that he comes back to the question.

Mr SPEAKER: And the Premier has one minute and 16 seconds to round out his answer.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will get back to talking about power generation, thank you very much to the member for Miller. The reason people's power bills surged was because of a failure to maintain the assets. The reason a rebate was given was because Queensland had the highest rise in mainland Australia. I say to the honourable member who asked the question that she knows there is no money in the forwards for that. However, as I have said to Queenslanders, we know how hard they are doing it and so we are working on a couple of things. One is to make sure that we can give them short-term relief because they desperately need it. They desperately need it because insurance premiums are rising because of youth crime and a failure to build water mitigation. Their outgoings are rising because their rent or housing repayments keep going up because of supply issues. They are rising because in the end they are spending more time stuck behind vehicles on their way home because of a government that has not planned.

We understand what they need. They need a mature government that does two things: one is to provide short-term relief wherever possible to help people and the second is to work on the long-term structural issues that have pervaded because of a decade of incompetence of a government that could not even keep the lights on in this state.

Police Service, Personnel

Mr HUNT: My question is to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. How will the LNP government's Making Queensland Safer Laws fix skyrocketing attrition rates of frontline police, and is the minister aware of previous alternatives?

Mr PURDIE: I thank the member for the question. I want to acknowledge the member for Nicklin for returning to the chamber and bringing with him 33 years of frontline policing experience. I also want to acknowledge the new members for Mundingburra and Mackay, who collectively bring over 50 years of policing experience into this chamber. That adds to the experience we already have in the chamber in the member for Lockyer, myself and the member for Burdekin. There is 168 years of frontline policing experience on this side of the chamber, on the government side of the chamber, which is why on this side we understand why police do what they do and what they need to do it. That is why we are going to provide it.

It is not only the former police officers in the chamber or the thousands of police officers across Queensland who have been demanding change and calling for backup whom we have listened to in devising our Making Queensland Safer Laws and the broader making Queensland safer plan; it is also victims across Queensland. It is the hundreds of victims whom we spoke to in our travels while in opposition—victims like the member for Capalaba, who has given up the twilight of his life to serve in parliament. When he should be enjoying time with his grandchild, he is in here representing the people of Capalaba and rattling the cage for stronger laws to drive down crime and drive down victim numbers, and that is what we are going to do.

We are going to give back the laws that the police need to do their jobs. We know that police have been leaving in droves—in record high numbers—because they are sick and tired of fighting a youth crime crisis with both hands tied behind their backs. The catalyst for that youth crime crisis is the faces opposite that are looking at me now—the same faces that were on the frontbench back in 2015 when they proudly announced that their top priority when they won government was to water down the laws available to our police, and now we have record high victim numbers and we have the lowest police-to-population ratio on record.

Today I am proud to stand here with my former police colleagues in this chamber to represent all of the police on the front line and honour our commitment to them and all Queenslanders on our day one top priority: to introduce the Making Queensland Safer Laws, which will give back the laws that our police need to do their jobs. We do back our police. We trust the police with the laws they need. By giving the police the laws, the tools and the resources they need to do their jobs, we will provide safety where people live, we will provide community safety and we will drive down victim numbers. I look forward to working with all members of this parliament, not only the former police officers but also the Attorney-General, the member for Nanango; the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support, the member for Currumbin; and the member for Whitsunday to drive down crime.

(Time expired)

Gold Coast, Affordable Housing

Ms SCANLON: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' Why, then, did the Premier scrap hundreds of affordable homes on the Gold Coast after the Premier said that his government would deliver a place to call home for more Queenslanders?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I believe that Queenslanders spoke about the housing policy of the former government. Queenslanders spoke about it, and I will tell members why: three years ago the now opposition stood in this place and announced a \$2 billion fund—three years ago. As of today, over three years later, there is not one single Queensland living in one of those newly built homes—not one. People spoke about the former government's housing plan, and I will tell members why: there has not been enough supply because, rather than work with councils, those opposite have been at war with councils. I thank the honourable member for Bonney for his advocacy on this project. The reason is that the council spoke loudly against it—a unanimous decision of the council.

If we want to deal with the housing crisis created by those opposite, this is what is required: one, a dedicated infrastructure fund to ensure we can increase supply because, in the end, unless there is supply we will continue to have the same feeding frenzy that exists; two, a partnership with local government to make sure that local councils understand that they need to be part of the planning process and deliver that supply; and, three, to welcome back the community housing sector to this state. In the last decade in Australia, from both political colours across other states, we have seen an

explosion in the community housing sector, yet in Queensland it has all but stagnated. The reason it has stagnated is that those opposite launched war on it. One of the first things that the now Manager of Opposition Business did when he came to office was scrap a Logan renewal project which would have housed thousands of vulnerable Queenslanders. Those opposite scrapped it.

Finally, I want to talk about social housing, because there is nothing more cruel than a political party that espouses being the champions of those who are vulnerable but does not deliver for them. I look at that housing fund and I think to myself, 'Doesn't it show you everything you need to know?'

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I appreciate the latitude that has been given to the Premier, but standing order 118(b) is quite clear. The question was very specific as to why new homes on the Gold Coast were scrapped. We are yet to hear any answer from the Premier in relation to the scrapping of homes on the Gold Coast.

Mr SPEAKER: I did think that the Premier did address that, if the Premier is happy to reinforce that.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. The council spoke loudly about that. The council wants to work with us to deliver more housing, and we intend to do that. Just because a former government after 10 years did not plan properly does not mean that you go carving up green space. There is a difference between providing housing for the vulnerable, housing for the aspirational, housing for the young, housing for the old and chopping up green space, and that is what those opposite had resorted to. They were so desperate to masquerade as if they were doing something that they were prepared to chop up green space. We will deliver housing for the vulnerable, for the aspirational and for everyday Queenslanders.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I will hear questions in silence, please.

Infrastructure

Mr BOOTHMAN: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations. Will the Deputy Premier advise the impact of cost overruns on state infrastructure, including for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any alternative approaches to delivering vital state infrastructure?

Mr BLEIJIE: I thank the honourable member for Theodore for the question; I could not have written a question better myself. I can advise the honourable member of the infrastructure blowouts, and let us start with the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro scheme—the central tenet of Labor's Energy and Jobs Plan that it said was going to cost \$12 billion. It spent years saying, 'No, it's \$12 billion.' The then opposition had been saying, 'We're hearing it's \$24 billion.' We were told, 'No, no, it's still \$12 billion.' Within two days of becoming the energy minister—which I enjoyed for a couple of days; thank you, Mr Janetzki—I said to the department, 'By the way, how much is the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro scheme?', and I was told that it was \$37 billion. Did no-one ask the question for years? It was supposedly \$12 billion. Those opposite knew; they misled. They did not want Queenslanders to know about the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro scheme. Then we have all of the other ones such as CopperString and the Olympic and Paralympic Games. There is a \$181 million blowout on three minor venues alone. Why? The CFMEU tax—BPIC. We suspended it immediately because we are putting workers' health and safety and workers' salaries ahead of the CFMEU.

As I said earlier, productivity is down. I did see former minister de Brenni out the front on the President's balcony looking at his comrades downstairs and waving to them as he was being clapped. I hear that former minister de Brenni is spinning to the media that he was just a little early for the Governor's arrival and he did not know that they were going to be there!

Queenslanders voted for a fresh start. The first thing the Labor Party did, flying in the face of Queenslanders, was to vote in the two failed former leaders, who just lost an election, as its leadership team. That is the best they have got! I saw a story recently about which games might be in for the 2032 Olympics and I noticed that cricket was in there. As the Premier knows, I love cricket. I look at the leadership team of the opposition leader and the deputy opposition leader, who just lost the election, and I have to give this cricket analogy: the opposition leader is the nightwatchman of the Labor Party team. He is the nightwatchman! That is the best they have got. If members do not know what the nightwatchman is, it is basically the worst player they put up to protect the rest. Look at them! Who

would they have chosen? None of them! They brought back former minister Bailey. 'Blowout budget Bailey' is back on the frontbench! What an absolute disgrace! Nothing changes under the Labor Party. The fresh start is this side—the LNP!

Government members: Hear, hear!

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: I would remind the member to use correct titles.

Domestic Gas Supply

Mr KATTER: My question is to the Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development. Domestic industry in Queensland lost its competitive market in gas when the LNG export market started. Given the constraint this has put on our industry, including closure of Gibson Island fertiliser plant, will the government now finally deploy an effective gas reserve policy like that celebrated program in Western Australia?

Mr LAST: I thank the member for the question. It highlights the importance of the gas sector in this state—certainly the opportunities that now present going forward. Whilst we may not have a domestic gas reserve policy at the present time, we have a very vibrant export market. We also have a domestic market which underpins the gas supply in this state, but also, crucially, to those southern states. If members look at gas production in Queensland—90 per cent to LNG, 10 per cent to domestic use—that is worth \$22.4 billion in revenue to the Queensland economy over the 12 months to September this year. It is a major contributor to the Queensland economy and underpins many of those jobs that we are talking about in the resources sector.

Australian energy security relies on gas and the rapid responses during peak demand and those periods of low renewable generation. It is also absolutely crucial for our manufacturing sector, particularly in the southern states—something that we are very much aware of. Whilst the southern states have imposed restrictions and moratoriums on the development of onshore gas reserves, Queensland has not imposed those same conditions. In the 2023-24 financial year Queensland supplied more than 36 petajoules to the southern states. I will explain to the chamber what that means. One petajoule is enough to power approximately 19,000 homes. Thirty-six petajoules represents enough energy to power over 680,000 homes. That highlights just how crucial gas supply is in the energy mix going forward. We know that the Australian Energy Market Operator is predicting shortfalls across the east coast gas market and Queensland is ideally positioned to capitalise on that.

When I walked into my ministerial office there was a pile of applications for petroleum leases on my desk, with the oldest one dating back to 2019. They were sitting on my desk gathering dust because those opposite would not make a decision. I have signed off on those applications and given those companies the certainty they need going forward because it is good for Queensland—it is revenue and jobs for Queensland. I will continue working with KAP to ensure that those gas reserves come first and foremost domestically before they go overseas.

Energy Projects

Mr WATTS: My question is to the Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership. Will the Treasurer update the House on the impact of cost overruns on state energy projects under the previous administration and is the Treasurer aware of any alternative approaches?

Mr JANETZKI: Let me start by thanking the member for Toowoomba North, my good friend and colleague across James Street, for the question and now also, might I add, the holder of the safest margin in Toowoomba. After 10 years of a bad government Queenslanders have voted for change. They have voted for a fresh start. Of all the failures of that 10-year Labor government, one of the worst was their inability to deliver any project on time or on budget. They never, ever respected taxpayers' money—ever, ever, ever! The former treasurer never, ever respected taxpayers' money. As the Deputy Premier has already colourfully explored, there is no greater example of the opposite side's inability to respect taxpayers' money than Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro. If one looks back across the history of Pioneer-Burdekin, of course it is the project blowouts and the cost overruns, but it is the way in which those announcements were delivered. It started at \$7 billion, then \$12 billion, then \$18 billion, then \$24 billion and then we get into government and we see the truth—the truth is \$36.8 billion. Those opposite had no idea from one day to the next. Their Energy and Jobs Plan that was built on this project was a hoax. That project was never going to happen.

When CopperString was announced by Premier Palaszczuk it was \$1.8 billion. Then it went to \$5 billion in March 2023. Then in August this year it went to \$6.2 billion. Then we formed government and we understand now it is \$9 billion. Powerlink has said it is \$9 billion. Treasury has said it is \$9 billion. It is only the former treasurer who is coming up with his own numbers and quibbling over it. It is clear that the former government cannot and never could control expenses on these important state building projects.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Quarrelling across the chamber will cease.

Mr JANETZKI: These project overruns display more than financial mismanagement from those opposite; it is a betrayal of the taxpayers of Queensland, who expect their projects to be delivered on time and on budget. That is exactly what this government will do.

Drugs, Pill Testing

Mr BAILEY: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' Will the Premier listen to medical experts and keep pill testing in Queensland when the service saved the life of someone in possession of a dangerous synthetic opioid just last week?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the honourable member for the question. We have been very clear about our resistance to pill testing. We were before and after the election. We do not believe there is a safe way to take drugs and we do not believe that you should send a signal that sometimes drug use should be tolerated in some locations to some levels.

What the minister is doing, and he is doing it in a calm and methodical way, is looking at what lessons can be learnt in terms of education for young people. That is very important. The idea of education is something that we should embrace. Is there an opportunity to use a forum—whether that be schoolies or whether that be a festival—to send a message that there is not a safe amount of drug use? I do not think anyone in this chamber today would stand up and say that drug use is something we should in any way, shape or form be tolerating. We just should not. To roll out the welcome mat and send that message is something that we are not prepared to do. What we are prepared to do is deal with things in a calm and methodical way. If there are lessons that can be learnt, like are there opportunities through interaction with young people to send a message, we will definitely do that. We will look for every opportunity to do that. If the question is do we believe that there is a way that you can say to people if you get this tested—

Mr BAILEY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The question was very specific. I take it the answer is no.

Mr SPEAKER: That is not a point of order.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I do believe the member is a longstanding member and he should know standing rules and he should know not to abuse the process of an interjection. That is being abusive of an interjection. We do not believe there is a safe amount of drugs that can be taken, and that goes for all drugs.

In the lead-up to the election, a paper was prepared by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet under the leadership of somebody who was politically very closely linked to the Labor Party. It said that they were exploring whether or not to make cannabis legal. They were looking to make cannabis legal in this state. In the end they got caught out so with a moment's notice the former premier had to walk away from that.

It shows you where they have got to. It shows that a party once steeped in the traditions and values of the rule of law has crab-walked so far away from that that it is prepared to roll out the welcome mat. We are not. The answer to the member's question is clear: we do not support rolling out the welcome mat to drugs in any way, shape or form and we do not believe there is a safe amount that you can take.

Infrastructure, Costs

Mr CRANDON: My question is to the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training. How will the LNP government ensure taxpayer money is respected when delivering major projects, and is the minister aware of any contrasting approaches?

Ms BATES: I thank the member for Coomera for the question and I also thank him for taking on the role of chair of the very important Governance, Energy and Finance Committee. I cannot think of anybody with better qualifications. I also congratulate you, Mr Speaker, on your elevation. It is lovely to see you in the chair.

The Crisafulli LNP government has been elected to deliver a fresh start for Queensland with the Right Plan for Queensland's Future. As part of the right plan, the LNP government has committed to returning respect for taxpayers' money, including by stopping the expensive budget blowouts that occurred time and time again under the failed former Miles-Palaszczuk Labor government. The Premier has tasked me, as the Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, with setting the discipline across government for responsible expenditure. As the GOC minister, this includes me working with fellow shareholding ministers to enhance the performance of Queensland government owned corporations and to deliver the best possible services and value for Queenslanders' dollar.

This respect for taxpayers' money, a central pillar of the LNP government's right plan, stands in stark contrast to the approach taken by Labor under the member for Murrumba and the member for Woodridge. A particularly striking example of Labor's failures and obfuscation is on full display when it comes to CopperString. When the former Palaszczuk Labor government had Powerlink take over the CopperString project in March 2023, it was budgeted at \$5 billion. On 29 August 2024, less than two months before the election, the member for Woodridge—

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The cross-chamber quarrelling will cease. The member for Mudgeeraba is the only one who has the call.

Ms BATES: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for McConnel, you are warned.

Ms BATES: The Deputy Premier referred to the Leader of the Opposition as the 'nightwatchman'. I do know cricket and I do know how to score so I now call the Deputy Leader of the Opposition 'silly mid-off' and the shadow Treasurer 'silly mid-on'.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order under standing order 118(b). Clearly the member has strayed well away from the question. I ask her to come back to reading out her answer to the question.

Mr SPEAKER: That is not a point of order.

Ms BATES: In March 2023, when the former Palaszczuk Labor government had Powerlink take over CopperString, it was budgeted at \$5 billion. On 29 August 2024, less than two months before the election, the member for Woodridge announced that the cost of CopperString had increased to \$6.2 billion. On 12 September 2024, in answering a question on notice from the member for Traeger, the member for Woodridge restated that CopperString's updated cost was \$6.2 billion.

(Time expired)

Ministerial Charter Letters

Ms MULLEN: My question is to the Premier. The Premier said, 'When I say something, it will mean something.' Why, then, has the Premier not released measurable targets for all ministers' key performance indicators outlined in their charter letters, and will the Premier reissue charter letters with clear, measurable goals?

Mr CRISAFULLI: KPIs matter to me and they matter to Queenslanders. That is very refreshing to see after a generation of a government that refused to reveal how important they are. Earlier today in my ministerial statement I spoke about how one of the first things I did was to meet with the cabinet and outline my expectations about what good government looks like in Queensland. Today I can reveal to the House that I also met with and spoke to the directors-general about the importance of making sure that targets are met. Here are some examples of what good governments mean when they set targets.

Ambulance ramping, which the former government said would be at 28 per cent six months before the election, remains stubbornly high at over 40 per cent. That figure is amongst the highest ever recorded. When this government came to power we inherited the worst ambulance ramping figure

in the nation. I contrast that with what those opposite faced when they came to office: ambulance ramping was at 15 per cent. At the time of their departure it remained well above 40 per cent, which is the worst in the nation. This government has set the target that ambulance ramping will be under 30 per cent.


Victims of crime numbers have continued to surge. Queensland has more victims of crime than anywhere else in the nation. There will be fewer victims of crime, and all four relevant ministers have that in their charter letters. The housing fund created in this state has not delivered a single new social home. In the housing minister's charter there is an instruction that every single cent of the Housing Investment Fund will be used for new supply.

Every minister of this government knows my expectations of them and Queenslanders' expectations of them. That is a big contrast. The irony is that I look over and see the same failed sets of eyes that presided over a government that did not have targets and that did not have accountability. I see the same failed Treasurer, the same four failed health ministers, the same failed industrial relations minister who rolled out the welcome mat, the same failed transport minister who became known as 'budget blowout'—insert surname—because he could not deliver projects on time, the same failed youth justice minister and the same failed housing minister. It is the guilty party. They are looking back at us. Nothing has changed with the Labor Party. They have not listened and Queenslanders can expect four years of an opposition that is not fit for or worthy of government.

Mr SPEAKER: The time for question time has expired.


SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Cameras in Chamber

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Before we move to the next item of business, I make members aware that television cameras will be filming portions of government business in the House this morning. I also acknowledge Darren Zanow, the former member for Ipswich West, who is in the House this morning.

MAKING QUEENSLAND SAFER BILL

Introduction

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.28 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Childrens Court Act 1992, the Criminal Code, the Youth Justice Act 1992 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I also table a statement of exceptional circumstances. I nominate the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024 [\[203\]](#).

Tabled paper: Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024, explanatory notes [\[204\]](#).

Tabled paper: Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024, statement of compatibility with human rights [\[205\]](#).

Tabled paper: Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024, statement about exceptional circumstances [\[206\]](#).

I rise to introduce this bill, the first bill we will introduce in the 58th Parliament of Queensland, as we said we would. It represents an important promise to the people of Queensland to restore safety within our communities and to deliver a fresh start for Queensland. Our top priority is turning the tide on Queensland's youth crime crisis and making Queenslanders safer. Queenslanders deserve to feel safe in their communities, their homes and their businesses. Queenslanders have spoken, and this bill is a direct response to the mandate given to us by the people of Queensland. The bill amends the Childrens Court Act 1992, the Criminal Code and the Youth Justice Act 1992 to hold young offenders to account and recognise and support victims of crime.

The centrepiece of our laws is the introduction of Adult Crime, Adult Time to ensure young offenders who commit serious offences face adult-level consequences for their actions. Under our framework, young people convicted of 13 prescribed offences, including murder, manslaughter, wounding, robbery and unlawfully entering or using vehicles, will face the same minimum, maximum and mandatory penalties that currently apply to adults in the Criminal Code. For example, a young offender who is found guilty of murder will be subject to mandatory life imprisonment with a mandatory minimum non-parole period of 20 years, just as an adult offender would be for taking the life of a Queenslanders because the life they have taken should not be minimised.

Consistent with adopting adult sentencing, the bill also extends the maximum duration of probation orders from two years to three years and also removes restorative justice orders as a sentencing option for young offenders convicted of the prescribed offences. Although not a part of the bill, we are also establishing an expert panel, to commence from early 2025, to provide advice to government on offences which could be included in the future as part of the Adult Crime, Adult Time framework.

The Making Queensland Safer Laws are the first strike back against a youth crime crisis but they will not be the last. I say to members of this House: we will continue to make sure that Queenslanders know they will have a government that listens and responds where future change is needed. As we committed, we are putting victims at the centre of youth justice.

The bill removes from the Youth Justice Act 1992 both the principle of detention as a last resort and the principle that a non-custodial order is better than detention for promoting a child's reintegration into the community. The bill mandates that courts sentencing young offenders must give primary regard to the impact of the offence on the victim. Previously, courts were required to balance various factors, with the impact on the victim being only one among many considerations. This will require the sentencing court to give greater regard to the impact on the victim over other factors when determining the appropriate sentence, putting victims at the centre of youth justice.

We are also streamlining the process for victims of youth crime and reducing the burden for them in accessing important information. The bill does this by removing the requirement for a victim or family member of a deceased victim to opt in to the eligible persons register to be kept updated on the offender's custody movements, including release dates. The amendments move to an opt-out model for direct victims and immediate family members of deceased victims so that those persons do not need to apply to be placed on the register.

Consistent with our government's focus on transparency and upholding victims' rights to access and participate in the justice process, we are moving to fully open the Childrens Court for victims, their families and the media, as we said we would because the former changes were not going to be sufficient. This expansion is achieved by two changes. First, the bill extends the right to attend proceedings to relatives of victims who are not deceased and are not representing other victims, ensuring broader inclusion of those impacted by crime. Second, it removes the court's discretionary power to exclude victims' representatives and accredited media from proceedings on the grounds of preventing prejudice to the proper administration of justice or for the safety of any person. Importantly, courts will retain powers under other laws and its inherent authority to exclude individuals for contempt, maintaining necessary safeguards for judicial proceedings.

We are also reforming the admissibility of childhood criminal history, enabling courts to be provided with a complete and transparent account of an offender's history when making sentencing decisions. The bill amends the Youth Justice Act to provide that police cautions, restorative justice agreements and contraventions of supervised release orders which occur after commencement will appear on the child's criminal history when sentenced as a child. If you wipe out someone's life, if you wipe out the feeling of safety in the community, you do not deserve to have your record wiped clean when you turn 18. The amendments also provide that a child's criminal history will be admissible when the person is being sentenced as an adult for up to five years after the outcome for the last childhood offence.

The bill also creates a pathway to manage offenders who turn 18 years of age to immediately transfer to adult correctional facilities. Under this new framework, detainees will be transferred to adult custody within one month after they turn 18, regardless of whether they are on remand or sentenced. This will ensure adult offenders are detained in adult correctional facilities and not in youth detention centres designed for children.


In keeping with our commitments, all reforms, except for those related to the eligible persons register and to criminal histories, will commence on assent. The reforms relating to the eligible persons register and criminal histories will commence in 2025 via proclamation to enable essential operational and implementation activities to occur.

For too long Queenslanders have been calling on their government to deliver real action on youth crime and that government did not listen. This bill delivers on that call, sending a clear message to young offenders that crime will not be tolerated in Queensland and that, under this government, they will face consequences that are commensurate to the gravity of their actions.

The bill delivers a decisive step in our commitment to community safety and placing victims at the centre of our justice system. This commitment to ensuring consequences for offenders is matched with our commitment to ending the cycle of violence. That is why we will also deliver gold standard early intervention and rehabilitation programs to put young people back on the right track. This balanced approach will ensure that, while there are serious consequences for certain young offenders, there is also a pathway for rehabilitation for those who take it.

The timeframes to pass the bill before Christmas accurately reflect our election commitment. This will be a government that listens and acts and a government that finally delivers a safer Queensland. This will be a government that has at its focus a safer community and fewer victims of crime. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.35 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.


Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.


Referral to Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee.

Declared Urgent; Portfolio Committee, Reporting Date

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (11.35 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That, under the provisions of standing order 137, the Making Queensland Safer Bill be declared an urgent bill and the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee report to the House on the Making Queensland Safer Bill by Friday, 6 December 2024.

 **Mr de BRENNI** (Springwood—ALP) (11.36 am): I rise to speak to the urgency motion in relation to the legislation which has just been introduced. The opposition will not oppose the urgency motion. The Constitution recognises that this is a prerogative of the House, as do the standing orders.

Since 2012, the House has resolved to declare bills urgent on 55 occasions. On many of those occasions the LNP at the time opposed those urgency motions. In November 2020, the then attorney introduced a bill and moved an urgency motion with respect to amendments to legislation around effective operations of youth detention facilities. Part of that bill was to amend the Youth Justice Act 1992 to allow the chief executive to delegate powers to appropriately qualified temporary detention centre employees, including those who were not Public Service officers. They were amendments to assist Queensland's adult corrective services and youth detention sectors to operate safely and effectively. Ironically, the now Deputy Premier said then that the bill was—

... an important bill that should have appropriate scrutiny because it deals with restrictions on people's lives ...

This too is an important bill and, by the Deputy Premier's own logic, should be subject to appropriate scrutiny as well. It is hard to see how one week can provide appropriate time for stakeholders and the committee to provide that appropriate scrutiny.

The opposition would support an additional week of hearings in this House and we would be willing to sit again in December to allow the government to meet its timeframe to pass the laws before Christmas. Like most Queenslanders, we have only just moments ago seen these laws. In fact, we asked a week ago to be briefed on them—a request that has not even been replied to.

The Premier said he told Queenslanders the laws were written. During a televised leaders debate I am advised that the leader of the LNP stated, 'I have written the legislation. By the end of the year it will be law.' At any time between then and now—after the election, even last week, perhaps on Monday after cabinet—

Ms Farmer: This morning.

Mr de BRENNI: I take the interjection from the shadow minister—anytime—Queenslanders could have then seen these laws and given consideration to them. Instead, the LNP chose to keep them hidden until today. They chose to avoid scrutiny of a bill that many stakeholders have said is important.


This is much like the situation that occurred last time the LNP were in office with the Penalties and Sentences and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012. At the time, the Queensland Law Society reflected on amendments that may impinge on liberties. The Queensland Law Society said in relation to the government's approach—

This prevented in-depth analysis, thereby increasing the risk of unintended drafting consequences remaining unidentified. With no previous public consultation on the bill, we questioned whether this consultation was sufficient in a democratic system of government.

More recently on other matters the Law Society said—

It is in all our best interests to ensure proposed laws work as effectively and efficiently as possible. This requires meaningful and robust consultation with stakeholders.

Ultimately, this LNP government has decided that it will pursue these urgent amendments. We recognise that that is its prerogative. The opposition will not be opposing this motion.

 **Mr BERKMAN** (Maiwar—Grn) (11.41 am): I simply cannot support an urgency motion on legislation of this significance. As one of the very recently appointed members of the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee, I would be completely abrogating my responsibilities around meaningful scrutiny of legislation if I did not stand to oppose this urgency motion.

We have already heard stakeholders in the media this morning indicating how serious these changes are, how important they are and how important it is to get input and the right scrutiny from stakeholders who know how this will play out and who know what it looks like. We cannot overlook the fact that this bill proposes to again override the Human Rights Act. If I am not mistaken, this House has suspended the Human Rights Act on only two occasions. On both of those occasions it was for the purpose of locking up more kids.

A government member: Criminals. Locking up criminals.

Mr BERKMAN: Kids. The evidence is incredibly clear on this. The earlier kids are exposed to the youth justice system the more likely they are to reoffend and the more likely they are to reoffend more seriously in the future. These are the kinds of consequences we will see if this legislation—

Mrs GERBER: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker. There is a bill before the House and I believe the member on his feet is debating the content of the bill.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Member for Maiwar, in your last few sentences you have begun to stray into the substance of the bill. I would ask you to confine your comments to the question before us, which is about the declaration of urgency and the timeframe for consideration in committee.

Mr BERKMAN: Without adequate time for the committee to consider this legislation, these consequences will not be properly considered. The legislation will not be properly scrutinised. We will make mistakes. We will miss the important detail around how this is in fact the kind of legislation that will make our communities less safe in future. We cannot pretend that locking up kids is not going to harden them and leave communities less safe.

Dr ROWAN: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker. The member for Maiwar is pre-empting debate and getting into the substance of the bill.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Maiwar, that is a valid point of order. I ask you to be relevant to the motion before the House. I have warned you about that previously. I will give you the call again, but please speak to the motion before the House and not the substance of the bill.

Mr BERKMAN: The objections coming from government members lay bare just how little interest they have in meaningful scrutiny of this legislation. We cannot afford to let such significant legislation coast through with less than a week for submissions and less than a week for the committee that I am supposed to sit on to actually consider the detail of the legislation.


If the opposition wants to do its job in here, I would suggest that it is incumbent on it to oppose such an egregious abrogation of our obligations as parliamentarians, which are to scrutinise legislation and to ensure stakeholders and the community broadly have an opportunity to give input on it.

Division: Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Resolved in the affirmative under standing order 106(10).

QUEENSLAND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION BILL

Message from Governor

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (11.50 am): I present a message from Her Excellency the Governor.

Mr SPEAKER: The message from Her Excellency recommends the Queensland Productivity Commission Bill. The contents of the message will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the message for the information of members.

MESSAGE

QUEENSLAND PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION BILL 2024

Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, DR JEANNETTE ROSITA YOUNG AC PSM, Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intituled—


A Bill for an Act to establish the Queensland Productivity Commission

GOVERNOR

Date: 28 November 2024

Tabled paper: Message, dated 28 November 2024, from Her Excellency the Governor, recommending the Queensland Productivity Commission Bill 2024 [\[207\]](#).

Introduction

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (11.52 am): I present a bill for an act to establish the Queensland Productivity Commission. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Queensland Productivity Commission Bill 2024 [\[208\]](#).

Tabled paper: Queensland Productivity Commission Bill 2024, explanatory notes [\[209\]](#).

Tabled paper: Queensland Productivity Commission Bill 2024, statement of compatibility with human rights [\[210\]](#).

Productivity underwrites prosperity. Queensland's standard of living is derived from how productive we are. The challenge for Queensland in the 21st century is clear. We cannot hope to maintain our high standard of living without turning around our declining productivity. To remain prosperous we must be an open, trading state that is highly productive. We cannot hide behind tariff walls and we cannot hide behind sweetheart union deals if we want to succeed this century.

Unfortunately, under the previous government productivity settings had us heading in the wrong direction. Productivity slowed before going into neutral and then in many sectors into reverse. Just look at BPIC, Labor's CFMEU tax. Queenslanders paid more for less, there were billions in blowouts and many key projects have been set back years. Productivity matters.

It can be easy to dismiss productivity as an academic concept that is off in the far distance. In fact, our opponents often diminish the importance of productivity in this way, partly to hide from their own record of failure. However, the real-world effects of lower economic productivity are lower economic growth, lower wages, higher unemployment and higher inflation. In other words, the reality is that low productivity burns a hole in the hip pocket of every Queenslanders. That is why today we are delivering on our election commitment to introduce legislation before the end of 2024 to re-establish the Queensland Productivity Commission.

The commission's very first task will be putting the construction industry regulation under the microscope with a comprehensive review of the construction and building industry. An independent Queensland Productivity Commission is critical to the provision of quality economic and regulatory policy advice, and that will lift productivity, improve living standards and deliver economic growth. It is, in fact, why I vowed more than two years ago to re-establish the commission—an independent body that would unleash the great potential of our economy. By introducing this bill into the House today we are delivering on that election commitment and righting the wrongs of the previous government.

In 2020 the Queensland Productivity Commission released a report demonstrating that productivity had declined under Labor since 2015. The previous treasurer abolished the commission when it provided this awkward truth that did not suit the then Labor government's narrative. The objective of our bill is to enable the commission to operate as an independent statutory body to tackle

the challenges of a growing state and manage cost-of-living pressures. The bill will formalise its operational independence from government, confirm the commission's functions and mandate and put in place its corporate governance framework.

A full-time Productivity Commissioner, who will be appointed by the Governor in Council, will lead the organisation. Up to three other full-time or part-time commissioners may be appointed, depending on the commission's work program. The key role of the commission will be to undertake public inquiries and reviews and to provide advice on complex economic, social and regulatory matters referred to it by government. It will conduct inquiries through an open and transparent process informed by public consultation. The resulting findings and recommendations provided to government will be independent, of high quality and contribute to the policy development process.

The government will issue directions for inquiries and set guidance for overall resourcing. Control over report content and staffing will be retained by independent statutorily appointed commissioners. Initially, existing staff from the Office of Productivity and Red Tape Reduction will move to the commission. Overall, the commission will provide insights and direction to grow our economic prosperity. The commission will also be tasked with delivering Queensland's first intergenerational equity report, outlining the key issues Queenslanders face across generational lines and the long-term policy solutions that are needed.

Today we start the process of the rightful reinstatement of the Queensland Productivity Commission. It will play a key role in formulating the policies that lead to our state's prosperity. It delivers a key commitment from our 100-day plan and rights the wrongs of the previous Labor government. Re-establishing the commission will allow for independent economic, social and regulatory policy advice to the Crisafulli government so we can help to lift productivity, drive economic growth and enhance living standards for all Queenslanders. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (11.57 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to Governance, Energy and Finance Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee.

Portfolio Committee, Reporting Date

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (11.57 am), by leave, without notice: I move—


That, under the provisions of standing order 136, the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee report to the House on the Queensland Productivity Commission Bill by Friday, 31 January 2025.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

BRISBANE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (11.58 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Act 1984, the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021, the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024, the Planning Act 2016, the Planning and Environment Court Act 2016, the Public Sector Act 2022, the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the legislation

mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes, and to repeal the Path to Treaty Act 2023. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 [211].

Tabled paper: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, explanatory notes [212].

Tabled paper: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, statement of compatibility with human rights [213].

I am pleased to introduce the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 into the parliament today. Before the 2024 state election we made a commitment to the people of Queensland that within 30 days we would appoint an independent infrastructure and coordination authority to conduct a comprehensive review and map out infrastructure and transport needs for Queensland and the games within 100 days. Queenslanders strongly backed that plan at the recent state election. Queenslanders voted for a fresh start and the Crisafulli government's plan to end Labor's 1,200 days of games chaos with an independent infrastructure and coordination authority tasked with developing an implementation plan within 100 days. The 100-day review is critical to provide certainty of games infrastructure requirements and to ensure that the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games is a catalyst for delivering generational infrastructure and economic opportunities that benefit all Queenslanders no matter where they live. That is what was promised, and this bill makes that commitment to the people of Queensland.

The bill will rename the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority, known as GVLDA, to the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, GIICA, and give the authority new functions and powers which relate to planning and assessing potential games related infrastructure, including enabling the authority to conduct the 100-day review. The 100-day review will begin soon after the bill's commencement and following the appointment of the authority board, which will be tasked with conducting the 100-day review in line with the terms of reference.

Importantly, the bill has a key focus on regional Queensland and will assist in ensuring that all of Queensland benefits from hosting the games. In performing its functions, the authority will be required to ensure the games deliver legacy benefits for our regions. In addition, the authority's board of directors will have at least one regional representative and will ensure that regional perspectives are at the forefront of games planning. The size of the authority's board will allow for between seven and nine directors, ensuring the board can benefit from a diversity of skills and experiences and ensuring the board can effectively deliver its functions.

Queenslanders can have their say through the review and it will ensure the games delivery will be back on track. The bill streamlines the appointment processes to ensure the authority can proceed without undue delay. The bill provides the authority flexibility in preparing key documents and entering into agreements by removing prescriptive, arbitrary dates. Additionally, the bill removes an unnecessary requirement on the authority to enter a memorandum of understanding with games delivery partners. The removal of this legislative requirement provides the authority latitude in entering into agreements and does not limit their ability to enter into such agreements with relevant third parties as necessary and by agreement.

The bill provides clarity on the power, the functions and the delegations of the authority's interim CEO to ensure the authority is able to operate effectively. The bill also clarifies that the president of the Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee may attend the authority's board meetings on the invitation of the chairperson. The bill will kickstart the 100-day review and ensure the authority can function effectively and efficiently, delivering on our commitment and providing certainty for games planning and infrastructure delivery.

In addition to getting Olympic and Paralympic Games infrastructure back on track, the bill makes key changes to the Queensland workplace health and safety framework in amending the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024. The Crisafulli government is committed to having safe workplaces across Queensland. We want all Queenslanders, including workers and employees, to feel safe going to work each and every day. Going to work and returning home after each and every shift should not be a privilege but a right for every Queenslander.

As our government has promised, the bill will reintroduce the requirement for workplace health and safety entry permit holders to provide a minimum of 24 hours notice before they can enter a workplace to inquire into a suspected contravention of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 or the Electrical Safety Act 2002. For too long I have been receiving representations that there is a problem of bullying and harassment happening at certain worksites that involve certain unions. Actually, let us not say 'certain unions' but let us call it for what it is: the CFMEU and the ETU, who were out the front yesterday.

Employers do not fear workplace health and safety concerns being raised by unions. They are concerned about the aggression towards them and most especially their workforce when some union officials come onsite. We know the cost of work related aggression—how it impacts productivity at workplaces, particularly at construction sites—but there is also the human cost on workers who simply do not feel safe. This behaviour is not acceptable. An important step to bring about change is reintroducing the requirement for notice to be given before entry. Reintroducing the requirement to provide at least 24 hours notice will provide a circuit breaker to recent tensions we have observed regarding entry and will provide employers with sufficient time to respond to workplace health and safety entry permit holders on issues that may arise. This is intended to provide better conditions for discussion and problem solving on health and safety concerns on these workplaces. This also means that individuals often in lower levels of management do not find themselves alone in dealing with conflict with union officials.

I would like to emphasise that the safety of workers remains paramount. This is why the bill provides an exception for workplace health and safety entry permit holders to immediately enter a workplace without first giving notice when there is immediate or imminent risk to the health and safety of workers. Workplace Health and Safety Queensland will be closely monitoring these changes to make sure all parties understand how the legislation works. Our workplace health and safety inspectors, who are independent officers who go out every day to protect workers, are the first line, the first point of contact, for workplace health and safety matters in Queensland—not the thugs at the CFMEU.

I take this opportunity to reiterate the Crisafulli government's zero-tolerance policy on work related violence and aggression. Unfortunately, violence and aggression being experienced by workers is a rapidly growing concern, particularly among our teachers and healthcare professionals. It is critical that the Queensland workplace health and safety framework ensures the wellbeing of everyone at a workplace, and it is clear there is a gap in the existing legislation inherited by the LNP with respect to managing work related violence and aggression. While certain instances of occupational violence could reach a threshold of an immediate or imminent risk under the new provision, some will not and we encourage all parties in circumstances of work related violence and aggression incidents to work together constructively to manage workplace health and safety entry permit holders' entry in relation to suspected contraventions of this nature.

I also note we have a gap around work related violence and aggression in that most of these incidents are actually not notifiable to the regulator for action. Proposed changes to the model workplace health and safety laws on this matter are anticipated for consideration in the near future. We intend to take action on this issue on the basis that changes will ensure incidents of work related violence and aggression are coming to the attention of the regulator and more serious events are being triaged for an inspectorate response.

In August this year, the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024 passed parliament. Among other matters, the amendment act made changes to specify that health and safety representatives and workplace health and safety entry permit holders may, in addition to their existing powers and functions, take photos, videos and measurements and conduct tests in performing their duties in certain circumstances. These amendments had a delayed commencement date of 1 January 2025.

I made my view on these amendments very clear at the time in the debate and when they were introduced and well before the state election. These changes were ill-considered by the previous government. They did not provide sufficient limitations on how photos or videos can be used, and there were insufficient privacy safeguards to protect the interests of workers, employers and other persons who may have been impacted by these additional powers. The bill repeals these recent changes made by the former Labor government in order to remove the potential for misuse of these powers and to address the concerns raised regarding the use and deletion of potentially sensitive photos and videos. Most other states and territories do not provide such powers to workplace health and safety entry permit

holders and health and safety representatives; nor are such powers included in the national model workplace health and safety laws. In repealing these provisions from the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024, the Crisafulli government will ensure these provisions are removed before they come into effect on 1 January 2025. This will ensure businesses can continue to operate uninterrupted and no unnecessary regulatory burdens will be imposed which could impact on the operation of businesses.

The bill will make amendments to the power of workplace health and safety representatives to direct the cessation of work. The former government made amendments under the Work Health and Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024 to provide that health and safety reps may issue cease work notices to employers, so as to direct the employer to instruct workers to cease unsafe work. Before these changes, health and safety representatives would simply direct workers to cease unsafe work. This amendment introduced unnecessary complexity to the cease work provisions in the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 by creating an additional layer into the cessation of work process, and by giving cease work directions the appearance that they are an employer's operational decision, which in turn causes confusion for workers in understanding who exactly is making the decision.

This bill will simplify the cease work direction provisions by removing the right for health and safety representatives to direct employers to cease work. Health and safety representatives may instead direct workers to cease work in certain circumstances. These measures are only for the most serious circumstances, and in these instances the health and safety representatives will be able to direct workers to cease work if, after consulting with the employer and attempting to resolve the matter, the representative still has a reasonable concern that carrying out the work could expose a worker to a serious risk to the worker's health or safety.

The cease work direction must be made by written notice which will be provided to the employer and placed in a prominent location. The notice must include certain information already prescribed under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, such as information regarding the risk to the worker's health or safety, a description of the affected worker or work group, and the name of the issuing health and safety representative. The written notice is critical in ensuring all affected persons, including the employer, are able to fully understand why work has ceased. Health and safety representatives retain the power to immediately cease work where there is an imminent threat to health and safety, with the same notice and consultation requirements after the direction is given.

The business model of the CFMEU is to use safety as an industrial weapon, and we are putting that model out of business today. The bill—

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the honourable former minister who did everything she could over the last 10 years to roll out the red carpet for the CFMEU. She is on record since 2016 supporting every action of the CFMEU, and criticised the LNP for opposing the CFMEU. The former minister for industrial relations introduced the bat phone for the CFMEU into her Office of Industrial Relations, and I have to say to the former minister for industrial relations what a breath of fresh air the industrial relations inspectorate are seeing across Queensland when we are putting workers in the offices of the industrial relations inspectorate ahead of the CFMEU. They love it, and they are telling me they love it!

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Keep interjecting, please. Please. Bring it on. Ten years of failure!

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order! Member for McConnel, it is fortunate for you that the minister has been taking your interjections because you are actually on a warning. That has saved you at this point in time. Minister, you have the call. I ask you to continue your first reading speech.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take personal offence at the commentary abused to me by the member and I ask her to withdraw. Then I ask that she be ejected from the parliament.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you for your point of order, minister. Member for McConnel, the minister is taking personal offence at some comments made by you. I ask you to withdraw.

Ms GRACE: I withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, member for McConnel. Thank you for your guidance, minister, however that was not required. I ask you to continue your first reading.

Mr BLEIJIE: As I said, the business model of the CFMEU to use safety as an industrial weapon is out of business today. The bill will also make amendments to the Planning Act 2016 and the Planning and Environment Court Act 2016 in relation to state facilitated development provisions. State facilitated development commenced in July 2024 and is an alternative state assessed pathway to development that is a priority for the state. However, the current statutory process does not anticipate that changes may be necessary after a development is declared to be state facilitated development. The bill amends the Planning Act to provide the planning minister may amend or repeal a state facilitated development declaration, and may request a change to an application made under a direction. The bill sets out the process for doing so, including notifying relevant stakeholders.

The bill also amends the Planning and Environment Court Act 2016 to clarify that the declaratory proceedings may be started if there is an uncertainty about how to administer a development application that is no longer declared as a state facilitated development and may progress through the usual assessment pathway. These changes are part of the LNP government's approach to planning, which is all about resetting the planning partnership with local government and listening to local communities. They align other planning instruments available to the state and can ensure we deliver the LNP's election commitments in relation to this type of development approval pathway. It corrects an anomaly from Labor's botched laws earlier this year in a legislative process that was widely criticised by most stakeholders.

The bill also responds to the government's 100-day commitment to establish an independent Public Sector Commission, the PSC. The bill does this by amending the Public Sector Act 2022 to increase the independence of the Public Sector Commissioner and, by extension, the PSC. These amendments will limit the ways in which the commissioner can be unilaterally removed, so this can only occur for the specific grounds of misconduct, physical or mental incapacity, or incompetence or neglect of duty. The commissioner will no longer be required to enter into a written contract of employment with the Premier. This will prevent the commissioner's engagement being terminated without reason at the will of the Premier. This is about accountability, openness and transparency. To ensure—

Mr McDonald: Breath of fresh air.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the honourable member for Lockyer. To ensure the rights and liberties of the current commissioner are not detrimentally affected, the amendments include a transitional provision so that the current commissioner is immediately protected from being unilaterally dismissed while maintaining the commissioner's other conditions and entitlements. Critically, these amendments will support the commissioner to act independently by increasing the employment security for the position of the commissioner. This will in turn strengthen the ability of the commissioner to provide independent advice to the Premier of the day without fear or reprisal.

Queenslanders voted for a fresh start. Our plan will restore a government that works for them by bringing back accountability and transparency in government.

The bill repeals the Path to Treaty Act 2023 which will cease the operations of the First Nations Treaty Institute and the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order, members to my left!

Mr BLEIJIE: The bill also amends the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Act 1984 to ensure transitional provisions relating to employee arrangements, confidentiality, public records management, transfer of assets and liabilities to the state, preservation of rights, protection of liability and a transitional regulation-making power. This government is committed to delivering real outcomes and positive and practical change for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Queensland.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members to my left! Your interjections are not being taken.

Mr BLEIJIE: In 2020, the previous government—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Algeester, you are warned. Your interjections are not being taken.

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: In 2020, the previous government signed the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, a reform agenda that sets out clear outcomes and targets to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. However, the gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous people is not closing under Labor. In fact, in some instances it got worse. We are committed to focusing on the issues that matter to First Nations Queenslanders such as lifting living standards in remote communities—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Algester!

Mr BLEIJIE:—where basic amenities like clean—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Member for Algester, those comments made by you are highly disorderly. Member for Kawana, you have the call.

Mr BLEIJIE: We committed to focusing on the issues that matter to First Nations Queenslanders such as lifting living standards in remote communities where basic amenities like clean water are not on par with the rest of the state. We are committed to working across—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Algester!

Mr BLEIJIE:—the government to improve health, educational—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Algester, order!

Mr BLEIJIE:—and employment outcomes. It also means working with local leaders and communities to ensure that all Queenslanders have the opportunity to own their own home—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Algester, I call you to order.

Mr BLEIJIE:—in their community where regulation does not currently permit. We need initiatives that offer practical solutions to provide First Nations peoples with opportunities and reduce disadvantage.

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BLEIJIE: To support this—

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Algester, you have been warned the under standing orders. You have continued to interject in a grossly disorderly manner on a number of occasions. I ask you to withdraw from the chamber the under standing orders for one hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Algester withdrew from the chamber at 12.18 pm.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My point of order relates to the member for Algester who reflected on your ruling whilst leaving the chamber, and I ask you to address that matter.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Leader of the House. I did not hear that reflection on my ruling; however, as you have raised this issue, it is something that I will seek to investigate through a review of the proceedings at a later time.

Mr BLEIJIE: To support this, we will ensure funding for Path to Treaty is redirected to measurable outcomes. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. JP BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (12.19 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee.

Declared Urgent; Allocation of Time Limit Order

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (12.20 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

1. That, under the provisions of standing order 137, the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill be declared an urgent bill and not stand referred to a committee and be considered immediately;
2. That all stages of the bill be completed this sitting day by 11.55 pm; and
3. If all stages have not been completed by the time specified, Mr Speaker shall put all remaining questions necessary to pass the bill including clauses en bloc and any amendments to be moved by the minister in charge of the bill without further amendment or debate.

Ms McMillan: Racist!

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Member for Mansfield, I have heard unparliamentary language uttered by you. I ask that you rise and withdraw that language immediately.

Ms McMILLAN: I withdraw.


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Mansfield, you are also warned.

Mr BLEIJIE: I will outline the reason for the urgency of this bill. The LNP government in opposition took a strong position to the election on a few matters. The first was sorting the mess of the Olympic and Paralympic Games chaos that had ensued under 1,200 days of the Labor government. We committed that within the first 30 days of government we would establish an independent coordination and delivery authority, and that is what this bill does. In order for the government to achieve that objective within the first month, this bill must be passed. We believe that, with maiden speeches to be undertaken and listened to throughout the day, starting this debate later this evening and closing off at approximately midnight will give four hours or so to sufficiently deal with the contents of this bill.

The bill amends Olympic and Paralympic arrangements, as I have said. The other point I make relates to the urgency to deal with the CFMEU in Queensland. We will not stand by and tolerate bullying, fear and intimidation by the CFMEU any longer. This government has taken an immediate stance against that type of behaviour by the CFMEU, which had been overseen and supported by the Labor government for far too long in Queensland. The Labor Party government relied on donations and support from the CFMEU. Yesterday we saw one former senior minister—incidentally, he manages the opposition now—out the front supporting the CFMEU officials. Jade Ingham, who had a CFMEU shirt on, has been dismissed from the CFMEU under the federal Labor government's administration of the CFMEU. The former minister was out there yesterday waving to his supporters and they were waving back at him because they cannot let go of the CFMEU and the stranglehold it has on the Labor Party in Queensland. That is why we are taking a zero-tolerance approach to bullying, fear and intimidation on work sites.

The CFMEU, under Labor, stormed the Department of Transport and Main Roads. This urgency motion is absolutely important. Because the parliament does not come back for a couple of weeks, it is important that this House deals with fear and intimidation—for workers on sites and for our industrial relations health and safety inspectors who just want to do their job without being bullied and physically and verbally assaulted by CFMEU thugs on construction sites.

I close with this: we had a clear commitment on the Path to Treaty. We had a clear commitment that we did not support the Path to Treaty, and that is why we are repealing it. We are getting it done.

 **Mr de BRENNI** (Springwood—ALP) (12.24 pm): We have already had some debate today in relation to the moving of urgency motions relating to bills under standing order 137. As members of the House know, committee scrutiny of bills before this House is supposed to provide members of the Queensland public with what is described as an unprecedented opportunity to comment on government legislation before it is debated and voted on in this parliament.

The Deputy Premier has now come into this place and said in respect of workplace health and safety and in respect of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders that there will be no opportunity—zero opportunity—provided by this LNP government for any member of the Queensland public to provide any comment or any view, whether they are an ordinary Queenslander or an informed stakeholder, on the detail of this legislation.


The Deputy Premier is duty bound to establish, in respect of either the Path to Treaty or the workplace health and safety elements of this bill, why the government is entitled to bypass scrutiny for political expediency. I submit that he has not done that. This Deputy Premier has failed. We know that he is regularly failing. He has failed to demonstrate, for his political expediency, the necessity of subverting the committee process. In this House today we have already talked about reasonable timeframes for urgency. We talked about sitting for another week in December to consider other bills. The government is providing zero opportunity for any Queenslander to have their say on this bill.

The Deputy Premier has failed to establish the need to compromise the right of Queenslanders to be properly consulted. He has failed to establish that this morning. The Deputy Premier is duty bound to explain why the public will not be given a chance to comment on this bill before the House votes. Earlier this morning I spoke about the views of the Queensland Law Society in relation to these matters. They say it is in all of our best interests to ensure proposed laws work as effectively and efficiently as possible. This requires meaningful and robust consultation with stakeholders, which the Deputy Premier has moved and recommended to this House be eliminated. There was a review of the parliamentary committee system in 2010. The report stated—

... it is important for members to ensure that they fully understand and scrutinise the legislation being put forward by the executive.

In fact, the Clerk of the Parliament in his submission—it appears this Premier has chosen to ignore it—proposed that a minimum six-week period for committee to report would be a 'very tight timeframe'. The Leader of the LNP has authorised the Deputy Premier to come into this House to eliminate the right of Queenslanders to have their say. This new Premier promised Queenslanders decency and respect. He promised decency and respect for the views of Queenslanders, but he has come into this House at the first opportunity determined, by his own actions, to ignore the views of Queenslanders—to give them no right to have their say.

This Premier says that when he says something it supposedly means something. So I cannot see why if he says he is going to treat Queenslanders with decency and respect he would come into this House and move an urgency motion like this in respect of a process regarding further reconciliation in this state and in this nation and give those Queenslanders with a vested interest no opportunity to comment and no opportunity to reflect on these proposed amendments. It is for this Premier's lack of respect for this House, for this Premier's lack of respect for Queenslanders that the opposition will oppose this urgency motion.

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (12.29 pm): I rise to speak to the urgency motion as moved by the Deputy Premier. In speaking to the urgency motion, I say the Liberal National Party state government has been given a clear mandate to get on with the job of delivering the required infrastructure.

Opposition members interjected.

Dr ROWAN: We hear those members opposite interjecting, but when it comes to infrastructure—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Members on all sides of the House will come to order.

Dr ROWAN: When it comes to the infrastructure and planning needed for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games it was the former Labor government that failed to plan for the infrastructure that is needed in Queensland. Queenslanders said definitively at the election on 26 October that they want a great Olympics for this state and they actually want legacy infrastructure delivered as a part of that.

Importantly, time is of the essence. We gave a clear commitment as an incoming government that we would deliver that infrastructure for all of Queensland, a clear commitment to the people of Queensland, and that we would do that as one of the first orders of business when it comes to the 100-day review that the Liberal National Party state government is implementing. The legislation gives effect to that commitment and it is important that it is debated and passed today because time is of the essence, particularly when it comes to the failure, the chaos and the crisis of the former Labor government that failed to plan for the Olympics, failed to have a plan and failed to look at the infrastructure that was going to be needed here in Queensland.

The Liberal National Party is determined to deliver a successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in Queensland. It is important to showcase our great state, and I mentioned earlier the generational infrastructure, the tourism opportunities and the economic development we can have in Queensland. Today should come as no surprise to the Labor Party because, as I said, the approach of the former state government was one of delay and mismanagement when it came to planning for the successful games. It is now time to get on with the job. I move—

That the question be now put.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members on my left.

Ms Pease interjected.

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lytton, member for Woodridge, you are both warned the under standing orders.

Division: Question put—That the question be now put.

In division—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): I remind all members that standing orders apply during divisions. Disorderly conduct standing orders in particular apply during divisions.

AYES, 51:

LNP, 51—Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Field, Frecklington, Gerber, Head, Hutton, Hunt, B. James, T James, Janetzki, G. Kelly, Kempton, Kirkland, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Lister, Mander, Marr, McDonald, Mickelberg, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Stoker, Watts, Vorster, Young.

NOES, 34:

ALP, 33—Asif, Bailey, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, de Brenni, Dick, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Grace, Healy, Howard, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Power, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Grn, 1—Berkman.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Division: Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Mr SPEAKER: Ring the bells for one minute.

AYES, 51:

LNP, 51—Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Field, Frecklington, Gerber, Head, Hutton, Hunt, B. James, T James, Janetzki, G. Kelly, Kempton, Kirkland, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Lister, Mander, Marr, McDonald, Mickelberg, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Stoker, Watts, Vorster, Young.


NOES, 34:

ALP, 33—Asif, Bailey, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, de Brenni, Dick, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Grace, Healy, Howard, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Power, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Grn, 1—Berkman.

Resolved in the affirmative.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT


 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (12.40 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—
That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until 9.30 am on Tuesday, 10 December 2024.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.


SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Error in Division

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I have been advised by the government whip that there was an error in calculating the votes in division 1 earlier today. The division was on the question that the Making Queensland Safer Bill be declared an urgent bill to be referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee with a report-back date of 6 December 2024. The error does not affect the outcome of the vote; however, the record needs to be corrected. The result of the division was in fact ayes 87 and noes one. In accordance with standing order 106(11), I have instructed the Clerk to amend the *Record of Proceedings*.


SPEAKER'S RULING

Rule of Anticipation; Sub Judice

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, before commencing the address-in-reply, I want to flag essentially for new members that standing order 231 provides that a member may not anticipate the discussion of a subject that appears on the *Notice Paper*. Earlier today three bills were introduced, including the Making Queensland Safer Bill. Accordingly, that bill is now technically on the *Notice Paper* for debate. While members may refer to the general issues in the community that have led to the introduction of the bill, the rule of anticipation requires that members should not descend into debating the specifics of what is contained in the bill. I also bring to the attention of members standing order 233, which provides that members should not refer in the House to matters awaiting or under adjudication in all courts exercising a criminal jurisdiction. Should members have any concerns that the contents of their address-in-reply speech might transgress these two standing orders, I would recommend that they seek the Clerk's advice in relation to their draft as soon as possible.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, before calling the member for Thuringowa, members are reminded that this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Ms MARR** (Thuringowa—LNP) (12.42 pm): Mr Speaker, I move—

That the following address be presented to the Governor in reply to the speech delivered by Her Excellency in opening this, the First Session of the 58th Parliament of Queensland—

May it please Your Excellency—

We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland, wish to assure Your Excellency of our continued respect for the Crown and loyalty to the system of government in this State and to tender our thanks for the speech with which you opened the First Session.

The various measures to which Your Excellency referred, and all other matters that may be brought before us, will receive our careful consideration, and we shall strive to deal with them so that our endeavours may contribute to the advancement and prosperity of the people of this State.

Mr Speaker, I am incredibly proud to be standing here in the chamber today as the member for Thuringowa, a community that has delivered me so many opportunities—and now it is my turn to return those opportunities for my electorate. I also take great pride in having the privilege of being one of only just over a thousand Queenslanders elected to serve this great state as a member of parliament. This significant moment and the honour are not lost on me and I commit to respecting this honour.

Thuringowa is a working-class electorate and is home to a passionate sense of community through our many schools, sporting clubs and community organisations, and I look forward to continuing to work and engage with them over the term. I also look forward to meeting all our frontline staff working within the state government departments delivering services to the electorate. I want to hear directly from you and ensure we make it easier to deliver results in the work you do.

Thuringowa is a vibrant community full of diversity. Our electorate takes in the beautiful Ross River, hosting our water supply in the Ross River Dam, of which I also hope to see further development to allow for more recreational opportunities for our community.

I come from a humble home of proud Australian battlers who have worked hard to provide for their family. I was born in Cairns and raised in Townsville from the age of seven, spending my whole life in the region. I am proud of the strong work ethic and dedication my father displayed and instilled in me as a young girl. I was raised on a foundation of hard work and respect for others.

I have been a proud member of the Thuringowa community since the day my mum and dad bought their first home in Kelso—an ever-growing suburb of Thuringowa where I grew up—where they still proudly live to this day, making memories through four generations of our family in their home. I bought my first home in Thuringowa. My daughter grew up and went to school in Thuringowa. I recall growing up in Kelso when there was nothing but bushland across the road from our home and it was still a very undeveloped area. Now it has grown to one of the largest suburbs in the city with the development of the Kelso State School and many more homes.

I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge a special person in my life: my beautiful late sister Michelle. I know that she would have involved herself in my election campaign and held my hand the whole way. She would be enormously proud of me. Although she may not be sitting here in the gallery today, I know that she is here in spirit sharing this memory and honour with me. She showed the most incredible strength in her hardest days. I think of her every day and I remind myself of her determination through the toughest of times.

I am a very proud parent of my beautiful daughter, Alana, who is in the gallery today. Alana, you have been the reason I wake up every morning for the last 24 years. You are an incredible young woman. Your strength, love and sincere caring nature make me so immensely proud of you. You have proven that hard work and determination are the key to life, working three jobs to get yourself through six years of university. I am proud that this is the example you witnessed growing up with me as your mum. Watching you grow into the incredible young lady you are makes me so proud. Thank you for always being patient and trusting and giving me the absolute joy of being your mother.

I have had the pleasure of good opportunities in a variety of employment fields, from marketing to business management and sales, and as a councillor for Townsville City Council. I come from the days of working in the eighties, when customer service was key to every job. I had my first job in pharmacy, where you had to know your customers by name and exceptional customer service care was expected. This was the start of my love for people and taking the time to listen—really listen and make them feel special. Who would have thought my days working in pharmacy would be my first training for being a member of parliament?

Politics was not a consideration for me growing up and not a career path that I had on my radar. My first taste of politics was when I was asked by Les Tyrell to run as a candidate for the local government election in 2008. This was a unique election as it was the first election with the amalgamation of the then Thuringowa shire council and the Townsville City Council. It was also an undivided council. Out of 49 candidates, I had drawn 47th spot on the ballot paper. It was never going to be easy, but it was a young councillor by the name of David Crisafulli who encouraged me that grassroots campaigning was crucial to winning any election and taught me the art of doorknocking. Hard work and persistence gave me the reward of being elected, and as a new councillor I proudly became the chair of corporate governance and finance. There were many opportunities in this role, including being a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a commitment that I thought was important in such a demanding and important role. I also had the privilege of sitting on crucial committees like the audit committee and budget review committee, but, most importantly, I was given the opportunity to stand up for my community. This is where my passion for good governance and accountability began. It is something I will take into my new role as the member for Thuringowa.

Being a part of the community has always been a joy for me. I have been on P&C committees, a member of the Lions club, volunteered for the Cancer Council and was proud to be the chair of the local Crime Stoppers volunteer committee. I was awarded Queensland Volunteer of the Year for Crime Stoppers Queensland for my contribution in growing the committee and setting a high standard for other

volunteer committees to follow. A keen sense of community and a focus on the need for change was one of the driving factors for me to run in the election. Over the last decade my community of Thuringowa has been hurting due to poor governing. They have been terrorised by crime and have almost given up on feeling safe in their own home, instead developing a feeling that the youth crime crisis has become the new normal. That is not good enough for me and I refuse to accept the notion that my community should continue to accept this as normal. It is one of the reasons I put my hand up to stand as the candidate again and why I am proud to be a member of the Crisafulli LNP government, a government that will bring change, not shy away from the tough decisions and deliver a better future for Queensland.

My community told me they have felt unrepresented and ignored by successive governments for far too long, a community that has suffered a continued increase in crime for the last 10 years. What started years ago as opportunistic crime has now become violent, aggressive and organised offending. This is a direct result of there being no accountability or consequences for actions for those responsible for these crimes. Today I stand here in our parliament and say to the many members in my community who have been a victim of crime that we have listened, we stand by you and we will take every step necessary to restore your right to feel safe again.

There are a few stories that I would like to share to highlight the dire distress some of our communities are living in. While doorknocking in Kirwan I met an elderly lady who refused to open the door and was only comfortable talking through her half-open window. She told me that she usually only had one outing a week to the shopping centre with her carer to do her grocery shopping. Now she will not even go there and refuses to leave her home for many weeks due to the fear of being a victim of crime. Another story that stays with me was meeting a daughter who feared for the safety of her elderly mother who lived alone after seeing CCTV footage from her mother's home of young offenders with weapons watching her mother through her window waiting for the right time to break in. Her mother now is afraid to be in her home alone. These are the types of stories I went home with each day. They are raw and very emotional stories. Thuringowa deserves a better future. I am very proud to be standing here today with my fellow members knowing we are determined to make change and be tough on crime. I know my community is expecting and deserves change. We stood at the election on the promise of delivering tougher laws and that is exactly what we will do. I want the people of Thuringowa to be proud that their faith in change and in me has been the driving force of delivering our promise.

When decisions have been made in the past it is usually North Queensland that suffers the most, or is sometimes the only region that is negatively affected due to a lack of understanding of how the regions operate differently to metro areas. I will fight for our fair share of the state, ensuring we are considered and understood at the decision-making table. This will be a priority for me. It is critical that we engage with industry and we must be ready to listen to everyone: not just those who tell us what we want to hear, but also those who will tell us what we do not want to hear. Then we must act; not put it in the too-hard basket left to be someone else's problem in the future.

I have worked hard for the last four years to give the LNP the best chance to win three seats in Townsville. After the 2020 election I committed to whatever was necessary for change for our city. I was elected vice-president of the LNP and for almost two years my focus was to ensure the voice of the North was heard, represented and to encourage change within the party to be more successful with member engagement and successful election campaigns for regional Queensland into the future. I continue to remain engaged in the community, attending community meetings every month, local events and local Willows markets each Sunday. This was to give the community the confidence that there was an alternative and to see that I was ready to put in the hard work and commitment they deserved. Nineteen months out from the election I was preselected for Thuringowa to be the voice of our city, driving our plans for a better future. I made the decision to resign from my full-time job to make sure I could focus on doorknocking and being in my community each day. Many sacrifices were made, but I was happy to make those hard calls because this was important to me and I could not stand back and let our community continue to suffer. It is rewarding to be standing here today making this speech and wanting to be community focused and engaged. However, the work has only just started. I am ready to get on with the job of delivering for a better Thuringowa, not only for now but for the future. The community has spoken. They were not happy with the way the government was doing things. They have voted for change, for a government that is strong, to make the changes we need and a member of parliament who will stand up and fight for them and not walk away from challenging decisions or tough conversations.

There are so many people that I would like to thank, but I do have a fear of forgetting someone so I will start with my volunteers, family, friends and LNP members. I want to thank each and every one of you who came along on the journey with me from day one. While some of you may only have been able to give me a call of support, that still meant a lot. There were those who would get a text about letterbox dropping or needing volunteers for the markets and you would just turn up without hesitation and give your time. Your enthusiasm, support, hard work and love will never be forgotten. As I have said to you all, you are a part of my family and we will share the journey of the next four years together. I must give a special shout-out to my dad for letterbox dropping the whole of Kelso. Thank you!

There are some people I will personally mention as they have devoted so much of their time as members of the campaign team, providing round-the-clock support for my campaign, those who volunteered and were relentless in their support: Kathy Roy, for your friendship, calm nature and positive support. The days were long and months even longer, but you were always the one who gave sound, positive support whenever I needed you. Bernadette Rowse, my dear friend, for your unwavering support, not only for my campaign but for the toughest times of my life. I am so grateful to share this moment with you. Thank you for keeping the campaign on track. You were relentless and organised for all of us. Thank you. Trayeden Fulmer, your support during this campaign has been overwhelming. Without hesitation you jumped into our campaign and put your heart and soul into everything you did. I appreciate the support and dedication you have shown the team. Thank you. Thea Musson, my support person from the 2020 campaign to the end of this election: your wise words, many meals and tough words of wisdom have seen me through the four years of campaigning. I remember the days between the election cycles when it was just you and I at the Willows markets every Sunday. Andy Longmire, my voice of reason and the 'get up, get over it and battle on' person in my campaign: thank you from the bottom of my heart. You helped keep me on track and powering on. Thank you to your beautiful family who made many sacrifices of family time during this long campaign. Drew Alexion, you started as Team Thuringowa, helping to establish my campaign, and ended up being there to support and help all three Townsville seats. Thank you for your time and support. It meant a great result for our city.


To my community of Thuringowa, thank you for your support and placing your trust in me, for welcoming me into your homes and taking the time to speak with me and to get to know me. I have many memories from the campaign trail that will stay with me forever—moments that cemented the reason I invested so much in my community and stood to be their local member of parliament. To the over 50,000 people who call Thuringowa home, I offer you my full commitment and will spend every day of the next four years fighting for you. During the last two elections I have doorknocked on thousands of doors to listen because I want to deliver a better future for you and your families.

I also note that the 58th Parliament will see the election of the 100th female to the Queensland parliament. While I do not believe in quotas and I strongly support the belief in the best person for the job, I am very proud to be a member of this parliament and I would like to congratulate every female member in this room. I look forward to the example we can display as leaders in our communities to let every young girl know that we pave the way for them to continue our contribution to the government into the future.

I take this moment to congratulate Premier Crisafulli and the other 51 members of this LNP government. Our focus on what was important to Queenslanders has put us in the position to now deliver. I am looking forward to delivering for Thuringowa and Queensland. Thank you, Thuringowa.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 pm to 1.30 pm.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Before calling the member for Mackay, I remind members that this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions. I give a general reminder of the importance of not anticipating debate of any matters that are on the table of the House.

 **Mr DALTON** (Mackay—LNP) (1.30 pm): I rise to second the motion moved by the member for Thuringowa for the address-in-reply to the opening speech by Her Excellency. Mr Deputy Speaker Lister, congratulations on your appointment.

It is with humility and honour that I stand before you today. This marks the 58th occasion since 1860 that members have gathered to begin a new term of service to those who have elected them to the Queensland parliament, but it is the first time that a member of the Liberal National Party stands in this House representing the people of Mackay. I am truly privileged to be that elected person.

I want to thank my opponents in the recent election campaign, particularly Ms Belinda Hassan, for a fair and respectful contest. I have known Ms Hassan for many years. She has represented the people of Mackay on council for several years and is passionate about making Mackay a better place for all. I wish her all the best with the recovery from her ACL injury.

I have made Mackay my home since 2003, when my family migrated from the UK to be with my widowed mother-in-law who, at that time, was a resident of the Whitsunday electorate. My wife, Sue, my daughter, Alice, and my son, Angus, set up home in Mackay after I was posted to the Mackay police station on general duties following my police abridged competency education course at the Oxley academy. My family soon started getting involved in community activities in the Mackay area while enjoying the beauty and accessibility of the area, from beaches and tropical rainforests to outstanding sporting, cultural and arts facilities. At this point I extend my thanks to the present Mackay Mayor, Greg Williamson, and the Mackay Regional Council, past and present, for their continued efforts to make Mackay the best region in Queensland to live.

From my accent you will have guessed already that I am not Australian through descent so it is probably time to describe my journey to Queensland. I was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland. I am the youngest of four. Our family was known as the AMEN chorus: Alan, Margaret, Elizabeth, and I completed the acronym with an N. At the time I was born, my father was a university lecturer at Queen's University Belfast. Prior to arriving in Northern Ireland my family had been living in Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa. My father had been a university lecturer in Fourah Bay College for nine years and the family moved to Northern Ireland just before I was born.

At the time I was born, the troubles that engulfed the community of Northern Ireland over the next 30 years had not started and it was a peaceful and stunning area of the United Kingdom. In the 1960s, Northern Ireland had lots of small farms, livestock, sheep, beef, dairy cattle and pigs. Crops included oats, barley, potatoes and hay for winter feed. One of the most famous industrial icons was the Harland & Wolff cranes, *Samson* and *Goliath*, located in the shipyard where the *Titanic* was constructed in the early part of the 20th century.

My primary school days started in Northern Ireland but, when my father was appointed temporary professor of education at the University of Zambia, I went to school in Lusaka for nearly three years. That brief period in Africa had a profound effect on my life. Visiting leprosy missions, game parks and Victoria Falls certainly allowed me to broaden my mind and horizons from just the Emerald Isle.

When we returned from Zambia to Northern Ireland it was a very different place. Bombings, bomb scares, roadblocks, riots, sectarian shootings and general hatred and distrust of others had erupted and became part of everyday life. Northern Ireland was completely divided, with little or no contact with the other side. Thankfully, our parents steered us away from the sectarianism as much as possible and tried to keep us on the level. Holidays were often taken on the mainland, away from the troubles, but the politics of the troubles were never far from anybody's mind.

Our parents were Christians and we attended a small Methodist church. Sundays were Sunday school, Bible class with the crusaders and that was it. My values have been nurtured from those activities along with Scripture Union, summer camps and house parties at Easter. My parents were never too far from helping the less fortunate and lonely.

One particular area of concern for my parents was the loneliness of overseas students who were away from home countries and families during the long university holidays. My parents would regularly pack our kombivan with overseas students from all over the world and take them on road trips around Northern Ireland for walks in forest parks, to waterfalls or along cliffs and mountain ranges. For me, this meant an introduction to world politics, religion and geography. We shared many meals with our United Nations family at home on Sundays and at Christmas. That just became the norm. My mother started running a casual English language group for the partners of the overseas students, many of whom felt isolated in Belfast. The many examples of service that my parents gave all four of us is fundamental to the way we are today and I will be forever thankful for their Christian parenting.

I was the youngest and my brother and sisters had moved from home well before I left school. My mother and father started attending Fitzroy Presbyterian Church, which had a focus on cross-denominational connections. This activity was very much against the norm as most Protestants would not engage in dialogue with Catholics and vice versa. This focus was led by the Reverend Ken Newell and the late Father Gerry Reynolds, who were two of the quiet peacemakers in Northern Ireland. This focus group provided an extremely important learning opportunity and was an important part of my later police life.

My senior school days were spent at an all-boys grammar school in south Belfast. During my years at school I started to swim competitively and a lot of my waking hours were taken up with early morning and evening sessions. Backstroke was my best stroke and my best result was winning the Irish schools 100-metre shortcourse race for my age group when I was 17 years old.

Upon leaving school I went to a technical college for two years and studied electronics but soon realised that electronics was not for me. Having friends who had joined the Royal Ulster Constabulary, I decided to apply for and was accepted into the training centre at Enniskillen in County Fermanagh. Policing in Northern Ireland was nothing normal. Policing a deeply divided community was at best tough and at worst horrendous. Some of the situations I was involved in I would not wish on anyone. As a member of the security forces, one was seen as a legitimate target not only while on duty; one was also a target off duty. Security was continually on one's mind. Checking underneath one's car before driving off, varying one's route on regular journeys and sitting with one's back to the wall in a cafe or restaurant all became second nature. My seat in parliament makes me feel very comfortable.

With the constant threat of terrorist attacks off duty, many police took their holidays overseas or at least on the UK mainland. I started enjoying snow skiing, so off to the Alps I would go every winter for my holidays. On one of those trips I met a final-year dental student, Sue. Sue and I were married about a year later. We started our married life in a rural area 15 miles from Belfast. We soon made the decision to move to another police service within the UK and I was accepted into the Dorset police force early in 1990. We set up home in a rural village near the Jurassic Coast. My wife became the village dentist and I started policing in an urban area around Poole Harbour. I think it was here where I actually learned how to police properly. Gone were the days when I had backup from 10 to 15 police or military. Now was the time to negotiate with a person of interest so one could deal with the situation safely.

Dorset is one of the most untouched areas of England, with plenty of good folk living around the charming villages. Farming and small businesses were common and, as our family grew, we got involved in many community groups and church groups. Swimming was still an interest of mine within the police and with Masters swimming.

Now to the connection with Australia and Queensland. Let's take you back. Sue's father, Lindsay Cunningham, was born in Bundaberg and went to school there. Lindsay's family originated in Scotland. Lindsay's grandfather had emigrated to Australia in the 1880s and was one of the original directors of the Isis sugar mill. Once Lindsay had finished school, he went to work for Evans Deakin at Kangaroo Point here in Brisbane. Later, he transferred to Shell Oil, which took him to their office in London. This is where he met his Scottish wife, Margaret, who had been working in Venezuela, South America also for Shell Oil.

They married and Sue was their second child. They lived in Surrey in England but had a three-year spell in Japan, returning to Surrey where both their children finished their schooling and were accepted into universities in England. During Sue's final year at dental college, she happened to book a skiing holiday with the same group travelling to the French Alps where I was and we fell in love. Sadly, Lindsay, my father-in-law, died suddenly in 1990, leaving Margaret by herself in the Whitsundays. During the nineties, we visited Queensland from the UK for holidays and family visits. We enjoyed the country, the people, the culture and the climate and then realised Queensland was calling.

I applied for a transfer as a retread and was accepted into the Queensland Police Service in 2002. Once I completed my training at Oxley, we moved to Mackay in early 2003. When we moved to Mackay, we were quickly surrounded by wonderful people, some of whom had been part of Mackay forever and others who were new to Mackay, like us. All were extremely welcoming and happy to assist with those adjustments that any new resident has in a new country.

The first years of policing in Mackay were when I got used to the Queensland legislation, the procedures of the Queensland Police Service and the community of Mackay. I relied on the domestic violence legislation as many instances I attended were DV related. I saw firsthand the anguish of victims of domestic violence and the knock-on effect of the violence on the children within that relationship. I quickly realised that the domestic violence liaison officer was pivotal in monitoring the police district's work in this area. From supporting victims at court to checking all had been done to refer the broken family to external agencies, I knew this was an area in which I could assist the local community.

In 2006, a position in the Crime Prevention Unit became available and I saw an opportunity to work with all victims of crime, including those in domestic violence, in the crime prevention space. In my new role as officer in charge of crime prevention, I soon realised that the community of Mackay really appreciated the police getting involved with them. I, therefore, made it a priority to be involved in schools and community groups as much as possible.

One long-term connection with the community was through the Queensland Police's Adopt-a-Cop program, and I held this position at Mackay Christian College from 2004 until I age-retired earlier this year. Amazingly, last Thursday I welcomed an ex-student of Mackay Christian College, along with others, into the Mackay police district as a first-year constable. I again wish Constable Michael Rutland, who was a student at MCC until 2012, and his first-year cohort all the best in the service and I encourage Michael to get involved in the Mackay Christian College's Adopt-a-Cop program.

Through crime prevention projects, I got involved with the Central Queensland University's Conservatorium of Music using applied theatre to educate young people about being safer and preventing crime in multiple environments at different stages of their lives. Choices was one of these projects which assisted young people about to embark on their final year to make better choices. This was led by Professor Judith Brown and other lecturers from the conservatorium but performed by students studying in the university. This peer-to-peer crime prevention education has been analysed and it was proved to change people's behaviour in relation to illegal drugs, particularly at schoolies celebrations in Airlie Beach. The Choices project enhanced the safety response of the schoolies in Airlie Beach because many of the school leavers had had a relationship with police in their school from their Choices school performances.

Another project that was created by Judith Brown and Miss Hannah Barn was called Safety Circus. This project was aimed at the younger end of primary school, focusing on non-motorised transport safety protective behaviours and what a bystander could do to support someone being bullied. This project is supported by the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and Mackay Regional Council. Both Choices and Safety Circus have been performed to over 50,000 students since their creation in the Mackay area. These two projects allow students to interact with police in their own school while learning very important safety messages appropriate to their age group.

Other notable intervention projects that I have had the pleasure of supporting are the You Choose program with Peter and Melissa McGuinness; the Matthew Stanley Foundation, a youth violence prevention foundation, with the late Paul Stanley; Digital Cocaine and Digital Rehab, on internet addiction, with Brad Huddlestone; Eyes Open, on social media training, with Tricia Munn; Tumble Turn, domestic violence education for schools and communities, with Chloe McCardel—Chloe is a world record holder for swimming the English Channel 44 times but has also had to live through DFV—and Safer Living with Vicki Blackburn.

I want to actually highlight Vicki Blackburn for a moment. Thank you for your support through the years and through my election campaign. We still want to see justice for Shandee. Shandee was her daughter who was brutally murdered in February 2013 and we will continue to support her as the DNA laboratory scandal is corrected.

Other organisations in the Mackay community called for police information sessions about safer living, drugs education, road safety, through a Fatal Five talk, sexual behaviours, consent education and scam awareness. In the Crime Prevention Unit, we try to make ourselves available to all groups wanting presentations.

Some anti-violence projects that I created included Assault Free Zone, which won a bronze award in the 2019 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards of the Australian Institute of Criminology, and the Anger Rage Regret project. Both of these were well received in the community and continue to be used with various groups at various locations. I now leave all these projects and connections to the officer who has been promoted to my role as the officer in charge of crime prevention, Sergeant Steve Smith. Steve and I have worked alongside each other for 10 years and he is completely suitable for this demanding position in Mackay.

Mackay is tremendously supported by many community organisations. They are the glue that holds our community together. Those organisations include: Chances House, street chaplains, school chaplaincy, school P&Cs, Neighbourhood Watch Queensland, SES cadets, PCYC, Churches Together, Mackay Musical Comedy Players, Choral Society, Kucom Theatre group, Conservatorium Friends, Mackay Hospital Foundation, Shed Happens, the RSL, Project Booyah and Rotary, to name but a few. Along with all the sporting organisations in Mackay, they really do work well together. All these organisations are supported by a massive team of volunteers and I want to thank each one of them for the time and organisational skills they put into making their organisation work.

As you can tell by now, the Mackay community mean a lot to me. Not only have they supported me through 22 years of policing; they have supported me through an election campaign. It would not surprise you that my focus in this term of government is to support the community of Mackay, to help them recover from the youth crime crisis, the health crisis and the cost-of-living crisis. We need to hold

offenders to account and have consequences for their actions. We need to support victims of crime, help the homeless with affordable housing and drive down the cost of living. Early intervention is critical to prevent another generation of young people falling off the rails.

The Queensland Police Service's motto is displayed on every uniformed officer's sleeve—'With honour we serve'. I will feel extremely privileged to continue to serve the community of Mackay again, and I would like to adapt the Queensland police's motto for my next season and this term representing the community of Mackay—'With honour I will continue to serve'.

None of my achievements or service has been by chance. I feel every experience, every opportunity, every moment of learning has been gifted to me, and I want to give God, my heavenly Father, the glory. As I draw to a close, I would like to quote words from St Francis of Assisi as I launch into my new role as the member for Mackay. St Francis said—

Preach the gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words.

To God be the glory, great things he has done. Amen.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): I thank the member for Mackay and congratulate him on his maiden speech. Before I call the member for Mount Ommaney, I know that members may wish to congratulate the member for Mackay. Please do so as quietly as possible in order that the member on her feet may be able to speak.

Ms PUGH (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (1.49 pm): I congratulate you, Mr Deputy Speaker Lister, on the very recent birth of your son. I congratulate the member for Condamine on his elevation to the role of Speaker. I know that the member for Condamine will bring the same thoughtfulness and consideration to the role of Speaker that I witnessed when we worked together on a committee during my first term and of which the learned member for Bancroft was chair.

This speech and its writing has been a bit of a 'the days are long but the years are short' moment for me. In preparation, I read my first speech to the House and my reflections on both my community and my at-the-time very young children, little Heath and Allegra. I will return to both of those issues later, lest I become emotional.

I now want to look at the key issues that I spoke about in that first speech and the commitments that I made to this House and to my community. First, I spoke of the long-overdue upgrade of the Sumner Road overpass. It was fully completed in 2021 and was \$15 million under budget.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): I am sorry to interrupt you, member for Mount Ommaney. Members are reminded that they are not to pass between the chair and the member on their feet speaking.

Ms PUGH: This bridge, the Len Waters overpass, is a marvel of engineering. I do not generally consider myself to be an emotional person, but I must say that I almost shed a tear driving over it for the first time. The first reason is that it is a great piece of infrastructure. The second is that it is named after the first Indigenous fighter pilot, Len Waters, whose family resides in my community and were at the opening along with our former premier. It was special to hear from his now-late widow, Gladys, what it meant for her to be there on the day.

I also spoke about the need to upgrade the Darra train station park-and-ride. Thank goodness we got this done, because it has been more popular than ever thanks to 50-cent fares. The 50-cent fares have certainly been a game changer in my electorate. For an outer suburban seat with very different public transport access depending on where in the electorate you reside, 50-cent fares have made a huge difference to family budgets, including my own.

I have doorknocked thousands of people over the course of this term. Earlier this year I heard hundreds of stories about how the 50-cent fares have improved the lives and budgets of Mount Ommaney locals. One proud grandma told me that she looked forward to taking her grandkids on school holiday adventures. They took the ferry out to the bay islands. She said that there was a big queue that day because so many families had the same idea because it was a cheap day out. Commuters who have previously driven to work have now made the switch to train or bus, saving their families significantly each week. I could not be prouder of this exciting and bold policy, and I am pleased to see that it has bipartisan support.

I also spoke about the preparation of a business case to upgrade the Jindalee bridge. How is that going? Anyone with eyes will see that this excellent bridge is coming along nicely. I am very proud to be delivering this for our community. As with the Sumner Road overpass, there have been concerns raised that it will move the bottleneck up the hill. The reason this stretch of road and in particular the

bridge were selected is that the Jindalee on-ramp is so short that it causes vehicles to slow down to allow other vehicles to merge. This upgrade will ensure that motorists can merge safely, causing fewer accidents and creating a smoother flow of traffic. We all know that that means fewer hour-long delays.

I also take this opportunity, after seven years of service to my community, to single out just a few of the very special volunteers in my community. It is almost Christmas. In my community this Sunday we will have the annual Centenary Christmas carols. Around 5,000 locals will attend. Every year since I was elected it has been organised by two very special blokes, Trevor Bryce and Anthony Percival, supported by a brilliant team. They are both very humble, but both have also contributed to the community in a large number of ways.

Trevor has been recognised for his ongoing work and longstanding commitment to Centenary State High School with the special community spirit award. Trev has pride in everything he does, from the chamber of commerce revitalisation to his work in the local church, and he is a joyful person to be around. He is the perfect person to help organise Christmas carols.

Anthony is another community champion. He is the longstanding president of the St Cats soccer club. He has a keen focus on increasing participation in women's sport—another cause dear to my heart. After the Tillies' fantastic efforts last year he has been laser focused on continuing to increase the number of female players across all age groups at St Cats, which under his leadership has gone from about 60 female players a few years ago to over 200 this season. It should come as no surprise that former St Cats junior Arabella Ryan has been selected for the Matildas' junior training camp commencing shortly. This is a huge feather in her cap and we are very proud of Arabella.

At St Cats one hot October day last year, we also had a very special event organised by the amazing Amy Gomes. She came to see me because she wanted to organise an event to raise money for an automatic defibrillation device that would be publicly available and accessible to all community members. I came away from this meeting very impressed but unsure how to help. A few days later, I got a message from the aforementioned Anthony Percival, who said that he wanted to apply for Gambling Community Benefit Fund money to purchase a defib.

I remembered that each year St Cats has the capacity to host a concert for 5,000 people—our fabulous Christmas carols. I thought that perhaps these two amazing people could get together and organise an event to raise these much needed funds. The event they organised was truly incredible and featured a cameo from Greg, the original yellow Wiggle, in his capacity as ambassador for the Heart of the Nation charity. It was truly fantastic. We now have four defibs in our community and they have also been shared out with regional communities which may not have the capacity to fundraise for those devices. I am proud that my community could assist with that.

I then had a call from the local Probus club, which decided to purchase their own portable defib device to take on their excursions. As we know, Probus are a social lot. The efforts of these community champions and their army of volunteers has inspired me to commit to purchase a portable defib device with my electorate allowance so that I can loan it out for school and cultural events and the Tet Festival and Sri Lanka Day.

Ms Pease: Good idea.

Ms PUGH: Thank you. I had a conversation with Professor Nimmo at one of the many events recognising our OAMs in the community and he mentioned at the time that Queensland generally has very low numbers of nominating Queenslanders for recognitions like OAMs compared to other states. I thought of all the amazing people who worked tirelessly in my community during the 2022 floods—people like Lou Bromley and the whole Tovey family, including Brian Tovey.

The floods impacted hundreds of homes in my electorate, especially in the suburbs of Oxley and Corinda. Community, sporting and recreation clubs right throughout the electorate were impacted. Those community clubs have done an amazing job building their facilities back better. As I drive around my community today, I can see that around 80 homes have been bought back and hundreds more have been raised out of the floodwaters.

The floods and their aftermath were a gruelling time for my community and incredibly challenging emotionally for the people whose homes were affected and their large support networks throughout my community. I felt keenly the responsibility to advocate for those members of our community who were flooded. I hope they felt that support from me and my hardworking electorate office team.

I extend the challenge and opportunity to all members of parliament, in light of what Professor Nimmo said, to consider the champions in our communities and look for ways to acknowledge them, whether it is formally through the OAM nomination process or through the Volunteer of the Year awards, which are fantastic, or even through our local award ceremonies. We are surrounded by amazing people.

I also recognise my truly amazing multicultural community, including the very strong Vietnamese and South-East Asian diaspora communities that have their headquarters located in the electorate of Mount Ommaney. This makes us something of a hub for multicultural events. They are always fantastic events. Events like the Tet Festival and Holi are located around the south-west suburbs. I encourage all members to attend those events.

As I am thanking and recognising volunteers, I will now move on to the campaign volunteers who made my re-election possible. I am sure all members of the House would say that their teams were absolutely amazing. I will never cease to be amazed at the number of people who were willing to step up and support me. I was especially humbled by the large number of community advocates who joined 'Team Jess' this time. Our strong result in Mount Ommaney was certainly reflective of the wonderful community representatives who drove our campaign.

When it comes to thankyou's, I start with my amazing campaign manager, Rachel, who has actually had two babies since the last election, with baby Owen arriving just a month before this election in 2024. Rach has been there since the day I was elected and even before that working on my campaign. No-one will fight harder for something that they believe in. I want to particularly acknowledge her work to implement, for the entire Queensland parliament, another electorate officer for all of our offices across Queensland. Our electorate officers work so hard for our communities when we cannot be there, and without them we cannot do the jobs we do as members of parliament. Let's hear it for the electorate office staff who hold the fort when we are not there!

Rachel's family were also fantastic. Her husband was great with the sign sites, along with his dad, Alan. Her mum has been a regular volunteer in the office throughout the term. She would collect and deliver the clothes for our Formally Ever After drives, make sure that our Share the Dignity bins had been collected on time for the many charities we collect for or just do the shredding.

To my young gun Juan, who just never stopped: you are such a talent. I am so proud of Juan. I met him when he was a student at Centenary State High. He wanted to do work experience and I was delighted to welcome him to the team. He is motivated. He is driven and I think he is going to go on to do great things.

To my seniors team Janet and Kay, who started coming in to check on seniors during COVID and they just never stopped: your support for our seniors is so, so important. On election day alone I had over 100 volunteers, along with many more throughout the campaign. How truly blessed I am to have each and every one of them, from my P&C champions like Jade to my sports club legends like Russell. I was so proud of the positive community campaign we ran. It is so very humbling to have a large number of continuing volunteers like Lucy, Ken, Dom and Conner. I cannot thank them all here in this speech—I only have 20 minutes—so I have written them all a Christmas card.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank my opponents, especially Chris from the Greens and Lisa from the LNP. I know that, despite our political differences, we are all united by our concern for the community and our desire to make it a better place. I wish them all the best for the future.

I thank my office team—Bec, Brooke and Megan. They are all amazing women. I am so lucky to have Bec and Megan with their P&C mum background. They have provided a wealth of knowledge to my team. Brooke is an Oxley local and a mum of two who has done a great job while Rachel is on maternity leave.

I thank Milton, my wonderful friend and great support. I did worry when he was elevated to the role of Speaker that he would have less time to have a chat, but I can confirm that he is still the same wonderful person and he always has time to listen.

In this campaign we doorknocked over 5,000 homes and called about 10,000 more. I obviously did not do this alone. As I said, I have an amazing team of volunteers, aged from their early teens to, I think, their early eighties. One such volunteer was Baden, a local teacher who came along with me every single week to doorknock, along with our bigger teams on the weekend.

I thank the wonderful team at head office—Kate, Meredith and Bella, who were my main points of contact, and the whole team there. I also want to thank the union movement and in particular UWU and Together for their support not just in this campaign but in fighting with me and the caucus on key issues including a pay rise for early childhood educators and reproductive leave for everybody. I am proud to have worked to support the rights of working people and in particular women to more fully participate in the workplace. I am so lucky to have so many strong women as parliamentary colleagues. I am delighted to acknowledge the election of the 100th woman to parliament. I made my maiden speech on International Women's Day. It is a wonderful milestone.

I feel that, as parliamentarians, we should never lose sight of the importance of accessible quality education for all. As I said in my maiden speech, education has the power to transform lives, and it has many times over. I know that people in my community value this greatly, and that is why so many of them choose to send their children to the great local state schools that we have.

When I look at the importance of education I need look no further than my own children, so I return to the topic of family. When I gave my maiden speech, I said Allegra was a delightful little lady in early primary school. Now she is a young woman in her own right, starting senior schooling next year. She is about to embark on a traineeship through school to study early childhood education. I could not be more proud that she has chosen to be an educator. She is completing her traineeship through the kindergarten she attended as a child—Indooroopilly Montessori. I have always believed she would be a teacher. When I hear her come home from work experience, she is so excited to tell me about all the things she did with her students that day. As a parent, I am so delighted that my beautiful oldest girl has found her calling. I do often feel that I am learning on the job as a parent. While we always try to do our best, there are times when we feel that we have fallen short.

My son, Heath, whom many of you met yesterday, was a preppie when I gave my first speech in 2018. Mr Speaker, he is about to finish primary school! I cannot believe my tiny little boy is finishing grade 6 and off to high school. In my very biased opinion, Heath is a really smart young man. He has a wicked sense of humour and a kind heart. He may be taller than me but he will always be 'big boy pince'. I also love that he has so many friends that he has had since prep, including Evie, with whom he will be going off to high school next year.

They have now been joined by my New Year's Day baby, Elyse. I was always of the impression that third children were easygoing and went with the flow—not my Elyse! She wants to remake the world in her image and has grown up accustomed to politics, having attended almost every event with me in her first year of life. One of her first full sentences was 'Mummy, are you going to make a speech yet?' and she loves trying to take the microphone at events. She has added so much to our family and to our world.

My husband, Talbot, whom I met in this place as a new MP, continues to be my strength and stay. He is the best husband any woman and any politician could ask for. I continue to be amazed at how I could find such a wonderful match.

My dad, Dave, or Davey P as we now call him, has been a very big part of my life this year during the campaign. His year has been tough. It started out really fantastic. He was turning 67. He knew he was going to retire and he looked forward to travelling and spending more time with his parents in New Zealand. In March they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. A last-minute party was organised and Dad asked me to fly over for the day to see them. I declined. I cited work commitments. Well, Mr Speaker, we all make choices and I will have to live with mine. Just a few weeks later Nan took a really bad turn and she passed away. I missed the chance to say goodbye and I had to fly over for the funeral instead.


Nan's funeral was beautiful but unusual. We had applause and we also had heckling from my pop, Murray, sitting in the front row. He is a cheeky man, always with a ready quip and sparkling blue eyes. A few weeks later I went back to visit Murray and this time I took Elyse. They just loved each other and I promised to come back at Christmas. Despite having been in excellent health, living in low-needs aged care, Murray missed Nan. He had no-one to visit and no-one to argue with every day. So in early August I had to return to lay Murray to rest but this time at peace knowing we had shared special time and that he had met Elyse. Despite being almost 97, his death was a real shock and a deep blow to our whole family.

Murray was Dad's hero so, with all this very fresh in Dad's mind and heart, he finished full-time work and started full-time work on the campaign to be my support. First he was my sign site guru. Then he was at pre-poll all day every day. He brought his usual tireless work ethic to his role in the campaign, and for the first time in a long time he was not an expert and he had to learn. He was amazing and I could not have done it without him.

I also want to thank my ex-husband, Hugh, who continues to be very accommodating of my parliament schedule and is a wonderful partner in raising our children. He also purchased a house in the electorate last term, so I repaid the favour by sticking a sign in his yard this election.

As I reflect on my first speech, I return to the ending because for me the words are truer than ever. I cannot overstate how deeply humbled and grateful I am to have the opportunity to represent Mount Ommaney in this House. It is a responsibility that I take very seriously. Mount Ommaney is where I have chosen to make my home, raise my family and be part of the community. I promise to always fight for the residents of Mount Ommaney, to advocate for them and to always—always—put them first.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Before I call the honourable member for Caloundra, I remind the House that this is the member's maiden speech and it should be listened to with the appropriate courtesies for the occasion.

 **Ms MORTON** (Caloundra—LNP) (2.09 pm): Good afternoon, Mr Deputy Speaker and my new colleagues in the chamber. With humility, I rise today for my first speech in the chamber as the newly elected member for Caloundra. In this speech I wish to place on the record my journey to getting here and my values and passions, and thank those who have helped me get here.

My path to this position starts in a small town in north-west Tasmania. One of my greatest influences was my Pa. A career Army man and Vietnam vet, he taught me a love of learning, particularly English and mathematics. I am pretty sure I was one of the only six-year-olds running around quoting mathematical formulas, simply because he made me learn them and love them. He also taught me that there are no degrees of honesty and that mistakes are a part of life, and he instilled in me a work ethic based on values. I learned from him that if something is not right you must say something, otherwise things never get better. He was very definite that his granddaughter should get an education, and when I became a teacher—the first in my family to attend university—he said it was the greatest day of his life.

Along with my Pa, my family taught me a great love of reading, learning and maths. We always read. At one point I had read every book in the primary school library. It probably does not take much to figure out that back then I was a very shy kid. Shy or not, it was in that library that I discovered there was a world out there that was big and that big goals were achievable. I had amazing teachers and I loved to learn, to understand and to see how things could be done better. It is not a straight road from East Ulverstone Primary School to representing Caloundra in the Queensland parliament, but in hindsight the reading, the numbers, the thought, the yearning and the drive were all bricks along that path.

After moving to Queensland and a career in teaching, I started my home care business in 2016, with four kids under seven. I was absolutely devoted to creating a space that provided a better service to clients than they had ever experienced before. I loved my time in business and absolutely see a direct correlation between doing what you love, fulfilment and overall happiness. Working with people who are elderly also shows you what the concept of a lifetime really means, and it is extraordinary to work with people who have lived so much before you.

My life experiences are varied, and I feel this helps me to serve my community. I have experience with children, business, volunteering, sporting clubs, P&Cs, marriage breakdowns, teaching, nursing, accounting, eating disorders, dementia and addiction. I have experience working as a casual, a part-timer and a full-timer and being self-employed, from working in retail, to a primary school teacher, to an accountant and to a business owner. As I said, it was not a straight road. There have been plenty of ups and downs and bright and dark scenery along the way, but these are the experiences that have enriched my life, diversified my views and connected me to so many different people.

You can probably tell from this story that I hold a few personal values closely: honesty, because things cannot get fixed if we avoid them—avoiding hard truths simply moves the problem down the path; and loyalty, once earned, is an honourable trait. It goes hand in hand with honesty—a respectful relationship with those closest to you where you do not run at the first sight of trouble but roll up your sleeves and get involved. Together these amount to integrity—something that is tested in all professions but, I am sure, in few more than the one I have just entered. I believe that without integrity you do not have much else. The trust that others place in you can only stand on the bedrock of integrity.

I also believe deeply in reward for effort. I joined the Liberal National Party over seven years ago because this core value aligned with the values of the party. I believe wholeheartedly in reward for effort and that the choice of the individual is sacred. I believe in a reduction of government intervention and am outcome focused and solution driven. All of these values I put in my first speech because I want them to resonate through every speech and action of mine in this House.

Given my background, there are specific issues I am passionate about that will be discussed and debated in this place. As a former teacher and a mother of young people, education is very close to my heart. As a small business owner who grew a business from scratch, I am passionate about government getting out of the way of small business. And of course, above everything else, I love Caloundra, its people and the vision that we have put forward for its future.

I led this speech with my love of education, how it shaped me and how I started my career there. I have so much respect for our teachers and schools who are doing an exceptional job in often trying circumstances. What I have witnessed even as a parent are teachers who have far too much of their time robbed through data entry, administration, reporting, behaviour management and risk assessment. If people are able to do their jobs with more flexibility, I believe we will have better outcomes for what I consider to be the most crucial policy area of all. In recent weeks I have visited our three state high schools in Caloundra—Beerwah, Baringa and Caloundra—and I pledge here today to do whatever I can to support them. The future of Queensland is in our schools. Children need a balanced education, focusing on the basics and moving to all of the things that will make kids contributors to our economy and to society.

When I moved to Caloundra almost 20 years ago, I experienced the greatest town on earth that opened up its arms and said, 'Please live here and you can have every opportunity you've ever dreamed of.' When I started my home care business in Caloundra, I had the chance to serve some of the most vulnerable people in our society. As a result, I grew more and more connected to this community. It was a great honour.

In my business our team grew to 140, and I have worked with some of the most incredible businesspeople in Caloundra as well. Many of us had the same things to say: that government intervention and regulation was making it impossible to do business in this country and it was stifling innovation and creativity, meaning the employee lost, the employer lost and ultimately the consumer lost. I witnessed the gap between reality and policy get wider and wider, and it would not be my maiden speech without giving testament to the brilliant businesses we have in Caloundra that often do not ask government for anything other than to stop making it harder. I would like to acknowledge Jen and Nic from Saltwater Medical as business owners in our community who took the incredibly brave step during the campaign of speaking out against things that had a direct impact on the way services are delivered. I thank them for doing that.

I am so grateful to be standing here today to represent the people of Caloundra. Forty years ago it was a beachside town with a small population. It was beautiful and the source of many memories for people all over Queensland who had holidayed there over many years with their families often as a tradition. There is something so magical about Caloundra that people started to move there, and move there they did. The population increased at a rapid rate, and over the past 10 years it has grown to over 100,000 people. As a result we have an electorate made up of people from all over the country and the world.

The thing that makes Caloundra different to other parts of this state and makes it so uniquely special is that the second you move to Caloundra you instantly become a local. Caloundra will welcome you and provide you with opportunities. The people of Caloundra are special and fiercely protective of where we live. We are the home of community groups, social groups, sporting groups and people who are devoted to making Caloundra the greatest place to work, live and play. Unfortunately, Caloundra has always been treated like an afterthought by all levels of government. When the population grows so rapidly, it is crucial that there are services and infrastructure in place to match that population growth. Instead, we have been neglected and we have watched our livability suffer as a result. But with the greatest opportunity I have ever been given, and being given that opportunity by the people of Caloundra, I can assure them that I will ensure Caloundra does not miss out any longer. It is our turn.

During the campaign we made a lot of promises to Caloundra. What makes me so proud is that these promises were dictated by an engaged and dedicated community. After doorknocking on over 10,000 doors and my team and I making 17,000 phone calls, we collected enough data to really truly demonstrate what the people of Caloundra want and what they have missed out on. These engagements saw enough people telling me that they were so worried about the state of the Pumicestone Passage since the Bribie Island breakthrough that we put on a community forum attended by 140 people. We had people like Ken Newburn and John Groves talk us through the history of the Pumicestone Passage and the impact the breakthrough is having. They pulled in other local experts, including Les who has lived on the passage for 70 years. They shared with me the frustrations of dealing with the layers and layers and layers of bureaucracy to get absolutely nowhere. The locals drove the issue of the Pumicestone Passage with passion and dedication, and were so generous in sharing their

time and their knowledge that there was simply no way that this issue could be ignored. As a result, an LNP government committed to funding the Sunshine Coast Waterways Authority so waterways like the Pumicestone Passage can be taken seriously.

I had people that were not only concerned about youth crime but also about a culture of young people. Over and over again, people in Caloundra told me that they felt the pathway for our young kids was not as clear as it used to be, that the opportunities were not as obvious for them to get skilled, to get motivated and to get excited by the possibility of their whole life in front of them. So, we committed to building a TAFE centre of excellence with a focus on construction trades which is also critical because of the 90,000 tradies we are short for the million homes we are also short.

I spoke to sports clubs. They are at capacity once again because of our population growth. When you are a sports club that is at capacity, it means no more people can come and play sport at your club because you do not have the lighting or the facilities available. These clubs are run by volunteers, volunteers that are passionate about giving back to community and once again frustrated by a lack of investment which makes it harder for them to operate. We have committed to funding lights at four Caloundra clubs which will completely change what they can offer our community. We have committed funding for early intervention programs, investment into the CBD, and an organisation called Roofs to Recovery that has a fast way to provide a roof over the head of someone who is facing homelessness. When I met Cass at seven months pregnant with her second child living in crisis accommodation, it really hit home that we are in crisis. This young mum has been on the social housing waitlist for seven years and now faces life with her newborn and no place to call home.

But here is the big one. The people of Caloundra, above everything else, have had enough of one thing. What is that one thing?

Mr Bleijie: Congestion.

Ms MORTON: They are sick of sitting in traffic and sick of not being able to move around the place that we call home. There has not been a conversation in the last 12 months where I have not dropped this in. The complete mismatch of investment into our road network when compared to our population growth has put Caloundra in a critical position where, if something is not done very soon, people will cease to enjoy living there. There is one road into Caloundra and unsurprisingly named Caloundra Road. The number one issue across the entire electorate is Caloundra Road. If there is one thing I want for our Caloundra, it is a better road network that keeps traffic flowing. We have committed to the Caloundra traffic congestion busting plan which is made up of five key road projects. Nothing like this has ever been delivered before, but I can assure the people of Caloundra that there has never been a thing in my life that has been either too big or too hard that I have not been willing to tackle.

I can promise the people of Caloundra that I will advocate every single day for the projects that set us up for the future and ensure Caloundra does not continue to miss out. This place changed my life and I owe it, and I owe the people of Caloundra who have given me the opportunity with their vote. I can promise you I will remember that every single day.

I know I would not be here today without the support of others. I certainly would not be here without joining the Liberal National Party. I am thankful that the members saw something in me to take on this challenge.

I would like to thank my parents, all four of them, and my Gemma particularly, for their support during pre-poll and the last 25 days of the campaign. I would like to thank my campaign volunteers, my SEC and all of the people who have helped me along the journey, in particular my campaign team of Rob, Sam, Mary, Deb, Ben and Michael; my Sunshine Coast fellow MPs who were my biggest supporters; former MP for Caloundra Mark McArdle; Senator James McGrath; as well as acknowledging Sam Tarou and Andy Longmire for their guidance. Lastly, to one of the most incredible people I know, my campaign manager Frangie, I could not have done this without you.


I would also like to recognise the other 33 women in this chamber as I recognise the significance of women in leadership and influence and how seriously we all take it. Despite having the support and encouragement of this institution, and for me a leader and deputy leader who have been instrumental in my pathway here, it is not necessarily representative of the broader society, and data does not lie.

I have four children of my own. I am a single mum to Coty, Rafe, JJ and Tula. They are 15, 13, 11 and 9—and giant. True! People often wonder how I can parent effectively and still focus on a demanding career which is a question I very much doubt any of my male colleagues in this chamber have ever been asked. My advice to them is do something you love and you can do anything, and as

long as everyone keeps talking, we are all winning. I do wish to acknowledge those children, though, who are mature, socially aware, politically aware, good company and proud of their mum, as I am of them.

I want the energy and sentiment of this first speech to guide me in this House. I will use the long and winding road to here and all of the experiences along the way to keep me grounded and give me perspective. I will hold my values dear and pursue my passions, passions that I now have the privilege of being able to pursue in this important arena. I will always remember it is Caloundra that is my home, it is Caloundra that has my heart, and it is the people of Caloundra that entrust me with this position and I will do my absolute best for them. Thank you very much.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Caloundra. Just before I call the member for Sandgate, I would remind all members that this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions, so I ask you to keep your congratulations to the member for Caloundra to the minimum.

 **Ms ASIF** (Sandgate—ALP) (2.27 pm): Fittingly, the Aboriginal name for the Sandgate area is Warra, meaning 'the expanse of open water'. The Turrbal people are the traditional owners and custodians of the land in the Sandgate area, and I would like to pay my respects to the elders past, present and emerging.

Friends, I stand before you today as the elected representative for the people for Sandgate. With a heart full of gratitude and hope, I am humbled by the trust my community has placed in me and inspired by the journey that has led me here. I would like to pay a special tribute to my predecessor Stirling Hinchliffe. Stirling served Sandgate for nine years and before that served as the state member for Stafford for six. Stirling, thank you for being my local member, campaign director and for the time you dedicated to introducing me to the people of Sandgate and showing me the best our community has to offer. In your first speech to parliament, you said this place allowed you to explore and serve your three passions—your local community, the Australian Labor Party and our democracy. I have no doubt that you will look back on your 15 years of service and be proud of all you have achieved. You and I both agree with the words of Bob Hawke: Australia is the land of opportunity and we must make sure that opportunity is available to everyone.

My family and I are migrants. In 2004, my parents, Asif and Shabana, left everything they knew behind when they left Pakistan for Australia in search of a better life. I was eight and my sister, Aamna, was just four. As an adult, I am now able to appreciate the strength and courage it must have taken for my parents to make the decision to move their young family across the world, away from family and friends to a very different country. They risked everything in search of a brighter future for us and their strong belief that Australia offered this opportunity. They arrived with little more than a dream and the belief that with hard work, education, opportunity and determination, we could build a better life. This journey was not easy.

When we arrived I did not speak English, and neither did my mother or sister. We had no idea what the future would hold. We moved into a small townhouse in Blacktown, western Sydney, and embarked on our Australian story. On many days I stood in front of the classroom not understanding the words around me, struggling to keep up. I remember that feeling of isolation. The one thing that kept me going was my English as a Second Language class and my teacher, Mrs Dux, who was always patient and warm. Knowing I was not alone, that every kid around me, no matter where they came from, was facing their own struggle, three years after our arrival, on 28 June 2007, our small family with big dreams put on our best clothes and headed to Bowman Hall in Blacktown, where we received our Australian citizenship. After this we went for a family dinner at the Blacktown Workers Club. We had the buffet—it was a good day. Eventually we moved to Queensland, living in Crestmead and Manly West, where I graduated from Wynnum State High School. In 2015 I had to move out of home, taking my sister with me.

I am often asked why I became politically active and why Labor. This is why. I was 19, studying full-time, trying to navigate our welfare system to gain legal guardianship of my sister and working three jobs—in a call centre, a kebab shop and a pizza joint—to keep a roof over our heads. There were days where, despite working three jobs, I had just 70 cents in my account and we did not know where our next meal was coming from. We relied on social workers, our welfare system, public health care and grocery coupons from the University of Queensland Union. I share this as my story, but I know there are many others out there who are struggling. I also know that only Labor addresses inequality in all its forms. This is why I was motivated to get active in the Labor Party during the 2016 federal election. I campaigned for Wayne Swan, who remains a source of support and guidance today. I campaigned

because I was passionate about saving Medicare, which was threatened by a federal coalition government. I decided that I could not just sit back and let things happen around me; I had to get involved.

My upbringing and life experiences have given me my Labor values. I am all-in for universal public health care and workers' rights and a proud union member. I was the victim of wage theft when I worked in hospitality. I have been proud to see the Labor Party live out our values in government and criminalise wage theft, but there is more work to do to provide more secure, well-paid jobs where workers are treated with respect.

I am proud to have completed my education and to have received my economics degree at the University of Queensland. Since working my way through university in various hospitality jobs, I have dedicated my working life to electing Labor governments and enacting progressive policies. I am proud to have spent several years working for Senator Anthony Chisholm, and after the election of the Albanese Labor government in 2022 I was able to contribute to historic aged-care reforms, working as a policy adviser for Anika Wells, Minister for Aged Care and member for Lilley.

As the member for Sandgate, I intend to do everything I can to make a difference. My top priority will be fighting to deliver more investment to ensure there are more secure, well-paid jobs to help families pay the bills and provide for a better future. I will be a fierce advocate for protecting and improving our universal public healthcare system—the issue that got me involved in politics. Access to quality health care should never be determined by your postcode, income or background. Health care is a right for all, not a privilege for the few. Our world-class public health system needs to evolve to stay ahead and meet the needs of our growing and diverse communities. This means more funding for our hospitals, more investment in mental health services and greater access to affordable medications. It means making sure that no-one is left behind.

My first political memory is from 2012 when, along with the rest of the world, I watched a girl my age in Swat, Pakistan—a seven-hour drive from where I was born—speak out publicly for her right to an education. Speaking out for her right to learn made Malala Yousafzai a target and got her shot in the left side of her head by a Taliban gunman. At 16 I watched in horror the reality of what was happening back home. It was then that I understood the privilege I was afforded when my parents made the decision to move here to give my sister and me a better life. From then on, I have never taken anything for granted. A good public education changed my whole life. Education is the foundation of our future. Education opens doors. We need to strive for a future where no child misses out and every young person has a chance to shape their destiny, no matter their background.

I am proud to represent our modern multicultural state. I am proud to be the first Pakistani and Punjabi elected to the Queensland parliament. I am proud to speak three languages of my family and ancestors: Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi.

The member for Sandgate then spoke in languages other than English—Urdu, Hindi and Punjabi.

I am proud of these values because they represent all Queenslanders who, like my parents, came here seeking a better life while contributing to society—the diverse, hardworking and vibrant people who come together to make Australia a beautiful multicultural society. I am also proud to be the first Muslim elected to the Queensland parliament. My faith has taught me the value of service to others, the importance of justice and the belief that we are all part of something greater than ourselves. Just like Labor's values, it is about building a fairer, more inclusive society. Faith is not just something that is practised in private; it is something that guides how we live our lives, how we treat others and how we contribute to the greater good.

The promise of Australia—and, I believe, what makes this the best country in the world—is that, no matter where you come from, no matter your circumstances, with hard work and opportunity you can build a better life. Our country believes in the power of aspiration—the power to dream big, to reach for something greater and to know that, if you work hard, your dreams are within your grasp. I was always taught that if you work hard enough you could succeed, but success does not come from hard work alone. It comes from good governments, systems, teachers, doctors and healthcare professionals and a strong community. As the member for Sandgate, I want to help leave a legacy where health care, education and equal opportunity are not privileges but rights for all.

Like many, I love our great state of Queensland and nowhere more than my electorate and home of Sandgate. Sandgate is a special place characterised historically as the seaside retreat for Brisbanites. It includes the older suburbs of Sandgate, Brighton, Deagon and Shorncliffe. Urban growth

has added the suburbs of Bracken Ridge, Taigum, Fitzgibbon and Bald Hills, helping to build a vibrant, multicultural and strong community. The sun shines bright, the beaches stretch for miles and the dream of a better life is always on the horizon.

It is the bustling foreshore where families from across our community enjoy their Sunday picnic while having fish and chips from Doug's or Shelley's. It is the serenity and peacefulness of the Brighton Wetlands, where Daniela is proud of the lush garden she has grown from scratch. It is home to Ann, five, who likes Barbie, cats and dancing, and Chloe, seven, who is bound to be a famous author one day. She is currently working on a piece about a crab called Carl, for anyone who is interested!

In Bracken Ridge, busy families like Pariwesh and Anju rush to get their groceries done at the plaza before Anju heads to care for our most vulnerable at the Brighton Health Campus as a nurse. In Fitzgibbon, Krrish takes his younger sister for a skate around Hidden Wells Playground and Pushkar and Ritu arrive early to open the Night Owl to provide support to our community. In Taigum, Emma and Andrew are renting but hope to buy their own home one day and hundreds of devoted Sikhs arrive at the gurudwara to perform matha tek and seva.

In Deagon, where Amy and Brent bought their first home and welcomed their first baby, beautiful August loves pointing at the trains as they go past their backyard and yells out 'Dada' because he thinks it is Brent heading to Bowen Hills, where he works at Queensland Rail. In Shorncliffe, Rod and Karen walk along the Shorncliffe Pier recounting over 60 years of memories, including moving into their home and raising their three children in the community they still call home.

These are the stories of Sandgate. They are all different but at their heart they are all the same: families from different backgrounds who are fighting to build a good life. I want to help you in that fight. Together for you and thousands of Sandgate locals, I promise to be bold in my ambition for our community and unwavering in my commitment to help build a better, fairer, more equal future for all. I am proud to serve you and I am grateful to everyone who helped support my campaign.

James Carville once said of political campaigning—

Outside of a person's love the most sacred thing they can give is their labor. Labor is a very precious thing you have and any time you can combined labor and love you've really made a match.

Many people gave endless hours of their time, their love and their support along this journey. To my campaign managers, Tom Hinchliffe and Gabriella Dawson: Tom, you have always been a trusted friend. Your loyalty to me and the Labor Party and your commitment to help the average Australian is undefeated. Thank you for putting in the countless hours and sweat and I am sure there were tears in the very end, which helped our victory in Sandgate. Gab, I am so glad to have met you, mainly because I know one day you will do great things. Your ability to 'sponge' is incredible. In all seriousness, you went above and beyond in every way to make our campaign a success. I know I did not make things easy at times, but you took everything thrown at you and just made things work. PS I am still waiting on those painted signs.

To my campaign director and the most hardworking local councillor Jared Cassidy: your commitment to our community inspires me. You never think twice before considering how you can help others and you truly care about the community we live in. Thank you for your wise counsel.

To my former employers and friends, Anika Wells and Anthony Chisholm: few candidates have had the mentorship and guidance I have been privileged to have had from you. Chis, the opportunity of working for you gave me a unique experience of working on target campaigns, which of course came in very handy in Sandgate. Thank you. Anika, thank you for your ever so honest advice and for showing that combining authenticity with hard work can go a long way.

To our team at party office, our relentless campaign director Kate Flanders, assistant secretary Zac Beers, and target seats director Mitchell Kingston: thank you for your years of friendship, support and guidance. You ran a strong campaign in tough circumstances and my only complaint was that Mitchell, as my husband, frequently reminded me that Sandgate was, in fact, not a target seat, but more on him later.

To my organiser, Isabella Scattini: Bella, I have always been able to count on your advice no matter the situation, from how I should walk down the aisle to how I should deal with tough questions on the campaign. I will never forget standing in Daniela's backyard. You have kept me humble and honest. Thank you.

I also want to extend my gratitude to Megan Hinchliffe. It is no easy task to devote yourself to public life, but it is even harder to be the partner who has to problem-solve the unsolvable problems. I know how well you did that on my own campaign. Thank you.

Thank you to my friends Rachel Limpus, Finbar Fuller, Jill Molloy, Jane Webster, Luke Richmond, Riley Williamson, Alex Elliot and in particular my longtime friend and supporter Josh Millroy from the Transport Workers' Union. All your support and friendship over the years, and especially in the past 12 months, has been worth more to me than you know. To the Australian Workers' Union, led by Stacey Schinnerl, Mark Raguse and Joseph Kaiser, thank you not just for your support but everything you do for workers and our party in this state. Thank you as well to my parents-in-law, Anita and Greg Kingston, and to Ben Rillo, Rachel Brimblecombe, Sam Lynch, Sam Rae, Ali Kadri, Bahzad Aslam and to the Pakistani community.

To our Sandgate team, Usama Shafiq, thank you for your countless hours of doorknocking in scorching heat with me. Thank you for being there with me every weekend and helping knock on thousands of doors. To Tim Tyrell, Paul Taylor, Declan Duff, Julie Miller-Morrison, Will Henderson, Jen Henderson, Emily Jones, Harry Thorn, Jared Noble and all of the Sandgate branch, thank you for your dedication and endless hours of work. To mama G and papa G, thank you.


The member for Sandgate then spoke in a language other than English—Urdu.

Thank you for your courage in leaving your homeland to give us the best opportunities. Your hard work and determination have helped shape the path I walk today. To my sister and best friend, Aamna, from playing our games in the yard to the last 12 months on the campaign trail, you have always been there for me and have always cheered me on. We have been through so much together, and your dedication, encouragement and strength have meant the world to me. I am proud of the young woman you have become.

Finally, to my husband, Mitchell: I may be biased, but I am yet to meet anyone who is more dedicated to seeing Labor governments elected. Mitchell, your devotion towards seeing a positive change for our society and the vigour with which you work has shown me I absolutely made the right call in asking you to give me a lift in 2016 to Wayne Swan's doorknock to save Medicare in Stafford Heights and then again asking you to come doorknocking with me for the now member for Mansfield in 2017. Little did I know that a doorknock in Wishart would lead me to find someone I would fall in love with, someone with a strong character. You are honest, compassionate and, simply put, the best husband I could ask for. I could not have done this without your support. You were there with me in my toughest times reminding me that we could have a better life together. I am here because of your belief in me. Every sacrifice has brought us here to this very moment. Thank you and I love you.

I ran for parliament because I know what it is like to struggle. I know what it is like to have just 70 cents in my account and not know how I was going to make ends meet. I know that my story is common: a lot of people out there are working hard and doing their best but doing it tough. I am here to do what I can to make a difference and to play a small part in making your lives a little bit easier, to ensure you have the opportunity to have the life you dream of for you and your family. I stand here proud to be a member of the Queensland parliament, as a girl born in Lahore, who grew up in Blacktown and who now calls Sandgate home. I promise now and every day to fight for the people I represent and fight for working people everywhere. I will not let you down.

Mr SPEAKER: Once again I ask those giving congratulations to keep the noise to a minimum. Before I call the member for Barron River, I would remind the chamber that this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Ms JAMES** (Barron River—LNP) (2.46 pm): Humbled by the privilege of delivering this speech, I introduce myself to this House with no more qualifications than someone who believes in actions rather than words. I take this seat representing the people of Barron River as a passionate North Queenslander who fell in love with my home town more than 20 years ago and I will use every day in this role to improve our community.

I hold this seat on trust not only in the sense that I hold it for Barron River where my children and their friends will hopefully raise their children, but in the sense that the electors of Barron River entrusted me with this responsibility. I am no different to many, if not all, in this chamber: we the few who were elected by the many to represent their hopes, their dreams and their ambitions, to respect that we come as the voice of the voiceless and though we stand here in this place on our own two feet, we stand on the shoulders of many.

Over the past two weeks I have given deep thought to the journey that led me here. Parents, particularly mothers, will understand the constant feelings of inadequacy and guilt. They simply come with me today against a different backdrop. I do not have a professional background that would traditionally qualify me for this job. I am not an accountant, I am not a lawyer or a local councillor and I have never worked in the Public Service. I am a proud small business owner.

I started a magazine that helped new mums and dads and established parents navigate parenthood. In a way it is the perfect grounding for this role. Every edition was tough, I had to fight for every dollar and there were many days when I wondered whether or not it was making a difference. However, every time a reader came up to me and told me how much it meant to them, it made it all worthwhile. Every time I received an email thanking us for our work, it reminded me that we are helping families which, in turn, helped our community. It also helped me to be comfortable with those feelings of inadequacy and guilt not only as a parent, but as a small business owner. It made me proud to figure out things in my own imperfect way and be comfortable with the fact that in reality I have never really fit in, although it took me decades to be okay with that.

I have to remind myself in moments of self-doubt that from a very young age I was driven by service and purpose. Having been raised on a single mother's pension, I can say that life was always about needs, not wants, and my childhood taught me respect for money and the value of working hard towards your goals. I believe that the tougher your beginnings, the stronger your resolve. We should never let excuses outweigh our ambition.

No matter the cards you are dealt, you can still win the game if you play with skill, courage and conviction, so I was the child who sold the red noses, who did the 40-hour famines and who wanted to rescue all of the animals, and if there was an opportunity to dress up I would be a businesswoman while the other girls dressed as princesses and fairies. I struggled in the classroom academically and socially. Almost daily I would go home in tears because I was bullied as I did not fit in with my peers. I spent my lunchtimes in primary school helping my teachers by cleaning their storerooms and photocopying instead of playing, but organising and helping my teachers gave me my first taste of purpose.

Watching my mum's daily struggle to put food on the table and, at times, miss meals so her children could eat is something I will never forget. I would not bring home the school excursion notes just so I did not have to see the look in her eyes, wondering where she would be able to get the money to send me. I had a strong sense of responsibility for my life and the lives of others from a very young age and my entrepreneurial journey started very early. When I was 10 years old I started selling handmade artwork and convinced my dad's girlfriend at the time to sign me up as an Avon representative, so I sold Avon to my teachers and my neighbours and I did very, very well. It was at this age that I decided to throw my first big event. Using some of the money that I had earned, I decided to throw a surprise 40th birthday party for my mum and a bunch of her friends. Still to this day she cannot believe that I pulled it off without her knowing. Since then I have done countless events for free for my community.

By 14 years old I was singing and playing saxophone in clubs and pubs with my dad's band and by 18 I started my first official business when ABNs first came out in 1998—an events and entertainment business that I have had for over 25 years. Bringing families together and uniting them through events and music has brought a lot of joy to the local families I reside near and, in turn, to me. I have always loved what I do and it never felt like work. The more gigs and events I did, though, the more I realised I had a marketing problem. Parents always told me they wished they knew when the shows and events were on. In these times there was no Facebook, hardly anyone had the internet and websites were few and far between, so in 2007 I decided something needed to be done about it. I had an idea that I would start a 'what's on' magazine for families to share the things happening in our region, but had I ever worked in the print industry? No, I had not. Had I ever sold advertising? No. I must have been an A-grade English student? My teachers would certainly disagree on that one. I must have had a journalism background or experiences or qualifications? No, I did not. Well, you would think that I was at least drawing on my own experiences and frustrations as a parent, which would have been great, but at that point I did not even have a cat, let alone children!

Within six weeks I launched the first edition and sold enough advertising to cover the costs. The magazine covered not only what was on but also health advice, parenting advice, education topics and lots more. No-one thought I would last a year, but they were wrong. PakMag printed over 4½ million copies and published 438 editions—numbers unmatched by any other privately owned magazine publisher in Australia. I know the ripple effect the magazine had on countless families, and that is what drove us to do it. When you are raised to earn things instead of expecting them, you work hard, you work smart and you never take things for granted. When you are driven by intrinsic motivators like making people's lives easier and making the world a better place, not extrinsic motivations like financial rewards and fancy titles, you live a life with purpose.

One of the biggest reasons I wanted to have a seat in parliament is for the small business owners, especially all of those parentpreneurs—the brave raising a business and a family at the same time. I believe it has never been easier to start a small business, but it has never been harder to have one.

Small and family owned businesses are the biggest employers in the country. They are the ones that sponsor our schools and our sports teams. They are the ones that are here for the community in the tough times. They are the risk takers who invest in hiring more staff and growing the business when times are good instead of taking a pay rise themselves.

Being a business owner used to be a badge of honour. However, now it is a burden for many. So many of my extraordinarily resilient small business friends, many of whom have been in business for more than a decade, are thinking about selling or throwing in the towel because it is just getting too hard. They are working harder than ever for less reward than they ever have. Many business owners are the lowest paid per hour employees in the country, but there is no union coming to fight for them. I promise to be a strong voice for business owners, whether they are a local coffee shop, a solopreneur, a parentpreneur, a tourism operator or even a musician who is losing gigs because one person has made a noise complaint at a venue. I will fight for you.

While all of these things drove me to this moment, I would not be here without the people of Barron River. To the people of Barron River: thank you so much for entrusting me with this massive responsibility. I will never take it for granted. You have my word that whatever issues come my way I will be fair, I will be reasonable and I will always look at things from all perspectives. I will fight for our fair share of funding and I will stand up for what is best for our community.

I am also fully aware that I am not the first or the last who will hold this seat, so to those who have held it before me and even those who have run trying to hold this seat: thank you for your dedication, ideas and passion for our region. To those who will hold it after me in the decades to come: I will work as hard as I can to pass a better Barron River to you than the one we have today. That is why I am here. I want solutions to deliver on a vision for the future for our region.

As a passionate Far North Queenslander, I find myself feeling quite guilty that you all have come to this place from less spectacular regions. I am truly blessed to live in the jewel of Queensland's crown. It is a life blessing to wake every day to the sound of birds in the heritage listed rainforest, to see the exact spot where the rainforest meets the reef and to share the waters with thousands of species of exotic fish, mammals and sea life, but it is more of a blessing to share the region with other Far North Queenslanders. I feel this because I was on the ground a year ago as floodwaters were rising, as so many of our constituents were for days, weeks and months—feeding the now homeless, cleaning the silt, tearing down the devastation and watching the complete look of pathos as the aftermath of a tropical cyclone did its level best to annihilate the spirit of a people who do not know how to quit.

Whatever side of the ticket they vote, at their heart they are amazing people and 'quit' just is not in their vocabulary. They have made lives and forged empires in one of Australia's most unforgiving terrains. For the farmers, tourism operators, entrepreneurs and small business operators who call Far North Queensland home, it is going to take a lot more than a category 5 storm, COVID, the GFC or a number of pilot strikes to knock them out. We are defined by our resilience. We sweat it out in the 37-degree heat and the 92 per cent humidity. You can see it on the Colorbond roofers screwing roofs in November. You can see it in the canefarmers looking over cyclone ravaged crops. You can feel it emanating from the residents of Holloways Beach who are laying brick by brick to put back their houses that were swept away a year ago. It is a mistake to underestimate the determination and drive of Far North Queenslanders, and resilience is a badge that we wear proudly. So how do I honour these people? I work on progress, not platitudes. There is a time to stand here nicely attired and ready to be vocal, but there is also a time for shorts and a singlet and to grab a shovel, a mop or a broom, and generally that time of year is coming up.

I am absolutely honoured to be given the responsibility as assistant minister responsible for Far North Queensland, and to do that as part of a team led by our Premier, who is a North Queenslander, is an absolute honour. All of the aspects of my assistant ministry are very close to my heart. Tourism is the lifeblood of our region and the creative industries have been in my blood since I played in those bands with my dad a very long time ago. Together, the Far North Queensland economy would not survive without these two industries and Queensland as a whole would be a much lesser place. They are also industries made up of small businesses that make up the fabric of our communities. Given my background in founding and building the little magazine that could, I am passionate about early learning and early years development.

I stand here today because I draw inspiration from many of you in this room who supported me on this journey to get here. To my new LNP family: I am so grateful to each and every one of you not only for inspiring and paving the way for many of us to be here today but also for your humility, loyalty, integrity and work ethic. As I sat in the room with the new MPs I realised that our experiences and


differences are what make us a strong team ready to make a big impact—from the youngest woman elected to this place to new members who have put their hand up time and time again to represent their community and some who are driven to strive for a better Queensland in part through moving personal stories and moments. We do not share a uniform political origin story; we share an unpolished drive for a better Queensland starting in our local communities. Ten weeks into my campaign, my part of the world got hit by a one-in-100-year flood after Cyclone Jasper in the lead-in to Christmas, and many of you went over and above to help me and the FNQ community. During tough times, leaders do not disappear; they rise. Thank you for all you did during that time and all you did to support me to get here today. I am honoured to be part of the LNP team.

In particular, I would like to thank the member for Bonney, who was a patron of my campaign. Your guidance was and continues to be a great source of comfort. To my Barron River campaign team manager, Sue, and her husband, Wayne—my campaign parents—who are upstairs today because they are that dedicated: thank you for the incredible sacrifices you made and your dedication to me and the LNP to run such an incredible campaign. Some 421 days ago, we started an extraordinary mission. Our campaign journey included fun things like doorknocking and calling thousands of homes, countless events and mobile offices, energetic roadsides and drive-through ‘meet the candidate’ roadsides. I patted hundreds of pets. I even cable-skied. Certain people in this room dressed up in Barbie and Ken outfits to raise money for the local children’s wards. I had two dogs nip me and I saw way too many naked people—it is clearly very hot in Far North Queensland! I even lost one toenail. I would not be here today if it were not for the very persistent Fred, who nominated me; my campaign team; and all of my incredible Barron River supporters, donors and volunteers. Thank you so much for going over and above and agreeing to all of my crazy ideas. I could not have done it without you.

Lastly, I want to thank my incredible family. I am forever grateful to my two wonderful and resilient parents who have been there, believed in me and encouraged me to give this one precious life all I’ve got. To my beautiful friends, who I have hardly seen in the last 14 months since I fell into this world: thank you for your grace, your care and for dropping me food. Most of all, I want to thank my wonderful husband, Trent, and my two amazing sons, Jordan and Sean, who are also upstairs. Thank you for encouraging me to step into this world despite the sacrifices it means to our own family. My biggest blessing in this world is you. During this campaign you took stepping up for your community to a new level and I am so proud of you. Thank you to all of those who supported me and believed in me for all you did to get me to this moment. I am so deeply humbled and grateful.

This place is full of history, but it is the future that will drive me while I am here. If I am here for four years or four terms, I will commit everything I have to representing the people of Barron River every day. While the flight down to parliament will be exciting, I will look forward to the flight home because I get my energy from the beautiful place I live in and the people who live in it. That is where my heart is and always will be. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Barron River. I remind members not to walk between the Speaker and the camera while the speaker is on their feet. We have another first speech coming up so once again I remind members that the first speech should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Dr O’SHEA** (South Brisbane—ALP) (3.03 pm): I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, the Yagara and Turrbal people. I pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging and to any First Nations people here with us today. Mr Speaker, I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Speaker of the Queensland parliament and extend those congratulations to the other new members of parliament.

As we all know, the most important people in Queensland are not in this chamber today. They are the members of our communities who have elected us to represent them in their state parliament. I am standing here today because the people of my electorate, South Brisbane, have placed their faith in me, their trust in me and, most importantly, their hope for the future. I first came to South Brisbane over 30 years ago as a young doctor to work in emergency at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, the PA. In all the years working for my community, whether crawling through car wreckages to rescue people, fighting to save the lives of heroin users or treating psychiatric patients in the locked ward at the PA, in all those roles I realised that the most important thing I could do was give people hope. Hope, because there was someone in their corner who cared about them and who would fight for them. Right now with the housing crisis, many people in my community have lost hope. When I hear of families living in cars and tents it reminds me of when my family had to live in a car when I was a child. Being offered public housing gave my family hope for a better life. With stable housing I was able to get a good education,

work hard and become a doctor, but I never forgot my early years and all my life I have fought for fairness, whether for my patients, for young workers or for my community, and I will continue that fight now as the state member for South Brisbane.

My electorate of South Brisbane lies just across the river from here and is an important part of our First Nations history. The lands south of the river, with its succession of waterholes, was the site of permanent Aboriginal camps and meeting places. Our electorate also bears reminders of the injustices of our colonial history. In the mid-1800s, Boundary Street in West End marked the southern perimeter of Brisbane with Indigenous people banned from crossing the boundary and entering the city in the evenings and on Sundays. In modern times South Brisbane is a busy, vibrant electorate, home to South Bank, site of the 1988 Expo with its beach and lagoon, the world-class Queensland Performing Arts Centre, the Queensland art galleries and museum, the famous Gabba stadium and the stunning Kangaroo Point cliffs.

Although South Brisbane is Queensland's smallest electorate by size, it is densely populated with over 65,000 residents in the last census. It is a diverse and eclectic community, with waves of migrants making their homes there over the years from, among other countries, Russia, Italy, Greece, Lebanon, China and Vietnam. Coming from all different backgrounds, these new Australians worked hard and built a tolerant, welcoming community. South Brisbane has particularly benefited from the hard work and strong community focus of our large Greek community who have contributed so much to the life and businesses of our electorate. South Brisbane has always been a safe and accepting space for the LGBTIQA+ community and, renowned for its creative soul, has been home to some of Australia's most celebrated authors and artists like the legendary David Malouf and Margaret Olley. Our strong, supportive community in South Brisbane is testament to the hundreds of thousands of hours given by countless volunteers, people who give freely of their time in our school P&Cs, sporting associations, church groups and community organisations, to run school fetes, coach children, run barbecues and look after the homeless, the lonely and the elderly. These volunteers are the true heroes of our community.

From a political point of view, South Brisbane is one of the oldest electorates in Queensland and has a long Labor history. Our electorate has the proud legacy of electing the first Greek-born member of an Australian parliament, Jim Fouras, who was elected to this parliament in 1977. From 1983 to 2020 the seat was held by three extraordinary women: Anne Warner, Anna Bligh and Jackie Trad. They all worked tirelessly for South Brisbane as ministers, treasurers, deputy premiers and, of course, with Anna Bligh, our first female premier. Among their many achievements, they were instrumental in supporting more women to enter political life and they fought to end domestic violence and for abortion law reform, culminating in decriminalising abortions in 2018, ensuring that in this state termination of pregnancy is treated as a health issue and not a criminal issue.

I would like to acknowledge Amy MacMahon, who served as the state member for South Brisbane for the past four years. I thank her for all her hard work for the community during that time. I wish her well for this next stage in her life.

I come from a large extended Irish family that, like me, has formed part of the Irish diaspora, with family members spread all across the world. I would like to pay tribute to my father, Tom O'Shea, who died last year, for his work ethic and commitment to family. He grew up in rural Ireland, in County Tipperary. Due to illness he missed out on an education and left school unable to read and write, but he headed to England and worked hard as a chef. All his life he worked double shifts to provide for our family and for his mother and siblings back in Ireland. With my mother's help, he learned to read and write and became a prolific letter writer. His most treasured possessions were letters from prime ministers and presidents, from 10 Downing Street and the White House, and he would have been very proud to have his daughter represent her community in this House. I thank my mother, Mary O'Shea—who even at 89 still has more energy than anyone I have ever met—for her absolute focus on ensuring that my siblings and I received an outstanding state education that set us up for life.

Two years ago I heard that there were children living in tents and cars in my electorate. I decided I could not live with myself if I did not try to do something to help so I made the decision to enter politics. I joined the Labor Party because my values are Labor's values. I am a lifelong Labor voter because I believe in Labor's values of fairness and access to safe, affordable housing, a good education, quality health services and safe work at fair pay. Those are the values I have lived my life by and they are behind my decision to become a doctor and work with the most vulnerable in my community as well as the causes I have chosen to champion over the years.

I am a strong supporter of the union movement and all they have achieved for workers in this country. A by-product of their success is that the very rights that unions fought for are often taken for granted by young people, who are genuinely surprised that their penalty rates, annual leave, sick leave and paid parental leave were all brought about by the work of unions.

I would like to thank everyone who helped on the campaign to win back this seat for Labor, particularly my extraordinary campaign director, Sasha Marin, who took on so many roles and cheerfully worked tirelessly for months on end; my mentor, the Hon. Dr Mary Crawford AM, for her invaluable practical advice, her sense of humour and her unwavering belief in me; Cath Rafferty, Helen Abrahams and Tim Quinn for their energetic, enthusiastic support and wise counsel; David and Peter Kington for all their support and hard work throughout the campaign; and Julian, Andrew, Gabe, Jen, Kane, Doug, David, Shane and Mitchell, among others, who kindly gave up their weekends to help. I am very grateful for the guidance and skills I gained through QUT's Pathways to Politics Program for Women, which is a truly exceptional nonpartisan program, as well as the advice and support I received from Emily's List.

I would also like to thank my incredibly supportive family. My husband, Mel, and my son Henry are in the gallery today. Our sons Elliot and Darcy are overseas. My husband and I met as flatmates in South Brisbane 33 years ago. I actually put an advert in the *Courier-Mail* and I was very lucky when he turned up. We have had the privilege of living, working and raising our family in South Brisbane. Our sons were extremely fortunate to attend Brisbane State High School. I would like to thank Mel, Darcy and Henry for all their help on the campaign: Darcy for the weeks he spent out in the community with me; Henry, who told me that coming doorknocking had given him back his faith in humanity as people were much more pleasant in real life than on social media; and Mel for enthusiastically donning a sandwich board to walk along beside me and meet our amazing residents.

Over the past two weeks during our parliamentary induction process I have had the pleasure of getting to know not only my new Labor colleagues, the outstanding members for Ipswich West and Sandgate, but also the 21 new LNP members of parliament. We may be sitting on the other side of the chamber from each other now, but I have a great deal of respect for their motivations in standing for parliament. It is the role of the government to make decisions in the best interests of Queenslanders and it is the opposition's role to hold them to account, but I hope that we can collaborate and negotiate with each other to get the best outcomes for our communities and for Queenslanders as a whole. I believe that we can make this a workplace that, in terms of our behaviour and interaction, can be the gold standard for other workplaces so that when schoolchildren come to visit this is a place of inspiration where they experience respectful informed debate. When I speak to people in the community they tell me that is what they want to see in their parliament.

As I listened to residents in my electorate over the past six months, it was clear that the greatest challenges facing them are the cost-of-living and housing crises, which are inextricably linked and, as we know, are not only national but also global issues. I spoke about hope earlier. I stood as the Labor candidate for South Brisbane because I believe in hope and what Barack Obama would call the audacity of hope—that, faced with what may seem insurmountable challenges, we have the courage to go forward together, united in a common belief in a better future.

For the past few years in South Brisbane we have seen increasing numbers of people sleeping under bridges, in parks, in cars and in doorways. That is unacceptable in a rich state like Queensland. Homelessness takes away people's dignity. It leaves them vulnerable to violence, drug and alcohol dependency and mental illness, and it leads to generational disadvantage. I believe that safe, stable, affordable accommodation is the cornerstone for people to hold down a job, educate their children, access health services and build a good life for their family.

In the 2021 Census, 62 per cent of our residents in South Brisbane were renters. That is more than twice the national average. In Brisbane, rents have increased by 50 per cent since the start of the pandemic, with increasing numbers of people experiencing rental stress. Although the housing crisis is affecting everyone, young people in particular are getting a raw deal. As I went around our electorate I met many young people in distress who often broke into tears when telling me of their most recent rent increase and of how they were scared of raising any maintenance issues in case they were evicted. Our young people are often coping with HECS debts and juggling study and multiple jobs to try and make ends meet. With ever-increasing rents, there is despair and anger out there.

I remember when it was normal practice to put a deposit on a house in your 20s or 30s. Now, our young people worry if they can afford the next rent increase, never mind buy a home. That is wrong and it needs to change. With home values in Brisbane having gone up over 56 per cent since the start of the pandemic, I have had young professionals in their 30s telling me how they have given up hope

of ever buying a home and are either putting off having children or raising their children in a share house. We hear a lot about the 'bank of mum and dad', with parents helping their children out with deposits and their mortgages; however, many families are not in a position to do that. As a society, we cannot accept that the only way to afford a home is if your parents can buy you one. That will just further exacerbate intergenerational disadvantage.

Right now, we have a housing market that is broken and unfair. We need a housing market that works for everyone—for us, for our children and for our grandchildren. I believe that our housing crisis is the biggest problem facing Australia but it is not insurmountable. We need all three levels of government working together on it. We need to get the politics out of the way because it is too important. We need urgency—we cannot wait a generation for this to be solved. We have to work with all stakeholders, be inventive, look at all possibilities, including international experience, and focus our energies on solving this. We need to invest in transitional housing to get people out of tents and then into permanent housing with onsite services, if required. With so little green space in the inner city, this will also allow residents and their children to use the parks and the amenities at the river again.

I hope this government will continue Labor's policies of training tradies through free TAFE courses, of increasing housing supply by building more homes, including modular or prefabricated homes, and of investing in public housing and in affordable rental properties for low- and middle-income workers. Supply is obviously the answer to the crisis but, in the interim, I ask the government to look at short-term measures of repurposing anything that is already built to take pressure off the rental market.

We need to look at ways to get more people into their own home. First home buyers are struggling to compete in the housing market against investors and overseas buyers. I would ask that the government consider building homes specifically for first home buyers and ring fencing those properties so they can only be sold on to other first home buyers so that the stock is retained and increased further by continued building.


Growing up in public housing, I understand the strain that many people in our community are feeling with the current cost-of-living crisis. I know the worry of living week to week with no savings and the fear when bills come in and there is no money to pay them. As a child, I remember the sadness and panic of watching our car being towed away when we did not have the money to repair it, knowing that, without transport, my father would have to work and live away from home.

I want our residents to be able to live without the constant worry of how they are going to pay their rent, fuel and food bills. We need to show by our actions in this House that this parliament understands the stresses people are under and is prepared to help. Labor's cost-of-living relief included \$1,000 off electricity bills, 20 per cent off car registration, free kindy and free TAFE. It provided Queensland with the biggest cost-of-living relief package in Australia. Labor's policy of ensuring rents can only be increased once a year has helped renters but we also need to support them by exploring ways to stabilise rents. The 50-cent fares have made a real difference in people's lives and I trust that they are here to stay.

I made a promise to myself when I was out doorknocking the electorate that I would not forget those young people I met who were in so much distress due to the housing crisis and that I would stand up for them, if elected. So many of our young people feel forgotten. Our message from this parliament to our young people has to be that you are not forgotten, that you will not be left behind, that there is hope. In the words of Labor great Wayne Swan, Australia is—

... a land of hope and dreams, but they must be hopes and dreams for everyone, not just for a fortunate few.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for South Brisbane. Just before I call the member for Townsville, once again I remind members that this is a first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Mr BAILLIE** (Townsville—LNP) (3.23 pm): It is with great pleasure that I rise today in this 58th Parliament as the member for Townsville to deliver my maiden speech. Congratulations to you, Mr Speaker, on your election to such high and important office. Your leadership will ensure that our parliamentary proceedings are conducted with the utmost respect and fairness.

It is a tremendous privilege to represent the proud people of Townsville, Magnetic Island and Palm Island. I am deeply honoured and humbled to address this parliament as the member for Townsville. Although I never anticipated I would ever be a member of parliament, the honour is not lost on me. Townsville is a proud electorate that believes in a fair go and that hard work leads to success. These are beliefs I share wholeheartedly.

I grew up in a small country town in Victoria with a close-knit population of 1,200 people. While Townsville's population is significantly larger, it retains the charm and spirit of a small country town. The residents are welcoming and polite and form a passionate and proud community. I have been part of the Townsville community through drought, flood and cyclone. In every instance, when we have been tested our community spirit has shone through.

I have been fortunate to be exposed to many different industries and skill sets from a young age. I acknowledge my father, his willingness to have a go and his guidance. From age 12, I was manufacturing electrical test equipment, an invention of my father's, at home. I took on tasks such as marking, etching and drilling circuit board, soldering and installing the components, applying decals, testing and packing for shipment. Over the years, I worked on cars with my father for pocket money and, once I was old enough, I gained employment at a local pasta factory.

Later, I moved to Melbourne and worked at a fast-food store in a busy shopping centre while completing my university degree. I studied and earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. After graduating, I embarked on my career with Caterpillar in their product marketing department. For the next decade, I worked for a global manufacturing company in their building construction products division serving local contractors and collaborating closely with the manufacturing team, dealers and end-user customers.

Our division was dedicated to seeking opportunities to improve efficiency and effectiveness while growing market share. In our department, we constantly challenged the status quo by implementing new or improved solutions and processes. I learned the importance of not making assumptions when diagnosing a problem and that to resolve symptoms one must at first identify and address the root cause. I look forward to applying this same mindset while contributing in this role.

During my tenure at Caterpillar, I travelled extensively both domestically and internationally. Over the years, my wife and I started our family, however the demands of frequent and long trips were becoming incompatible with our desires for our young family. I vividly remember a specific instance when our eldest was two years old and we had just welcomed our second child, who was one month old. I departed for a month-long trip to the US. Although Skype allowed us to stay in touch, it could not alleviate the challenges my wife faced at home with two children under three. Upon my return, I found my eldest playing with blocks while my wife watched over her while preparing dinner. As I peered through the glass sliding doors and knocked, my wife asked, 'Charlotte, where's daddy?' Our two-year-old dropped her blocks and ran off. We did not know where she had gone until I found her in the study excitedly pointing at the blank commuter screen, saying, 'Daddy. Daddy.' It was that moment that we decided it was time for change.

My parents had moved to Cardwell several years earlier, located two hours north of Townsville, where they operated an electrical and refrigeration contracting business. During one of their visits to Melbourne, we discussed the future. I was seeking an opportunity to do something different while the kids were young allowing me to be home every night. My father, on the other hand, was looking to eventually relocate to Townsville for closer proximity to entertainment and medical care.

I always liked the idea of working for myself although, due to earlier career choices, I thought it would likely be in a consulting capacity. However, during that visit, we decided to go into partnership—I would build a business in Townsville and my father would take me on as an apprentice. I resigned from Caterpillar and relocated to Townsville within the next few months. My wife and I knew it was going to get harder before it got easier. All our customers and work were in Cardwell while my family and home were in Townsville. For the next two years, I would either commute or stay away, gaining the necessary hours and experience to complete my electrical apprenticeship. It was a tough couple of years with me working away every week.

Once I gained my qualifications as an electrician, I began marketing in Townsville. We designed a brand, printed business cards and started doorknocking on Charters Towers Road. That was the beginning of Elec-Air Townsville. Today we still serve several customers from that first day of doorknocking and over time the business has grown, as have my trade qualifications. We built a reputation for doing what we said we would do when we were going to do it and ensuring it works at the end. We proudly serve hundreds of local homeowners and businesses.

As a small business owner, I know how many unpaid hours hide behind each billable hour. Early mornings are spent quoting and scheduling followed by client visits, completing jobs during business hours and then restocking and invoicing at the end of the day as the sun goes down. I understand that

when material prices and overheads increase small business owners often absorb those costs, reducing their profit margins until it becomes absolutely necessary to pass on the increase to their customers.

Just like many other small business owners, I have grown accustomed to the uncertainty of having visibility for only another week or two of income. I have gained the confidence that the phone will always ring and, regardless of the circumstances, I will find a way to pay the mortgage and to put food on the table. As a business operator, I do not consider it success merely to win or start a job but to see it through to completion and ensure the end result is as intended. When our customers engage us, they expect the project to be completed on time every time and on budget. We strive to meet that expectation. However, we live in the real world and sometimes the unexpected happens. When unexpected complications arise, we pause, discuss options with the impacted parties and move forward with a modified plan. I know the importance of communication and transparency.

As a tradie, customers only call when something is wrong and they need help. We often get a call to a job with a brief description of an issue and no idea what the root cause is. There is an expectation that we will be able to fix it, and if we cannot fix it ourselves then we are expected to know who can or at the very least provide advice on the best options moving forward. We enter this situation willingly multiple times a day.

Serving our community as a trade contractor has been extremely fulfilling. However, while on site other common issues began being raised with me. I would be at a customer's home or place of work and while addressing the issue I was called there to resolve they would talk about other issues that were impacting their lives. I have been present when a customer received a call from a distraught daughter who had her car stolen, wondering how she was going to get to work and her daughter—my customer's granddaughter—to day care. We would often be amongst the first to get called after a street had been impacted by youth crime, with customers wanting additional lighting or security cameras.

I have seen the city change over the last 10 years. When I started building the business in Townsville I would call a customer and advise I was on my way, and it was not uncommon for them to respond by saying, 'Thank you. Nobody's home but the door is unlocked so just let yourself in.' Contrast that with today, where I arrive onsite to hear the door locks unlocking while I wait to be greeted by the customer. Once invited in, the door is locked behind me. Residents are living in fear.

After sharing their stories, customers would say to me, 'Somebody needs to do something about this,' and I would agree. Eventually, I began looking for who that person could be and thought, 'Why not me?' All my working life I have made a living by improving or fixing things so I made some inquiries and put my hand up to run as a candidate for the seat of Townsville. During the campaign I knocked on thousands of doors across every residential suburb in Townsville. I heard the same complaints. This was in line with what I had heard from my customers for years.

During the campaign I learned just how diverse the electorate of Townsville is—from the port to the Bohle industrial precinct, the Strand to the stadium, hospitals, schools, retail centres and, of course, the CBD. Adding to the diversity is the inclusion of Magnetic Island and Palm Island, each with their own wants and needs. While Townsville is suffering from a crisis of youth crime, both Magnetic Island and Palm Island are more concerned with other issues.

Magnetic Island residents feel forgotten. Key infrastructure is run down. We must first focus on the basics with a view toward the future to see Magnetic Island reach its full potential. Palm Island residents want the opportunity to own their own homes. I look forward to working with the Palm Island council to find a solution that will enable residents to purchase the homes they grew up in. To support home ownership there needs to be a thriving economy—one that brings money and opportunities to the island, one that facilitates skills growth and training on the island rather than requiring residents to leave for the mainland.

Palm Island is blessed with natural beauty, much like Magnetic Island and other stunning parts of the world. What sets Palm Island apart is its rich history. By embracing and sharing its history, we can attract visitors who want to hear these stories firsthand. Developing ecotourism assets such as walking tracks will give visitors a reason to stay longer and support local jobs. Visitors will come to hear stories, stay to see the island and immerse themselves in its rich culture. By working successfully with the community we can build a unique tourism offering found nowhere else in the world.

The entire Townsville electorate has immense potential, with no shortage of opportunities. I look forward to working with the community, aligning efforts across all levels of government as well as private industry and investors to deliver for our electorate. Over the last seven months since I was endorsed

as the candidate for Townsville we have done a lot of talking, the entire time offering solutions. Now I am honoured to be in a position to help deliver. The residents of Townsville have voiced their concerns about youth crime, housing availability, energy prices, insurance increases and the state of the healthcare system, and we listened. Put in contractor terms, we visited site, provided a quote with a scope of work, detailed our plans and the costs involved, and the Townsville electorate gave us the contract. Now we can get to work and deliver solutions.

It will not be easy. As with any large job, I expect there will be variations required as we go, but, just like my previous career, we will continue calmly and methodically, maintaining a healthy respect for the budget with a focus to achieve the end goal. The campaign was a valuable experience—a form of training; an apprenticeship—but we were not in a position to implement change directly. Now the Townsville electorate has awarded us the job and I intend to deliver.

I am only in this position to deliver our commitments due to the support of those around me. I want to say thank you to the people who believed in me and to the party members who supported my endorsement as their candidate. Thank you to my campaign manager, Paul. Your calm approach, dedication and leadership provided our campaign team the ability to focus on what was important. We would have been lost without you. Thank you for all the hours and sleepless nights you put in to getting us over the line. Thank you also to my incredible campaign team who met early every week for the duration of the campaign—Nate, John, David and Artie. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped during this campaign, whether it be on the roadside, market stalls, letterbox drops, pre-polling and on election day. I want to particularly thank Dino, Brandan, Sandra, Gay, Kent, Jenny, Laura, Judy, Shane, Christian and Barry, who turned up every week during the campaign. Sincere apologies if I have missed anyone.

In addition, I would like to thank my fellow candidates for Thuringowa and Mundingburra and our coordination team led by Drew. We set out to win all three seats and to do that took communication, discipline and teamwork. We got to know each other extremely well during the campaign and I look forward to continuing our close working relationship now that we are in government and can focus on doing what is best across our electoral boundaries.


To my mother, Luran, and father, Darryl, who join us here today: thank you for all the support over the years. Your support, love and constant encouragement have shaped me into the person I am today. The guidance and opportunities you have provided have been instrumental in our family finding its way to Townsville and ultimately to this new role.

To my wife, Joanne: thank you for your unwavering support and love. Your encouragement and belief in me have been my greatest source of strength. Thank you for standing by my side through every challenge and triumph. Your patience, understanding and kindness mean the world to me. I am incredibly lucky to have you as my wife and I am grateful for every moment we share together. Your support has made all the difference and I could not have done it without you.

To my daughters, Charlotte, Annabelle and Sienna: everything I do is for you. Your kindness, creativity and resilience inspire me every day to strive to be a better person. I am so proud of each of you and the unique individuals you are becoming. Thank you for being such wonderful helpers during the campaign, roadsiding every weekend and understanding that sometimes dad was not available for you when you needed. I know that what we are entering as a family is not going to be easy and will require more sacrifice from all of us, but know that I will be doing my best to provide you and generations to come with a more prosperous and safer city in a Queensland with more opportunities than we have today.

Lastly, to the constituents of the Townsville electorate: thank you for electing me as your representative. Throughout the campaign, I had the privilege of meeting many of you, listening to your concerns and visions for our future. Your stories have inspired me and will guide my actions in this parliament. The role of a member of parliament is to represent their community, and to do that one must be available to the community for feedback. I will continue to make myself available during my time as your representative, and I will work tirelessly on your behalf, listen to your voice and advocate for the issues that matter most to you. Together, we will strive to build a better, more inclusive and prosperous future for all.

Mr SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Ipswich West, I will once again remind members that this is her maiden speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Ms BOURNE** (Ipswich West—ALP) (3.41 pm): I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of this land on which we meet and their elders past and present. I also want to acknowledge the Yagara and Ugarapul people who are the custodians of the land and waters in Ipswich West. I pay respects to the wonderful elders who have shared their wisdom, insight and good humour with me.

I particularly think of Aunty Vera Short, who has lived in Ipswich for more than 50 years and whose work at the Leichhardt One Mile Community Centre has helped so many people across this region. I want to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing member for Ipswich West, Mr Darren Zanow. I wish him all the very best as he faces his significant health challenges. Above all, I am deeply grateful to the people of Ipswich West who have placed their trust in me to be the 12th member for Ipswich West. I will not let them down.

I follow in some big footsteps. Ellen Violet Jordan was first elected to represent Ipswich West in 1966. She was the second woman elected to this House and the first woman to represent the Labor Party. In 2017, a state seat was named after Vi Jordan—now held by my colleague Charis Mullen—in recognition of Vi's tireless work for the people of Ipswich West and Queensland.

Ipswich is Queensland's fastest growing city. By 2046, our current population of 254,000 will have doubled to 535,000. My seat covers beautiful country towns such as Walloon, Grandchester, Marburg and Rosewood—my home for the last 30-odd years—and all the townships and suburbs in between. It includes the sweeping properties in Karalee and Pine Mountain, as well as the more suburban areas of Yamanto, Brassall, Leichhardt and One Mile.

It is wonderful driving home along the Ipswich Rosewood Road and seeing the Great Dividing Range in the distance and the kangaroos grazing in the fields. More and more people are moving to this area to enjoy the beauty of its countryside. They are moving here to build their homes, to raise their families and to help build a community. As Vi Jordan did more than 50 years ago, I will fight hard to make sure this fast-growing area gets the funding and services it needs.

Since being elected, I have been honoured to attend graduations at some of the great schools across our electorate. At the incredible Leichhardt State School, 40 per cent of the children are Indigenous, and they are doing some truly amazing things in the community. They are helping students to gain an understanding and appreciation of their Indigenous culture, but they are also making sure that the Yagara language is not lost by teaching it to year 5 and 6 students.

I recently attended an Ipswich State High School graduation ceremony which showcased the cultural diversity of their school. There was a range of cultural performances from the students including songs and at least six variations of the haka. There are children at this school from all walks of life—New Zealanders, Samoans, Tongans, Africans and many more. Like the parents of these children and sometimes the children themselves, I am also proud to be an immigrant to this country. I was born in the very famous town of St Andrews in Scotland—the home of golf. In 1963, my mum and dad, together with their four small girls under seven, sailed from Southport on the Sitmar Line's *Castel Felice* to Australia. After a six-week journey, we arrived at South Brisbane and settled into Yungaba Migrant Hostel at Kangaroo Point. My dad went to work as the clerk at JC Hutton's at Oxley and my mum worked as a nurse at Mount Olivet Hospital at Kangaroo Point.

Both my parents worked very hard to provide for their family. That would have been a struggle with four small girls and no family in Australia to fall back on. I saw my parents' determination to succeed in their new town of Brisbane. I share that same fiery determination and a belief in the value of hard work. They taught me that, if you are going to do something then you do it and you do not let people down.

My parents then decided to venture out on their own and start a small cleaning business. In time, they bought their first home in Oxley. During breaks in my schooling at Oxley State School and then Corinda State High School, I cleaned many offices and small shopping centres with my mum and dad and my sisters.

Like many, we went through the 1974 floods. My parents' home completely went underwater and they lost everything they owned. What struck me, though, was the strength of a magnificent community. People came together to support each other and provided food, clothes and shelter for many families. People came with tractors and cleared our property of all the debris that had flown in from the Oxley River. Cars would drive up the street with people offering food and clothing. There were many people who helped us during that time.

The 1974 floods had a lasting impact on me. It helped to forge my desire to be involved in the community and support those in need. That is why I got involved with Rosies-Friends on the Street in Ipswich who provide food for the homeless and those facing challenges in their lives. Today, the Leichhardt One Mile Community Centre does exactly the same type of work and is really making a difference in our community.

After a time, my mum and dad decided to go back to Scotland to help look after their aging parents, so I joined them and lived in Scotland for a number of years. My son, Blair, was born there in September 1992 but, as so many women in this country have experienced, domestic violence up-ended my life and I returned to Australia to be with my family. Mum and Dad also returned to Australia, and the four of us lived in the beautiful township of Rosewood, which was close to where my younger sister Debbie lived in Karalee.

As Blair grew up, I held many positions in the community. I was president of the Rosewood Kindy. I was a volunteer on the P&C at Ashwell State School, a beautiful small school just outside Rosewood, and the chief grounds person mowing all the lawns. It took me hours, I can tell you. I was president of the P&F at Ipswich Grammar School and went on to serve on the board of trustees of the school for six years—something I was very proud of.

I got involved in all these things because I have always believed that to get the best local outcomes you need to be involved in your community. I volunteer at Rosies-Friends on the Street and see the struggles some of our people face—mental health challenges, drug issues, homelessness, couch surfing amongst their acquaintances and, sadly, an inability to afford food for their families or to top up their food supplies.

Having doorknocked and called more than 95 per cent of residents in Ipswich West, I feel I have gained a real insight into the challenges they face. Many of the doors were answered by single mums struggling with cost-of-living pressures and grateful for the Miles government's cost-of-living help. When I looked at those single mums, I saw myself 30 years ago moving to Rosewood—struggling at times to make ends meet but realising how lucky I was because I had the support of my family. Many do not, and that is why free TAFE, free kindy, good schools, housing and an accessible health system are so important to families to give their children the best start in life.

My story is a Labor story and an Ipswich story—a story I am incredibly proud of. My family has long been interested in politics. My grandfather James Braid, a lifetime Scottish nationalist, was the longest serving councillor in Scotland's history. When he died, his obituary in the *Scotsman* newspaper pointed to his service to Fife and, more importantly, to the people of East Neuk for whom he campaigned tirelessly for jobs in the wake of the diminishing local fishing industry spanning some six decades. After World War II broke out, my grandfather joined the Royal Air Force and was a pilot with Bomber Command. He flew special operations with the resistance in Europe and later during the Berlin airlift, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was also awarded an OBE from the Queen. James Braid was a force to be reckoned with. His son, my uncle Jim Braid, travelled to Australia in the hope I would be elected, and I am very proud to have him here in the chamber today representing my mum and dad.

I have wonderful memories of my family sitting around the kitchen table, debating politics and listening to my father railing against the tyrannical ways of the Bjelke-Petersen government. As a child I learned that the union made us strong and that Labor gave us hope. With that in mind, I started working for a trade union, the Metal Workers Union, under the leadership of Aussie Vaughan. Aussie taught me so much—the importance of workers' rights, of being able to collectively bargain and so much more. These rights have shaped the lives of working people for generations. Aussie Vaughan was a humble and well-respected man across the union movement and when he passed away in 2010 he left a half century of industrial and political activism in his wake.

During my time at the Metal Workers Union I worked alongside Tom Barton, who then went on to become the member for Waterford and the environment minister in the Goss government. Tom asked my twin sister, Jackie, and me to work for him in his office, and so my career as a ministerial staffer began. I am proud to inform the chamber that I have been a ministerial staffer for five Labor premiers, having served in the office of the last two Labor premiers: Annastacia Palaszczuk and the member for Murrumba, Steven Miles. I have fought two election campaigns as a candidate with a Labor Party membership card in one hand and a union ticket in the other. I am perhaps a little different from many members in this chamber—my job has been politics for many years—but perhaps not so different in that, like them, I have worked hard to serve my community.

I am proud to have been part of strong reformist Labor governments that have brought about significant change to Queensland. I am proud our Labor government introduced the landmark reform Path to Treaty Act and the truth-telling and healing commission, which was a collective pledge to be courageous and curious and open to hear the truth of our state's history. We enshrined in legislation emission reduction targets of 75 per cent by 2035 and net zero by 2050. We invested over \$3 billion in housing and homelessness initiatives to help Queenslanders who face housing struggles. We delivered a huge building program worth \$107 billion, including \$710 million for Ipswich Hospital with 200 new beds and a new and expanding emergency department.

Speaking of Ipswich Hospital, I would like to acknowledge the hardworking doctors, nurses, health professionals, admin staff, clinical assistants and operational service workers—all of those vital workers across our state public health system. I would particularly like to call out our fantastic operational workers—people who cook the meals and deliver them to patients, all those workers in security, wardspeople, cleaners and groundspeople. These are the people who keep our public hospitals running, which is why I am so proud to be a member of their union, the AWU. Despite their fantastic work, they are often the first to be considered for cuts and outsourcing by governments. In this place I will always stand up for Queensland Health operational workers—for their job security, wages, safety and conditions.

Labor made some significant social reforms during its period in government. They include voluntary assisted dying legislation, women's reproductive rights—this played such a huge part in the recent election—and the introduction of the Civil Partnerships Act 2011. I was also part of a government that implemented the recommendations of the *Not now, not ever* report into domestic and family violence—an issue very close to my heart. Queensland became the first Australian state or territory to support pill testing and drug law reform. We introduced significant cost-of-living reforms which I know the people of Ipswich West welcomed, as this was the issue raised with me the most when I knocked on doors.

I could not have attained such a privileged position as I now hold without the help and support of many people. Those people know who they are. I would like to take this opportunity to make special mention of two people: the federal member for Blair, Shayne Neumann; and Madonna Stott, my campaign manager. Both have done so much for me. Shayne's advice and guidance throughout the campaign were second to none. He is a tireless worker for the people of Blair and one of the hardest working people I know. I will never forget his encouragement and support. When I was unsuccessful at the March by-election, Shayne Neumann and the former treasurer, Cameron Dick, both encouraged me to get back out into the community and continue to listen to people, to their hopes, dreams and struggles. I promised I would advocate on behalf of them, as Steven Miles and Cameron Dick did with their cost-of-living relief package—the biggest relief package of any state government in history. I am deeply grateful to Madonna Stott, my campaign manager, a warrior and a friend. Madonna is practical, hardworking and no-nonsense, with a deep sense of what is right and wrong. She has a Labor heart through and through.

Time does not permit me to name everyone, but I would like to thank the many volunteers, ALP branch members—in particular the mighty Rosewood branch—unions, friends and family. They all worked tirelessly for me. I would like to thank Kate Flanders, our state secretary, and Zac Beers, our assistant state secretary, at party office for their support.

To Stacey Schinnerl, the state secretary of the AWU—and, may I say, the first woman to hold this position: thank you for your guidance and support throughout two hard-fought campaigns. Many thanks to the mighty Joey Kaiser; Max Braddy; Michael Pattermore, my wonderful field organiser; Emily Searle; and Frank Scattini—believe you me, they helped me with my social media—for their huge contribution to my campaign.

A big thank you must also go to Isabella Scattini, who was my organiser. She supported me every step of the way and I could not have done this without her. Thank you to my dear friend Alex Elliot, who has always supported and encouraged me and, more importantly, has always believed in me. These people and many more were with me doorknocking, doing early morning high-vis, letterboxing and phone calling. I will say it again: it is because of them that I am standing here. There are many unions that supported me—the Transport Workers Union and Josh Millroy, the Together union, the ETU and the Plumbers Union. I thank them all.

Earlier I spoke about the huge growth in Ipswich which has put considerable pressure on our road infrastructure. To that end, I want to make sure that the significant road announcements I made during both campaigns are completed on budget and on time. I announced state government funding

of \$42.5 million for the Bremer River Bridge upgrade on the Warrego Highway, with matched funding by the federal government. The Bremer River Bridge is a vital connection point on the Warrego Highway, with some 30,000 vehicles crossing it every day. I want to see our heavy vehicle industry move as efficiently as possible through this stretch of road, with critical rehabilitation and strengthening works done.

I also announced \$138.5 million for the Mount Crosby interchange, with matched funding by the federal government. This project needs to be completed as quickly as possible for all the people living in Karalee and surrounding areas. I also announced \$20 million, along with Shayne Neumann, for a business case for the Amberley interchange. I will be calling on this government, when the business case is complete, to announce funding to get this dangerous intersection fixed.

During the campaign, both the LNP and Labor announced \$4 million for a business case for a second river crossing for Ipswich. Our commitment, however, included funding of \$142 million to build this vital bridge. When the business case is finalised, I want to see committed funding from this government for this crucial piece of infrastructure for the people of Ipswich.

To conclude, I would like to share two stories from the campaign. I come to this House at a time when the rights of women are being discussed around the world. During the election campaign and, more markedly, on election day, I faced a barrage of unfair criticism and scrutiny regarding my age. I had thought as a society we had moved past this type of age discrimination or gender-based ageism. It would appear that we have not. So, as the 100th woman to sit in this chamber, I say to every woman who has been overlooked in life and become invisible due to her age that in this place I will make sure they are not forgotten.

My other story is about Lilly, a young girl working in my local Rosewood supermarket, Drakes. Lilly came up to me after the election and excitedly congratulated me, telling me, 'I voted for you.' She then went on to say to me, 'I know Labor didn't win and the LNP will be in power, but I want them to know my vote matters.' She does not want Ipswich to be forgotten and neither do I—profound words from a young woman. So, to Lilly and all the people of Ipswich West, I come to this place determined to live out the Labor values I hold dear—fairness, social justice, inclusion and equality.


I am fortunate to have three wonderful sisters whom I love very much—Susan, Jackie and Debbie. Thanks to our parents, we are all strong-minded with a real sense of social justice. I thank my whole family for their help and support during this campaign. I could not have done it without them. In particular, I acknowledge my twin sister, Jackie. People who know me in this chamber know how much I love her and how much of a special bond we have. We just have to be careful; she might be sitting here sometimes instead of me!

Mr Butcher interjected.

Ms BOURNE: Yes. To my sons, Blair and Scott, I love you both very much. Thank you for everything you do for me, Blair. You are a wonderful boy.

Finally, to the people of Ipswich West, you have given me such a great honour to represent you in this place. I promise I will always fight for you. Thank you.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Ipswich West. Before I call the member for Keppel, please be conscious those two seats are very close together. Do not get between the camera and the speaker on his feet. This is the member's first speech, so it should be listened to with the courtesy reserved for such occasions.

 **Mr HUTTON** (Keppel—LNP) (4.02 pm): When I reflect on 14 years of teaching, the first day each year I had butterflies in my belly and I took that as a sign that it was going to be a good year and it was a chance that I was still both excited and nervous to do well. Today I have those same feelings, so I take that to mean that I am both excited and nervous to do well. I offer my thanks to my colleagues who honour me with their presence here today to hear my maiden speech. I am truly humbled.

The thunderous chords rose in unison as from the heavens as the grey light glistened through the hundreds of stained glass windows of the abbey. The silence was broken by the shuffle of hundreds of feet as the congregation of kings, of princes, of politics, of business and of citizens stood proudly across the glistening floors while a lady entered the Great West Door. She traversed the nave and walked, as hundreds of monarchs had before her, to the chorus of *God Save the Queen* echoing throughout the halls of Westminster Abbey. I did on that day, as so many had before, but see her passing by, and I remember my reflections from that day. I saw before me a dedicated servant of people, a leader in practice not words of charity, and a keeper of the flame of hope. It would be quite poetic to linger on the day, and perhaps a good yarn to say that this day among many of a lifetime of

amazing days, led to my own desire to be of service, to give charity and to believe in hope. Yet, as so often is the case of post hoc ergo propter hoc, it would be a fallacy, for I am the living legacy of four grandparents, two wonderfully devoted parents, shared with four siblings and someone whose life story continues to be written with the latest chapters drawn with the shared hand of my beloved wife and our two beautiful daughters.

Australian psychologist Andrew Fuller states that to create a community that serves, a community that gives, we must surround our community with the service of others and the opportunity to serve. I am forever grateful for the legacy of service that I have been surrounded by in my life.

My grandfathers both offered their services to their community—one as a soldier, a proud Lion, a Rotarian and a midnight removalist for women in need. The other served through his committed participation in the Freemasons and their charity work. My grandmother served on the Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary and the St James Parish Council, the Mothers' Union, the church choir, the Legacy Widows and in the Endeavour op shop. Witnessing these acts of service, of charity and of hope undoubtedly played a role in raising me to be the man I am today.

Yet, I sit on the shoulders of further giants still. My mum and my dad—a nurse and a fireman, 45 years each—raised five kids and opened their homes to many, many more as foster carers, including my adopted sister without whom our family would never have been complete. We have two teachers, an independent businesswoman, a machinist who volunteers as a rural firefighter, and a devoted social worker who make up the next generation of our family and, as you can hear, we each carry service, charity and hope. It is this legacy of service, charity and hope which my wife and I seek to foster in our community so that, as our village raises its young, our children will share in its effect. As a Lion, a former local government councillor and a schoolteacher, I have borne witness every day to the amazing acts of service, of charity and hope that the volunteers in my electorate of Keppel give—the value immeasurable, the effort irreplaceable and the outcome a very special place that we can share and get to call home.

Keppel is an electorate of aspirational Queenslanders who are dedicated to working hard and seek the solace of the bush, the joy of the pristine Keppel Bay and the sanctuary of the urban centre to balance their lives. In all honesty, we prefer the light touch of government to work with us to achieve our aspirations rather than a firm hand of government which works to guide our aspirations. My family, like many in Keppel, believe that, as each generation succeeds, the next should benefit from our efforts and that the legacy we leave is stronger and resilient. We value the natural beauty of both the country and the worked soils which generate our food, our resources and our wealth. We work hard and know that our efforts build the prosperity of our great state, yet there are times when we feel that our voices, the voices of the regions, have been lost in the speed and the intensity and the pressure of the state's capital over the last 10 years.

I intend to serve my community of Keppel and all Central Queenslanders by giving voice to their dreams, their aspirations and also their fears, for government is ultimately about people. Over the 414 days of the campaign for Keppel, I heard every day from people who had hopes, dreams and fears, and I offer my sincere thanks to each and every one of them for their willingness to share their stories—stories like that of Jan, a strong, amazingly independent woman who has given a lifetime of service to our community, only to surrender her private health insurance in retirement to meet cost-of-living pressures and now finds her life forever changed. Jan has waited years for life-changing surgery for her knee and hip, and her quality of life has undoubtedly diminished throughout this wait. Jan's changed circumstances remind me every day of the cost of under-resourcing and the heavy price that has been paid by Queenslanders. For Jan, I will fight for better health services.

For Mary of Emu Park, whose life changed forever when, after raising her family, she found herself separated, alone and unable to afford a home in her community, I will fight for a place to call home. Bill of Norman Gardens, who confessed that he did not see himself as a victim of crime as his house had not been broken into yet—but he found that his new security system had caught six occasions on which his house had been cased and now he lives in fear—deserves to feel safe in his home, and for him I will fight for safety in our communities.


Thomo, who left school and went straight out West to work in the mines, who drives in and out on a seven-day roster and who generates the wealth of our state and supports so many of our regional communities, deserves to feel proud of the work that he and so many more do, and I will fight for a future for them. For Luke and Roxanne, who have experienced both wonder and pain on their journey to develop a wedding venue, an agricultural farm and a homestay, I will fight to support the right for small and family businesses to succeed and make sure that government services nurture investment and limit regulation.

These are the voices of the people of Central Queensland that my wonderful campaign team of Bruce Young, Vicki Bastin-Byrne, Neil McDonnell, Tim Reagan, Robyn Bauer, Leyland, Nathan and Ben from the secretariat and all of our volunteers thought of each and every day. I thank my amazing team for their effort and honour their service. To my 'Team CQ' colleagues—the members for Rockhampton and Mirani: I am so proud to serve alongside these fighters for CQ and excited that our shared journey continues. I cannot wait to do brilliant things with you both. To the Hon. Michelle Landry MP, the Hon. Senator Matt Canavan and their amazing staff, who provided encouragement and support and volunteered their knowledge, their experience and their weekends: thank you.

I will work every day in our team in CQ to make sure that the voices of Keppel are heard, that we in the regions get our fair share and that the fresh start we deserve provides vision and delivers a bright future for the people of Keppel, because we all deserve a life of choice, not chance. To this end, I wish to highlight the special role played by our teachers everywhere—teachers who lift up students, who foster self-belief and who encourage a lifelong love of learning. I was privileged in my childhood to have brilliant teachers. I was honoured to spend over a decade teaching alongside some of the finest teachers in our state, including my tremendous former colleagues at Yeppoon State High School and the devoted teachers of Yeppoon State School. I will work every day to ensure the teachers and students of our state have learning environments that are safe and that support the achievement of classes, because we all deserve a life of choice, not chance.

I take a final moment to thank my beautiful wife, Tanya; our two girls; my parents, Joanne and Grantly; my siblings—my secret weapons—Angela and Craig; my dear friend Trevor; Di; my extended family; and my wonderful friends. We could not have achieved this outcome in Keppel without you. I am a worker from a family of workers, and I could never have done it without the support of my friends or the generous supporters of our campaign for Keppel. To the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Minister for Finance, the Minister for Transport, the member for Callide and the entire frontbench team: thank you for coming to CQ and hearing the voices of our region again and again. We wanted to be heard and, with you, we were.

A final thank you to the people of Keppel. You have placed your faith in me and I will remember each and every day what a privilege this is. I am grateful to each and every one of you for voting for a fresh start for Queensland.

 **Mr FURNER** (Ferry Grove—ALP) (4.14 pm): First, I acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands on which we all gather here. I acknowledge the elders past, present and emerging of the many places we represent right throughout our wonderful state of Queensland. I acknowledge a particular close Indigenous elder who has welcomed me into her family, Aunty Lesley Williams, who, unfortunately, is currently recovering from a stroke and convalescing at home.

It is such a privilege to be back here on the fourth occasion providing my fourth address-in-reply speech to this House. Many speakers in the past have recognised not only the importance but also the privilege of being elected to this honourable House. As you know, Deputy Speaker Krause, I was privileged to represent the state of Queensland in the federal parliament as a senator. I congratulate all of the new and returned members elected to represent the good people of Queensland. It is an amazing privilege to represent the electorate of Ferry Grove and promote the desires and address the needs of this amazing electorate. I congratulate you, Deputy Speaker Krause, for your progression in terms of the position you currently hold as Deputy Speaker of this parliament.

The seat of Ferry Grove has only been held by three Labor members. The first member for the new seat was Glen Milliner, who retired. He was succeeded by Geoff Wilson. They both assisted me in this campaign to retain the seat on the fourth occasion. I also want to place on record my appreciation to the many agriculture stakeholders who have contacted me since my return to not only congratulate me on my re-election in the seat of Ferry Grove but also thank me and our previous government for the assistance, courage and conviction in delivering many outcomes with regard to that portfolio. I acknowledge the member for Gympie on his elevation to the ministry in this portfolio.

Mr Stevens: He is now the farmer's friend.

Mr FURNER: I take the interjection. He needs to come up with a different catchcry than 'Furner, the farmer's friend'. Maybe he will work something out. I will leave it up to him to come up with that particular title. I also want to acknowledge the good people of the agriculture department and my previous ministerial staff. They are outstanding workers who tirelessly work very hard day in and day out, seven days a week on many occasions, making sure we deliver outcomes for farmers throughout the state of Queensland.

This is my second time in opposition and I am not surprised by the way it operates. We will certainly hold this government to account in terms of their measures and the commitments they made leading into the election and while in opposition. We will make sure they deliver on the promises they have made. When you are elected it is important that you hold true to your position and to your values. We will, as an opposition, hold them to account.

It will come as no surprise that I am proud of the achievements in my electorate of Ferny Grove. Under the past two Labor governments, under two Labor premiers, we have laid the foundations for the future of our community. It is my hope that this excellent foundation will not be left to languish under this LNP administration—like it was the last time the LNP were in government.

Being in opposition provides me with greater opportunity to once again attend many of the events that members take for granted but that fall by the wayside when you hold a ministerial portfolio. They are things like attending school graduations and addressing the matters that are so important to a member of parliament.

I want to touch on some of the achievements of the Labor government since I was elected to the seat in 2015. We invested an extra \$113 million in our local schools. Just about every school was provided with funding and assistance under the previous Labor government and I would like to see that continue. We built or renovated over 70 classrooms to cater for our growing community and we also conducted the largest upgrade to Mitchelton Special School since it was opened 50 years ago. That school has educated some of the most vulnerable students in Brisbane's north-west. It was Labor that made sure they were safe and well educated and were not left behind.

Included in this expenditure were four new multipurpose halls, three new playgrounds, two new resource centres, two new covered basketball courts, a new centre of excellence for STEM, a new coding lab and a new amenities block which I was recently privileged to open at the Ferny Hills State School. Today, more teachers, teacher aides, administration staff and cleaning and grounds staff are employed in the Ferny Grove schools than ever before thanks to the investments in education by the former Labor governments. I wish to put on the record my appreciation of those education ministers who worked under the Labor government.

Labor has always prioritised education because education is the key to our children's future. Labor governments have always invested in our health and hospital services by expanding pathology, imaging, pharmacy, clinical and emergency services at Prince Charles Hospital which, unfortunately, were cut by the previous LNP government. We have also invested by restoring and expanding breast cancer screening at north-west health, which was also cut by the previous LNP government, and by replacing and increasing the number of ambulances in our local ambulance centre.

Labor governments have also invested heavily in roads and public transport infrastructure. Under Labor, we upgraded the Alderley Railway Station. We vastly expanded parking at the Ferny Grove Railway Station through the construction of the Ferny Grove transit orientated development, which also brings jobs, investment and amenity to our communities. When I first ran for office, it was one of my initiatives to doorknock over 9,000 homes and hear from people firsthand what they wanted in the electorate, and that was more parking at the Ferny Grove Railway Station. We will deliver that. We have already delivered the first stage of that development and construction work has commenced on the second stage, which will include not only state-of-the-art additional retail stores but also restaurants, units and so on.

We also increased safety and reduced traffic wait times on Samford Road through multiple projects including the Samford Road safety program and Samford Road intersection upgrade projects. I know the member for Pine Rivers is also committed to ensuring that funding comes to fruition. These projects will deliver safer travel and fewer hold-ups for people trying to get to work on time or get home to their families and they will do it in a cost-effective way. Contrast this to the last time the LNP were in power when Campbell Newman flamboyantly claimed he would fix the Samford Road-Wardell Street intersection by widening the road and removing houses only to spend an eye-watering \$65 million in 2014 to deliver half the project and then restore those houses once again. The only other so-called improvement was to drop another \$1.6 million in building a completely unnecessary set of lights to hold up commuters even more against the objections of Transport and Main Roads. I can only hope that this LNP government will be more productive for Brisbane's north-west than the last one was. My many constituents who lost their jobs under the last LNP government are dearly hoping they will not see history repeat itself once again.

It would be remiss of me to not refer to some stats about the election which one of my staff diligently put together and put those on the *Hansard* record. Labor suffered a 3.09 per cent 2PP swing against the high-water mark of the COVID election to record a comfortable 57.89 per cent in Ferny

Grove. This represents a return to the historical average of Ferny Grove 2PP voting, which sees the ALP hold a solid 57.56 per cent 2PP standard margin. This election saw a dramatic and predictable decline by over 36 per cent of postal votes from the COVID election.

This was offset by absentee pre-poll votes, which were up by a remarkable 145 per cent. Twenty-five per cent of the electorate cast their ballot outside the electorate. This is the highest percentage ever recorded in Ferny Grove. Absentee and telephone voting combined with almost 21 per cent postal votes and almost 21 per cent pre-poll votes at the two early voting booths in Ferny Grove to yield a whopping 68.5 per cent of Ferny Grove voters who cast non-traditional local election day ballots. This represents only a 3.57 per cent decline on 2020 numbers. This suggests that a solid two-thirds of people will continue to seek ways of casting their ballot before election day in a way that is convenient for them, with the consequence that democracy sausage stalls will struggle to sell out or will be cancelled altogether. As a side note, while we won every booth but one on a 2PP basis—nursing home mobile polling—there was a clear trend that votes cast closer to election day were flowing more favourably towards the Labor Party.

I can only hope that as I stand here today on my fourth occasion of delivering a speech on the address-in-reply this government will be more productive than the last. In doing so, I want to thank those people who work so diligently and tirelessly, and they are the people who work on our campaigns. I want to thank Laurence, Will and Terry for their tireless efforts throughout the campaign as well as the copious numbers of volunteers who selflessly turned out during street stalls, letterboxing, putting up yard signs and once again taking them down as well as handing out on pre-polls and on election day. They definitely are the salt of the earth. I know that, whether it be on this side of the chamber or the other side, those people are valued.


Without fear of missing out on acknowledging a couple of people, I want to put on record my appreciation of some outstanding people. Mike and Bronte Bailey, who initially worked and committed their time around the Cairns electorate, moved to my electorate several years ago. Mike, having recently had back surgery not once but twice, could not be held back. He was there putting in many hours whether on street stalls, on polling day or on pre-poll. Both worked tirelessly to see me returned.

I put on record my appreciation of the two former Labor premiers, premier Palaszczuk and premier Miles, former deputy premier Dick as well as the Queensland Labor caucus for their commitment and energy which generated so many crucial Labor outcomes for Queenslanders. It was just the other day when I was leaving the opening of the amenities block at Ferny Hills State School, as I indicated earlier, that a student who would have been in year 5 or year 6 said to me, 'Mr Furner, are you committed to the 50-cent fares?' I said, 'My oath, mate. That's in the bank.' Once again, I hope this new government continues with that promise and makes sure it is delivered and is sustainable for the future. It is an outcome that the previous Labor premier, Mr Miles, made sure was delivered across Queensland. It was well received and it is certainly recognised by many of our members and people who voted in support of us.

I want to thank the Labor Party, Kate Flanders and all the staff out of the office for their commitment in making sure many of us were returned. I want to thank the unions, the Services Union, which I have been a member of for many years—in fact, I joined them when I was an industrial officer with the Queensland Police Union and I continue to be a member—the Queensland United Firefighters Union and the Australian Workers' Union for their commitment during the campaign.

Finally, there is my family. I want to thank them for their commitment. On many occasions we take our family for granted, but they are always there for us and they always have our back. Thanks to my wife, Lorraine, my two daughters, Stacey and Sally. My son, Troy, and his wife, Daniela, and my two lovely grandchildren, like they have done in every other campaign, flew from interstate—the first campaign they flew from Cairns, intrastate. Nevertheless they were there supporting me in making sure I retained the seat of Ferny Grove, and what a great outcome that was. Thank you very much.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Before I call the member for Rockhampton, I remind members that this is the member's first speech and, in accordance with convention, it should be listened to with the respect accorded to that speech.

 **Mrs KIRKLAND** (Rockhampton—LNP) (4.29 pm): I am very honoured to give my first speech in the 58th Parliament of Queensland and I am honoured to represent the communities of Rockhampton and Central Queensland. Cognisant of the mantle that is being placed upon my shoulders, I will bring the voices of Central Queensland to the ears of this government, determined to deliver results that will secure a better future in both this generation and the next.

Mr Speaker and honourable members, I thank you for this opportunity to now share a little more of who I am and how I came to be here talking with you all today. What is the one thing that we all have in common? Time. It is appointed to every man a time to be born and a time to die—mums and dads, business owners, Public Service people, tradespersons, professionals. In fact, all individuals are in this race of time and it is what directed me here.

My story begins as a child overhearing conversations where particular words jutted out against the blur—‘No, we can’t afford it’, ‘It’s all the government’s fault’, ‘We need help’, ‘I wish they’d do something’, ‘Everyone is struggling’. The sand started flowing from the top of my hourglass when my parents were working as low-income earners—a hospital domestic and a bowling club greenkeeper—in a small country town, struggling to make ends meet. My parents, Marcia and Ray, now manage life living week to week on their age pension—the same as 17 per cent of Queenslanders today. They live week to week with no savings and no assets after a lifetime of paying taxes, along with life’s ups and downs, birthdays, weddings and funerals. Each night they now relax in their recliners commenting to each other as the news broadcasts to them what the government of the day is—or is not—doing.

I recall conversations from my youth around the dinner table where my father, who always prefers to look on the bright side of life, would challenge or, should I say, chastise us by saying, ‘Don’t whinge about your circumstance unless you’re willing to do something about it. Be a part of the solution.’ Of course, that was then, but his words stuck with me. Looking at our hourglass of time, it is always amazing how fast the sand flows from the top to the bottom—from full to empty—and then at some point, if you are so blessed, a quick glance reveals and reminds that you are rapidly running out of time. I say ‘blessed’ because that realisation can motivate you to get cracking on the things that are priorities such as family and future generations and the legacy that you should be leaving.

What does it mean when someone says they felt called to do the job they do? Be it teaching, nursing, construction worker, coalminer, beekeeper, grazier, truck driver, homemaker, family carer or Olympian, how do you know what your fit is? I would say to you: it is when your heart is so moved that you feel an irresistible draw towards your action within that particular space.

One of my very first jobs was cooking burgers and fries for \$3 an hour, sweat dripping from my face, scald marks on my arms from splashed hot fat and the smell of burgers through my hair. I was grateful to have the opportunity to earn independence and become a productive contributor to my community and to save, provide and prepare for the journey ahead while at the same time engaging in the great exchange of commerce for the little things like my very own fan to keep my room cool at night. I remember my first bank account, my first car, my first house and my very own Medicare card. I would learn firsthand about the health system as I enrolled in a Diploma of Science at Armidale CAE when I held down three jobs to pay the bills whilst studying. A decision to move locations denied me the opportunity of completing that diploma, though, working in the role as a nurses aide, I honed a special skill passed on through the ages by Nurse Nightingale: compassion, empathy and attention to detail.

I have worked in a functioning health system and now see the sacrifice of our frontline health service providers struggling to accommodate the needs of our ever-growing communities. With its geographical positioning, Rockhampton Hospital should be the health hub of Central Queensland but, rather, it has been touted as ground zero for the health crisis that has gripped our state, with aged facilities, overly cramped conditions and chronic staff shortages all contributing to the highest emergency ramping figures in the state—the highest on record and indeed the highest in the country.

Deficiencies in speciality services mean that the already sick are forced to travel to Brisbane, in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. I have had community members share with me how they bring a pillow and sleep in hospital toilet amenities during their treatment as they cannot afford accommodation, while others are one of those in the tents we see in our Brisbane park areas—and then there are those who simply opt to not go and get that life-saving test or treatment. Central Queenslanders deserve access to health services when and where they need them.

As a small business owner now for over 30 years in the male-dominated industry of motor vehicle repairs, I have learned the struggles of family operated business, where surviving week to week is called success. Queensland small private business enterprises represent 97 per cent of all businesses and employ 42 per cent of the private sector workforce. These business owners look to government to support them and to enable them to grow and flourish, creating industry, economic security and future employment for Queenslanders. Businesses within the regions particularly are calling for a reduction in broad-stroke regulations that hamstringing them, suffocating capacity and profitability. They, too, need a voice.

In 2016 the local government elections were on. My husband and I, along with family, were sitting around the dining table, where our conversations revolved around cost of living, rates, local roads, parks—all things that local government could be doing better—and a still, small voice echoed, 'You should run for council.' So began my journey in politics following the lesson learned from my father to be a part of the solution.

During my term of office as a local councillor for Rockhampton Regional Council from 2020 to 2024, I became increasingly aware of the separation of responsibilities between different levels of government. At community events and in connecting with individual members of our beautiful region, it became clear that the main concerns of families and businesses being discussed around their dinner tables were not necessarily under the remit of local government. Residents were asking me to do something about the increasing levels of break and enter, to get easier access to health services, to help with housing shortages. For me to be a part of their solutions, I would need to change lanes.

I will take a moment here to highlight the significance, strength and resilience of community. During my time as a local government councillor I received a particular call amongst a number of similar calls. This one stood out; it captured my heart. It was a call from a woman with five children—three adult dependents and two younger children—who had been homeless and living out of a car for 12 months. Grace was nervous over the phone as she pleaded for help. She was already on the waiting lists with local housing providers and real estate agencies and we were coming into winter, and now she was desperate. Her two younger children had been removed and placed into care until she could find a permanent place of residence and she had a job offer with a local business once she had a permanent place of residence.

Grace had contacted a number of representatives and members of parliament and now I was her last hope. Our community was struggling with 0.1 per cent rental vacancy rates and a social housing waiting list of 1,200 at that time. Housing is not the usual remit of a local government. However, it is definitely the role of local government representatives to advocate for their constituents. My heart was so moved. There should be more that I could do.

With no significant affordable housing investment build on the horizon for Rockhampton or Gracemere, I made some calls. I knew there would be others in our community like-minded and motivated to produce an outcome to help people like Grace and to help community feel that they too could be a part of the housing solution. I co-founded the Shelter Collective, which has successfully delivered 10 refurbished cottages from what had been abandoned for almost 20 years. These once-loved homes were just sitting there while people needed a roof over their heads. This project was delivered by community for community—10 affordable homes in less than 18 months.

Throughout my working life I have been inspired by a heartfelt drive to serve in various volunteer roles. My own health journey in particular fuelled my passion for raising funds for cancer research through the Cancer Council Queensland and Relay for Life. Over the past decade I have proudly contributed in many capacities: as chair, ambassador, face of Relay for Life and team captain. During this time I was fortunate to be mentored by incredible individuals who dedicate themselves year after year to bring hope where it often seems lost. Volunteering is a selfless act that not only builds character but also strengthens the sense of community. I want to commend all the volunteers across Queensland for their invaluable contributions. The impact that you make can never truly be measured but it is deeply appreciated. Thank you for making a difference.

Every individual has different needs and different goals. We are all looking toward a future and a hope. For each of us, as the sands of time continue to slip away, time can either be our enemy or our friend. We stand here today on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. I acknowledge them for their bravery in standing up for what they believed in and for stepping forward in the hope of making a difference to our communities across this great state. I come to parliament to represent the great electorate of Rockhampton, which includes the township of Gracemere where the residents often feel forgotten. In fact, the regions in general feel forgotten. Across our electorate trains carry to port the coal that drives and supports our state, local industries and our businesses.

One-third of the Rockhampton region is either directly or indirectly supported by the resource sector and it is imperative that we protect this legacy. Like a major artery, the mighty Fitzroy-Tunuba River is the lifeblood of our region. Whilst it is the largest river catchment on the eastern seaboard of Australia, water security continues to remain one of our biggest threats. The Rookwood Weir has been delivered to our region thanks to the incredible advocacy of LNP federal member for Capricornia, Michelle Landry. Subscriptions for water allocations were significantly oversubscribed and today local landholders continue to call on government for better planning and development for future utilisation


and management of our water resources. Finding solutions that enable water access to industry, our agricultural sector and local residential growth is high in the priorities of my community and I will be working with colleagues in this space.

Also significant to our region is the need to place greater emphasis on effective planning legislation around renewable energy projects to ensure the protection of our environment, prime agricultural land and waterways for future generations. Agriculture supports 74.83 per cent of the primary industry sector, which contributes more than \$22 billion to our economy. We need to listen to and protect stakeholders across our primary industry sector to promote growth and industry security. Our road networks literally connect us and right now many of our rural and regional roads have been reported as unfit for purpose. The Bruce Highway in particular has been in the news almost every day. For too many families from my community this Christmas will not be the same. One life lost is one life too many, but this year we have already seen more than 40 lives lost. It is now time to properly and with purpose address the poor condition of our state roads. I am pleased to be a part of a government that will be placing emphasis on the priority areas of these roads to improve safety and connectivity.

I would like to thank the people of Rockhampton and Gracemere who put their confidence in me and I look forward to delivering on the following commitments for our community: a high school for Gracemere; 27 hectares of housing land, plus eight hectares of land and infrastructure to accommodate health services, plus 300 extra trades workforce—all part of the new TAFE Excellence Precinct within CQUniversity; stage 1 of the Rockhampton Regional Council multisport precinct; a new health services academy for Central Queensland; a youth specific mental health step up, step down facility; a new community clubhouse for Gracemere junior Rugby League and Gracemere netball; new female change facilities for Glenmore Bulls AFL; new change facilities for Bluebirds United Football Club; support for a continuation of early intervention programs for youth with the Our Space youth centre; delivery of one of our nine Regional Reset early intervention programs; support for the re-establishment of the Capricorn business and start-up hub; one of our five neuro wellness hubs for those who experience epilepsy, dementia, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy, motor neurone disease and acquired brain injury; support for construction and fit-out of a new operational hub for the fabulous local men's mental health support program Walk 'n' Talk; and one of our new crime prevention schools. These projects will change the face of our region as we know it.

I am going against speech writers' advice here as I believe in an attitude of gratitude and I have to thank my incredible local campaign team. I would not be here without your help. To my pastor and community of prayer warriors, how good is our God? Premier Crisafulli, ministers and the LNP team, thank you. Lastly, I wish to acknowledge my husband, Brett, and my children, who have been my greatest supporters. For all children across Queensland, I pray that in my time here I can be a part of the government that helps to make lives better. Here today before you all in parliament and before the sand in my hourglass has gone too far, I have this week accepted the commission to take responsibility for those problems and to be a part of the solution: to do good, seek justice, help the oppressed, correct the oppressor, to fight for the rights of the widows and defend the orphan, to speak up for those who cannot speak up for themselves and to speak up for those who are perishing.

I am honoured to be the first female state member for the electorate of Rockhampton and to be entrusted with this mantle to work with and for Queenslanders. I will seek to repair what is broken, to rebuild for our future and to reinforce it for the next generations, to contribute to the fresh start that Queenslanders have called out for and, instead of complaining, to be a part of the solution. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (4.48 pm): Speaker, talofa lava. I stand here today and once again pledge my loyalty to Queensland and her people and that is the most enduring and profound pledge that I can make, with due respect to the sovereign of Great Britain. I acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that I represent in this parliament, the members of the many First Nations that live in my electorate. I thank you for your careful custodianship of the land that we all share. I congratulate all new and returning members and the new Premier and his team. I particularly want to acknowledge all my colleagues in the state parliamentary Labor Party. I think it is rare to have such a large body of MPs who have more or less served contemporaneously. Many of us did come back here in 2015. We have all become a tight unit with tight bonds.

I am standing here in my ula fala, which I was humbled to be presented with by the Deception Bay Samoan community and the hands of Sitinata Hanamenn Hunt. I am very aware of the status that this signifies in fa'amatai, which is the Samoan way of governance. They are usually worn by tulafale,

who are the orators at important events. They are made of segments of pandanus fruit and are painted red. I am wearing my ula fala because I want to start by talking about the values of my community and the values of the Samoan community.

One of the things that distinguishes our Samoan citizens is how their strong values guide every aspect of their lives. The main values that I have discovered or seen are these: respect for elders and women, especially mothers; kindness and caring; looking after the elderly; taking care of people who are in trouble, homeless or parentless; and faith. Samoan spiritual values are exemplified by their willingness to forgive and their practice of the principle of restorative justice. Forgiving is very important and, as Hanamenn said to me, this can be a very difficult thing to do. They value the raising of children. The communal raising of children is a central Samoan community value. Any child who misbehaves can be disciplined by one of the close members of the community, which is crucial to the Samoan way of life. Many Samoans see that as missing in our broader community.

The point I want to make is that those are not just Samoan values; they reflect the values of all in my community. I see those distinctive values at work in my community at all times. All you need to do is look and listen. I especially see those broader community values in our high schools. At speech nights I hear principals talking about them and the values of acceptance and tolerance. No matter who you are, where you come from or what your sexuality is, you are embraced and you are welcomed. You are included; you are not rejected. Diversity is embraced and is a strength of a community; it is never a weakness.

Secondly, I see the key values of collaboration and cooperation in our community corporations and organisations. A Samoan saying that demonstrates the importance of collaboration is—

The member for Bancroft then spoke in a language other than English.

Mr WHITING: That means, 'The more lanterns we have, the more fish we catch.' When Samoans fish at night, lanterns can make underwater visibility clearer and they attract fish. More lanterns means more fish are caught. The lesson is that with collaboration and cooperation, if we all bring our lanterns, we can catch what we need and we can achieve what we must. The third value is respect, and I will talk more on that later.

The fourth values are equality and equity. Equality means that we all have equal rights, liberties and opportunities. There are no class distinctions and there is no discrimination. It means that a kid from Deception Bay or North Lakes State College can get ahead in life. Equity means that you have access to the resources that you need to get ahead in life so that you can catch up with those who have favoured or fortunate lives. It is about putting everyone on a level playing field. Equity means there is not a favoured few who have risen and control all the decisions and the flow of resource to themselves or their people.

I talk about these Samoan and community values because they are the values I hold. They are the values that animate me in this position. They are the values behind the work I do and the work that I will do in holding this government to account. You can see those values in what Labor has achieved after nearly 10 years in government. If you believe in equity and equality then you believe in the importance of a government helping out people with the cost of living. Under Labor, Queenslanders were provided with the biggest cost-of-living relief package in the nation: \$1,000 off electricity bills, 50-cent fares, a 20 per cent discount on car registration, \$200 vouchers for kids sports, and free kindy, free TAFE and free apprenticeships. Our nation-leading cost-of-living relief package is a living exemplar of the values of equity and equality.

Those same values of equity and equality can be seen in our investment in creating a health system that looks after all Queenslanders, no matter who you are or where you live. Labor has always been the hospital builder in Queensland—the only one. We commenced the construction of three new hospitals, at Coomera, Bundaberg and Toowoomba. We started expanding 11 of our busiest hospitals in places such as Townsville, Mackay, Cairns, Hervey Bay, the Gold Coast and Brisbane. Our plan was to deliver more than 3,500 hospital beds for Queensland, and this was backed by a mammoth recruitment effort to add thousands more doctors, nurses, midwives, allied health workers, practitioners and paramedics to our health system. Our health plan showed respect for ordinary working Queenslanders, who deserve the best health care.

People can see that respect for ordinary working Queenslanders in the actions that we took on housing. We believe that every Queenslanders deserves a safe place to call home, which is why our last budget delivered more than \$3 billion to build more homes to help renters and first home buyers and to deliver the social and affordable housing stock our state needs. More than \$1 billion in social and affordable housing projects were under construction or contracted to be delivered. More than 900 social

and affordable homes have been completed since the member for Murrumba launched the Homes for Queenslanders plan. That is more than 1,100 homes currently under construction and more than 2,200 social and affordable homes contracted to be delivered.

On our side, we think respect in politics is crucial. An example of that is listening to Queenslanders and letting them tell their stories, including First Nations people. It is a respectful act to listen. It is respectful to take the time to hear someone's story. It is disrespectful to not meet and to not listen. It is disrespectful to commit to the truth and to listening but then to back away. I know that the LNP have listened to many Queenslanders, especially victims, so let me put this into language that the LNP can understand: listen to those Queenslanders who have been subjected to criminal acts, who had their wages stolen and who were subjected to the most horrific and degrading abuse in institutions. Let them have the opportunity to be heard, which is an opportunity that those opposite have extended to other Queenslanders. Let me be clear: I do not see our First Nations people as passive victims. They fought, they negotiated and they never ceded sovereignty of this land.

Mr STEVENS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member is anticipating debate of a bill before the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Thank you, member for Mermaid Beach. I will take some advice. Member for Bancroft, it is my view that you are beginning to anticipate debate on a bill before the House on two fronts. I would caution you to please not do that.

Mr WHITING: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I had just finished that bit anyway.

The values of my community are at the core of our efforts to confront and resolve the most intractable and difficult of social issues and crises. For example, you will not solve the problem of youth crime if you are a community that sees those kids as someone else's kids. The Samoan value that we all have a responsibility for raising children is reflected in our approach locally to youth justice. We do not say, 'These are not our kids. Government, come in and solve this problem. Take it away.' In Deception Bay we see them as our kids, not as outsiders. They belong to us. It is not for someone else to fix.

The Deception Bay doctrine contains this. We need wraparound, long-term solutions that respect the community and give the community agency to resolve them. People in my community already know how to fix this and, in fact, the solutions are already there. We have been doing it for over 20 years. I say to the LNP: forget the sloganeering; just fund the solutions that we are already doing.

The LNP have largely focused on one issue—youth crime—and have put forward a proposal to solve it or fix it but our local programs are already in place and they are working. They are not the programs that focus on the retribution and punishment end of action after a serious crime has been committed. They are the long-term programs that address the root causes of economic and social dislocation. They are the wraparound services that are provided by the community in partnership with government.

I will list some of these programs. Skilling Queenslanders for Work—this is the gold standard intervention and diversion program in all of Queensland. It trains people. It puts them into work. It changes the lives of whole families and has put thousands of people on the right path. In my electorate alone, it has delivered 80 community-driven projects, trained 3,300 people and put 2,200 people into work. Most people who have gone into these programs have been referred by other community organisations when they have reached out for help on other issues. If the government wants to invest in gold standard intervention programs, it must keep funding Skilling Queenslanders for Work at the current level.

They should also invest in programs like the Glugor House program in Deception Bay. This is the earliest intervention program of all—young mothers and their children are supported at yourtown, and that is when true prevention starts. Yunity, a corporation in my area, runs three programs in the diversion and intervention space. There is YAMBI, funded by Youth Justice, which has been run successfully by Yunity for many years and includes intense engagement and case management for young people who have already been in contact perhaps with the youth justice system. It rebuilds their relationships with their family and the community.

There is the Push! program which puts these young people into a bicycle workshop. Young people, diverted from offending, get their own bike to repair or build and they do it with mentors. It is a really successful program but it has no funding. Schools are constantly referring students to it and a lot of First Nations people have done that program. Yunity finds the money to do this program somehow.

Younity also has an Indigenous Pathways program funded by the Ganbina Foundation from Victoria—no government funding, once again. They do case management in schools where young people are mentored by First Nations role models. It is a three-year commitment for each student and there is a bursary involved.

In North Lakes, the YMCA runs the Queensland Youth Partnership Initiative. It is a diversionary program that runs on a Thursday night with the support of Westfield, QPS and local community partners. Once again, that initiative helps divert young people away from the justice system.

These are just some of the programs that already exist that protect and divert. We have a strong values foundation in my community and those values are the basis for many successful programs run by the communities. I say to the government: sloganeer all you want but the gold standard programs are already there. Fund them; do not cut them.

I want to finish by paying tribute to all those people who have joined me on the Labor campaign in Bancroft. Like all of our volunteers, they did it with good grace, with humour and from a basis of serious determination. They were led by Jenelle Head, our campaign manager, and there are so many—too many to name—and I do thank you all from the bottom of my heart. They believed and they acted.

I do want to pay special tribute to Jenny Foster. I first came across her when I was doorknocking for my first election campaign for council in 2000 and I made a note that the lady with the stone driveway in Claverton Drive was a supporter. This was our eighth election together and it is true that I could not have done it without her.

Of course, I want to send my biggest thank you to my family. Sian is an extraordinary woman, accepting all the drawbacks, disappointments and absences that come with a political life and she has done that with incredible grace. I am so proud that she now gets to start a new career as a teacher. Now it is her turn to follow her dream. My children have only ever known a political life. Guy was literally a babe in arms in 2012 when I announced I was going to run for mayor in Moreton Bay, which I will point out as an aside is the only election of those eight I have ever lost. I also thank my campaign manager, the member for Morayfield—

Mr Ryan: It wasn't my fault!

Mr WHITING: No, it was not his fault; it was mine. Guy is now as tall as I am, as typical as a 14-year-old as one would expect.

An opposition member: And a hockey player.


Mr WHITING: Yes, we all love hockey in my family. I am now starting to see some real thoughtfulness and depth to his character and I am starting to glimpse the man that I hope he can become. Rebecca starts high school next year. She has started on make-up and sassiness far too early for my liking but I secretly admire her way with words. She cannot be beaten in an argument. She is relentless and she has the ability to make a sharp point in just a few words. Maybe politics will be her calling. Arabella was the first of our caucus babies from 2015 and she is a free spirit. We tell her she is our woodland sprite and she embraces that carefree identity with a beatific smile that makes my heart sing.

A big thank you to the other side of our three-sided rock—my sisters, Jillian and Elizabeth. I have spoken of them in my addresses-in-reply many times before. To my mother, Margaret, who stood on a booth with me again—she is 83 and needs a walker; she was behind me every single time—I thank you.

I want to quickly finish by thanking my electorate staff: Jenelle, Nicolina Wroblewski, Huxley Vavrosky, Lachie May and the volunteers, as I have said. There are so many of them there but I want to point out people like Marx Smith, Colin, Jennifer Whitlock and Vern Feeney. There are far too many. I should not have really started on that.

I have talked about values today. I started talking about the Samoan values and moved into talking about community values and Labor values. All of those are reflected in what I do every day. All of those are included in what we do here in Labor and we will exercise those values as we continue to hold this government to account. I thank you.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Furner): Before I call the next member, the member for Mundingburra, members are reminded this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Mrs POOLE** (Mundingburra—LNP) (5.06 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker, members of this esteemed House and people of Queensland, it is with immense pride that I stand here to deliver my maiden speech as the representative for the electorate of Mundingburra. To the people of Mundingburra, thank you for placing your trust in me. This role is both an honour and a responsibility I will never take lightly. I am here because of you—your hopes, your challenges and your belief in a fresh start for Mundingburra.

Let me tell you a little bit about Mundingburra. The Mundingburra electorate is a microcosm of Queensland itself. It is a place where diversity, resilience and community spirit shine brightly. It is a vibrant community housing some of Australia's and Queensland's most important infrastructure.

The seat of Mundingburra is home to a proud and deeply rooted defence community, anchored by the presence of Lavarack Barracks, one of the largest military bases in Australia. Our community is enriched by the men and women who serve in the Australian Defence Force as well as their families who contribute so much to the fabric of our region. I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to our service men and women. Their dedication, sacrifice and unwavering commitment to the security of our nation inspire us all. They represent the best of what it means to serve and, as their representative, I will work to ensure that their needs and the needs of their families are met with the respect and the support that they deserve.

For those who have served and are transitioning into civilian life, I will advocate for greater access to mental health services, employment opportunities and programs that honour your contributions. Mundingburra can lead the way as a welcoming and supportive community for our veterans. Defence industries are also vital to our local community. I will advocate for investment that drives partnerships with local businesses, creates jobs and ensures that Mundingburra benefits from our role in supporting national security.

Another pillar of the Mundingburra community is the Townsville University Hospital—a world-class facility that serves not only Mundingburra but also the broader North Queensland and Far North Queensland regions. It is the largest tertiary hospital in Northern Australia. It provides critical healthcare services, supports groundbreaking research and trains the next generation of our healthcare professionals. I want to take this moment to recognise the incredible doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and support staff who work tirelessly to provide high-quality care to our community. You are the heart of our healthcare system and we are deeply grateful for your dedication. What you have lacked is a government that has supported you over the last 10 years. The LNP will support you moving forward.

With its connection to the James Cook University, the Townsville University Hospital is a hub for innovation and medical research. I will support the partnerships and investment that position Mundingburra as a leader in medical advancements and the training of our healthcare professionals. No mention of Mundingburra would be complete without recognising the vital role played by the James Cook University—a cornerstone of education and research in North Queensland. JCU is not just a university; it is a beacon of opportunity, innovation and global leadership in areas such as tropical health, environmental science and marine biology. The students, researchers and staff at JCU contribute immensely to our community and beyond, shaping the leaders and solutions of tomorrow. As the university continues to grow, so too does its positive impact on Mundingburra and the broader region.

This may come as a surprise to members, but Mundingburra and the broader Townsville area is a massive sporting city. We love our sport. In the seat of Mundingburra we have the Murray Sporting Complex—soccer, netball, hockey, cricket, AFL, a cycling velodrome, a skate park, darts and basketball. It sounds like we could have the Olympic Games there. What if? Thousands of players attend their chosen sport every single week during their season.

The Townsville stadium is also host to the multi premiership winning WNBL team the Townsville Fire. Of course, running through the heart of the beautiful seat of Mundingburra is the mighty Ross River, a hub of activity both on and off the water—rowing, skiing, swimming and fishing. They are only freshwater crocodiles; you will be fine! We have cyclists, we have runners and, of course, it is the home of the Aplins Weir parkrun. Bring your runners when you come to visit!

Mundingburra is more than just my electorate; it is my home. I was raised here, was educated here, played sport here—that is a given—and have worked here for the past 28 years as a serving police officer. I grew up in Berontha Street, Cranbrook, in the heart of the Mundingburra electorate. I carry today some of my fondest memories of Berontha Street—memories such as running down the driveway when I was three to see the greengrocer or the milkman. They home-delivered every week

back then. I actually think that was probably the earliest form of Uber Eats—54 years ago. There are memories such as visiting our neighbours and collecting their buffalo turf runners and bringing them home so that Mum and Dad could plant them of an afternoon. That is what we did back then to get a lawn. There are memories such as walking through a bush track from Berontha Street—watching out for the snakes; you always carried a stick—to get to Ross River Road to catch the bus to the Aitkenvale Primary School. I would always stop and eat the Chinese apples on the way and then I would be sitting in class with a bellyache because some of them were a little bit too green. But do you know what? I would do it again the next day as well. I learned to swim in the Aitkenvale Primary School pool and was amongst one of the youngest in the state back in 1979 to get the Surf Life Saving bronze medallion in year 7, alongside Helen Watson, who is a friend of mine to this day. It seems I have always loved a bit of a challenge.

Years 8 to 12 were spent at the Heatley State High School. I was only the second in my family to finish year 12, behind my older sister. Heatley State High School taught me humility and taught me resilience. Saturdays: guess what they were for? Sport, of course. There was hockey in the morning and tennis in the afternoon. Sundays were the day for exploration. All the local kids would gather together on our bikes. You have all done it. You are having memories yourselves. We would gather on our bikes and off we would go. We would go exploring for the day. There were only ever two rules: you had to be home for lunch and you had to be back before the streetlights came on. Trust me: if you were not, there were consequences for actions.

In 1994 I joined the Queensland Police Service and returned to Townsville, where I spent the next 28 years proudly serving and protecting the community—general duties, Juvenile Aid Bureau, PCYC and, finally, as the officer in charge of the Townsville District Crime Prevention Unit. I take this moment to acknowledge my fellow former officers here in the chamber and thank them for their service and commitment to the community. Thank you so very much.

To my fellow brothers and sisters in blue: I commend you for the critical work you do on a daily basis. I know the jobs that you have been to and the impact that they have on you. I have stood with you at some of those jobs. Thank you for your commitment to upholding justice, maintaining order and ensuring the safety of everyone around you. Your work does not go unnoticed. In 2015 I was very privileged to receive the prestigious Australian Police Medal.

I have been an ambassador for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation for over 10 years. Next year the foundation commemorates 20 years. It is exceptionally important that we continue the work of Bruce and Denise Morcombe and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation: educating our young people on how to keep themselves safe—recognise, react, report; supporting the victims of crime; and, of course, most importantly, honouring the memory of Daniel Morcombe.

I am going to move on to some thank-yous, so stay with me. It would be remiss of me not to thank the former member for Mundingburra, Mr Les Walker. I acknowledge his contribution to the community and I wish him and his family well for the future. Leigh Kefford, my campaign manager: your unwavering support, knowledge and patience—most importantly your patience—throughout the past 12 months have been nothing short of phenomenal. To my campaign team and volunteers I say a massive thank you once again for the time you have all given freely. Your contributions helped us win the seat of Mundingburra. To my friends and extended family I say a heartfelt thank you for your support, your encouragement, your friendship and your assistance.

Mr Peter Lindsay—yes, election campaigns are like roller-coasters, Peter. Thank you for being part of the Mundingburra campaign. Thank you for your advice, your guidance and your friendship. Mr Dave Tindale is a friend for over 20 years and a long-time volunteer in a number of community programs. He is a man of the highest integrity and moral standing. Nothing was ever a problem during the campaign. Whether it was roadsiding or 6 am set-ups and 6 pm pack-ups every day for pre-polling—not a problem. Thank you, Dave, for your guidance, your knowledge and your friendship.

The last LNP member for Mundingburra was none other than our now Premier, Mr David Crisafulli, a man of vision and integrity who believes in the value of hard work and the principle of 'do as you would be done by'. I have done my homework! There were too many occasions to count while I was out doorknocking the Mundingburra electorate when the residents would say, 'The last politician to knock on our door was David Crisafulli.' That is a huge testament to the drive and discipline of our Premier. I am honoured to be the new member for Mundingburra, following in his footsteps.

To my fellow members for Thuringowa and Townsville: congratulations. You both bring with you skills and knowledge that will greatly benefit your electorates.

To my husband, Darren, and daughters, Kirby and Jenna: I am here today because of your support and your unconditional love. This has been your journey as much as it has been mine. I am here because of your incredible support. This moment also belongs to you.


To my mum and dad—my dad passed seven years ago. He was a man who worked one job his whole life. He was a linesman with Ergon Energy in Townsville for over 40 years. I daresay there are a number of apprentices out there who would remember his unique training methods, but that was long before there were any workplace health and safety regulations. My dad was a tough man, a man who said what he thought, a man who gave back to his community, but he protected his family fiercely. He raised three daughters to have thick hides and broad shoulders, to love Rugby League and cricket, and to stand up for what you believe in.

To my mum, whom we lost five months ago—we thought Dad was tough! Mum was the one who kept the family running. When money was tight she would take in ironing. She would do house cleaning. We never had a lot but we had everything we needed. There were many nights when dinner was tomato sandwiches but they were the best tomato sandwiches we ever tasted. Mum taught us the importance of following through on your commitments, always giving back to your community, respecting the opinions of others and, more importantly, having the ability to laugh at yourself. Thank you both for your love and support. I will do my best every day to make you proud—and, Dad, I will always play with a straight bat.

During the election campaign I knocked on thousands of doors and listened to the residents' stories—people who were too scared to leave their homes, people who were too scared to stay in their homes. I listened to stories of people who had been waiting on elective surgery lists for years as their health deteriorated, of young families unable to enter the housing market, of employed people living in their cars because they could not afford to pay rent, and of people who had to choose between paying their electricity bill or feeding their family.

I have listened to your stories. You have been heard. We as an LNP government are committed to making our community safer, providing easier access to health services, easing the cost of living and securing our housing foundations.

As I take my place in this chamber, I do so with the deepest respect for its history and purpose. This House represents the voices of all Queenslanders, and it is my solemn duty to ensure the voice of Mundingburra is heard loudly and clearly. To the people of Mundingburra, my door will always be open to you. Your stories, your challenges and your successes will be at the heart of everything I do.

 **Ms BUSH** (Cooper—ALP) (5.25 pm): In my first speech this term I want to start by acknowledging that we stand today on the land of the Yagara and Turrbal people and pay my respects to their elders past and present and to acknowledge them as our First Australians and the traditional owners and custodians of these lands.

I would also like to congratulate the member for Condamine on his appointment as Speaker in the 58th Parliament. I congratulate all returning members and welcome our newest members across the chamber. I do want to acknowledge the member for Capalaba, Russell Field. Russell and I share the unique experience that we have both lost people we love to homicide. It is a rare insight that the member for Capalaba and I bring, and I look forward to again this term ensuring that the views of all victims are heard and that the many promises made to victims by this government are delivered as promised.

I also want to acknowledge those members who did not return—people who over the last four years I developed some really genuine friendships with. They are people like the former member for Caloundra, Jason Hunt, who I worked on committee with; the member for Cook, Cynthia Lui, who was with me on the temporary Speakers panel; and the member for Pumicestone, Ali King, who was my chamber neighbour. These members worked really hard and, regrettably, it was not their day. I do want to wish all of our former colleagues every success in their next chapter.

But, Mr Speaker, I'm back, baby, and I am so excited to be back. It is an incredible honour and privilege to serve. Very few people ever have an opportunity like this. Four years ago I promised to not waste a day or to take this role or our people for granted. I stand here today and again make that same solemn promise to this House and to my constituents.

Naturally I want to thank my community, which has put their trust and their confidence in me again. I have had really difficult times in my life, but it would be a mistake to think that I have had a terrible life. I have had the most dynamic and exciting life I could have ever hoped for, and being elected

as the member for Cooper stands out as one of the highlights. We are temporary stewards of these roles, so the important thing is to respect the role, to respect our people, to diligently represent their views, to listen, to serve, to take nothing and no-one for granted, and to be honest and bold.

My team and our community have achieved a lot in our last term—annual ecoforums where we brought together thought leaders for a sustainable future and our annual small business awards which celebrate the many passionate business owners and operators. We have organised capacity-building forums for sporting and community groups, as well as attending hundreds of local events—colour runs, school graduations, AGMs, business openings, art exhibitions and working bees.

These events do not just happen. It takes a genuine partnership between our office and our community—our small businesses, our schools, our sporting and community groups, our creatives, our conservationists—all of us working together towards the shared belief that communities prosper when we put aside our differences, roll up our sleeves and get good stuff done.

I am proud of my team that helped to deliver a strong outcome in the seat of Cooper. However, we on this side now find ourselves in opposition, and it does fall to us to ensure the government lives up to its promises to reduce crime, reduce victim numbers, deliver affordable housing and Olympic infrastructure, reduce household and business insurance premiums, while also discontinuing Queensland's coal royalties scheme, which nets our state \$8 billion, and promising to lower state spending.

All of our electorates are special to us and I would like to share what makes the people of Cooper so wonderful to represent. Referred to as an inner-city electorate, our people are sometimes described by others as wealthy, privileged or even elite. It is true that it is not cheap to live within 10 kilometres of the city. Many of our people are professional working families, working huge hours to give their families the greatest life they can have—often a life that their parents could not afford to give them. For these families, issues like the state of the economy, job availability, housing affordability and a clear and bold vision for Queensland really matter.

We knocked on the doors of almost 20,000 homes during our campaign and we found that everyone was concerned about cost of living and housing availability and affordability. Whether it was a student or a hospitality worker struggling to find somewhere secure to rent, a young family struggling to afford their first home, or older parents who would like to one day turn their 25-year-old's bedroom into a creative arts studio and need them to move out, housing availability and affordability in our electorate is perhaps the No. 1 issue. I was really proud of Labor's Homes for Queenslanders plan—a plan to build a million homes by 2046. I acknowledge that the government have adopted that plan and stated they will deliver those homes two years earlier. I think that is fantastic and I know that our electorate will welcome that. I look forward to monitoring and providing updates to my community on the government's progress on that and sincerely wish the housing minister well on progressing a really important outcome.

Our community places a high value on education, with many moving into the area for our schools. In my four-year term I was really proud to secure over \$40 million in investments for our local schools—for new STEAM buildings and additional classrooms, and all schools now have air conditioning and solar. I have also secured funding for tuckshop expansions and greater disability access. I note through the government's ministerial charter letters that the government has adopted the Labor government's policies around free kindy, additional support to teachers including a workforce strategy and a commitment to boost teacher aide numbers by 550. Labor's work on the provision of a healthy school lunch program and targeted work to support schools manage an inclusive approach to students with additional needs has also been adopted by the new government. I am pleased to see that.

We have a number of families in our community who would like to see a broader suite of education facilities, including flexi schools and dedicated schools for children with special needs. In my previous term I was able to finalise work that the former member, Kate Jones, had commenced on the amalgamation of the Red Hill Special School. Relocating onto Fulcher Road, we are now in the enviable position of having a school that will be freed up and available potentially in 2026. Prior to the election I was able to secure an agreement with the department that this Waterworks Road site would remain a special needs school. It is no secret that I would like the government to use this site to establish Brisbane's first dedicated autism school for the inner city, and I hope the government will honour this commitment.

I welcome the LNP's commitment to work actively to re-engage students who may not be attending school. I am interested in how that commitment will interact with their proposed zero-tolerance policy on violence, vapes and drugs and how those policies interact with some of the government's

other proposed reforms around restricting drug diversion, removing pill testing and, of course, their proposed youth crime sentencing framework. I have written to the minister requesting a meeting to brief him on the current needs of our schools, including the overwhelming desire in our community for a new library for The Gap State School which could in fact benefit the entire Gap community. This innovative idea formed a key part of our election campaign, and I would welcome the opportunity to work with the new minister to deliver this for the good people of The Gap.

This issue of shared and a more effective use of resources is a key concern of mine and our people. One of the greatest challenges facing inner-city seats is a contest for space: how do we simultaneously construct more homes, protect green space and build the infrastructure—bike paths, libraries and community centres—that our people want us to invest in? One of the key infrastructure issues is the provision of sporting facilities. We have a number of great sporting groups in our community which are juggling clubhouses, their fields and shared car parks, but they are struggling with access to sportsgrounds and facilities. Many of our clubs have now had to cap their player numbers, which has resulted in many locals being unable to take part in sport or having to join a club outside of their community and spend hours travelling halfway up and down the coast. If we are to deliver a world-class Olympics, we have to invest heavily in our local clubs across all regions, including the inner city.

As members would know, I am a big supporter of Sporting Wheelies, and I want to particularly call out the need to look at investing in additional infrastructure for sports for people with a disability. Sporting Wheelies operates out of Milton in my electorate. It is a custom-built facility that was funded by the former Labor government. My daughter Albie often trains down there with the wheelchair basketball program on a Tuesday night. Albie is able-bodied, but because the barriers for people with a disability are so great they struggle for numbers. In fact, able-bodied people can train with the Queensland wheelchair basketball teams right up to nationals level, which gives you a sense of the hill we have to climb if we are to meet our IOC obligation of half a million people with a disability engaged in sport by 2032.

Finally, a key priority for my residents is the urgent and ongoing need to decarbonise Queensland, to halt the effects of climate change, to invest heavily in restoring the biodiversity of our natural spaces. I think it is fair to say that I and many of my constituents are nervous about an LNP government in relation to this policy area. The last time the LNP were in government in Queensland land clearing doubled, our wild rivers legislation was revoked and our national parks were opened up to developers.

I also want to correct the record in relation to material distributed by the Greens in my electorate during the election campaign. This material claimed that Labor had been involved in the approval of 27 coalmines in Queensland. That information was not correct. In fact, our Energy and Jobs Plan included the transition of coal-fired power stations to renewable energy hubs. It was recognised as the most ambitious decarbonisation plan in the country and, importantly, we had underwritten it with \$3 billion in direct investment and a jobs guarantee.

Climate change is not just an inner-city, woke, left ideology. There are compelling economic arguments to drive down rising global temperatures. Independent reports have climate change costing Australia \$423 billion over the next 40 years, and Queensland will bear the brunt of that. Lost productivity, increased natural disasters, agricultural impacts and widespread species loss, water security, water quality and, notably, the impacts this will have on our primary industries and tourism sectors are key issues that not just my community but all Queensland communities should care about, so I am concerned that there is no mention of climate considerations under the ministerial charters for primary industries, water or local government, and the only mention about the environment in the environment minister's charter relates to growing Queensland's ecotourism.

In the previous term, the Labor government held a parliamentary inquiry into the impacts of climate change on Queensland's agricultural production. Farmers for Climate Action submitted to that committee—

Queensland, more than other states and territories, has greater exposure to the impacts of climate change.

...

Climate change poses a serious and ongoing risk to the Australian agricultural sector's viability ...

This is clearly an important area that the government needs to be investing in now and into the future.

I am monitoring the time. I should have rehearsed my speech because time is slipping away and I want to get to the important part, which is the thankyou. I will skip a little bit in my speech and if I have time I am going to come back to it, which is a typical Jonty approach of being disorganised. I am going to get to the thankyou, and I do have a lot of people to thank. I want to start by acknowledging my incredible team. I cannot rave enough about our Team Jonty campaign team. Connor Wood, my campaign director, is phenomenal. Connor is wise beyond his years. His political knowledge and instinct are profound. For four years we kept our outputs locally really positive and professional and we represented the people of Cooper with integrity. We wanted to maintain that approach in the campaign and Connor really understood and nailed that.

Greg Moran, Jake Araullo, Vicki Ryan, Tyler Rolls, Sam Dolan, Clare Webster, Dan Boyd, Paula Ridler and Bob Hill—we had such an incredible campaign team who kept me focused. They worked hard to maintain the integrity of what we wanted to achieve, which was to focus on our achievements and our positive plans for the future. They kept me sane, and I am so grateful for that. The former member for Cooper, Kate Jones, is such a champion of women in politics. She is my strategist, my therapist, my mentor and my friend, and I was grateful again for her support on this campaign.

The United Workers Union again played a key role in my re-election. I thank Gary Bullock for his support and his encouragement and belief in my wild ideas. I also acknowledge the ALP state secretary, Kate Flanders, and my organiser, Hayden Sheppard. We have a strong and growing Labor membership in Cooper supported by eight branches. All of our branches really lifted in this campaign. I thank presidents John Laing, Terry Evans, Danny Bevis, PJ, Robyn Stevens, Ron Frame and Madonna Jarrett and all the branch members and all the Labor members who came out for months to doorknock, to make phone calls and to stand on the side of the road and wave at cars with me, giving up time with their families because they believed in the power of a Labor government. We had a number of young people helping on our campaign which was phenomenal to see. I do want to single out two: Angus Healy and Aidan Ameer, who were absolute weapons and are such passionate Labor supporters. It was really wonderful seeing them flourish in the campaign.

The Greens threw everything at my seat, but what I noticed was that very few of their volunteers were from our local area. In fact, most were from outside the electorate and from interstate. In contrast, Team Jonty drew in so many locals. Small business owners, teachers, artists, professionals, coaches of local sporting clubs and cafe owners who had never campaigned for a politician before came out and supported us, and I want to thank them so much.

We had over 200 volunteers out on election day alone and many more through the campaign, including people who just threw on a Jonty T-shirt during their lunchbreak and came out to help. When I asked people what motivated them to join in on the campaign, their common response was something like, 'I don't really know much about politics, I couldn't even tell you what party you are with, but you are a great local member and we don't want to lose you.' Above all else, this role is about service to others. Being a good local member cuts through every political preference and I think is the reason why we returned such a strong swing towards us in Cooper. I am really proud of what our team achieved—a generous swing during a difficult election.


I do not have time to do more of my speech, but that is okay. I have saved the best for last—my friends, who are my greatest cheerleaders, and, of course, my family. It would be impossible for me to be here without my partner of almost 14 years—which is crazy—Matthew Bashford. Matt is my world. He puts up with my crazy ideas, my early mornings, my vegan stealth attacks on his diet, my messy car and my floordrobe. He puts up with me when I walk in late and interrupt his movie to insist we can only watch a horror instead, only then to spend an hour on my phone. He is an absolute legend, and I really am the luckiest person in the world to have him and to have our four daughters—Grace, Annie, Ella and Albie—who are fierce and formidable women. Albie is quickly becoming a passionate Labor supporter. Her views on rival political parties are well formed and quite unparliamentary, so I will not be able to repeat them, but I cannot wait to see—

Mrs Frecklington: Oh, Jonty!

Ms BUSH: I do not know where she gets it from, Deb. I cannot wait to see what all these young women do. In the final moment I have, I do want to acknowledge people who are no longer here with us—my dad and my sister, Jacinta, who I do not talk about all the time but I know would be very proud of what I have achieved and very proud of the work we are doing and the role that I am playing; my broader family—my mum and my brother. Families are very complicated and we probably do have a complicated relationship. Probably Russell, more than anyone, would understand what grief is like and

how that can change the dynamics of families, but I do love them very much, and I do know that, despite everything, they are very proud of me. It is such an honour to be here. I look forward to working with everyone in this chamber over the 58th term of parliament. Thank you.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Furner): Before calling the next speaker, members are reminded this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such an occasion.

 **Mr LEE** (Hervey Bay—LNP) (5.42 pm): I am honoured and humbled to deliver my inaugural speech as the newly elected state member for Hervey Bay. I thank the Hervey Bay electors for placing their confidence and trust in me. I take this responsibility seriously and will strive to give dignified and accountable service in the best interests of the Hervey Bay community. Earlier this week, I was sworn in as the state member for Hervey Bay. I swore to discharge my duty as a state member of parliament faithfully and to the best of my ability. I regard my sworn oath as an enforceable contract with the people of Hervey Bay and I am committed to delivering on the terms of that contract over the next four years.

It may surprise many in this House to know that I was a disengaged youth and a regular school truant who did not complete secondary school. However, I had one strength: my love for talking to older people. It was that connection that led me to working in aged care. Soon after, I commenced my nursing career as a 19-year-old at the Queen Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital in Melbourne. As I worked towards getting my first nursing qualification, I worked on the polio ward with many survivors of the 1950s polio epidemic. It was here that I heard the story of Max, an inspirational man who had lived with polio in an iron lung. An iron lung was a mechanical respirator that enabled Max to breathe after the disease had destroyed his physical body. Undeterred by his health conditions, Max started a small business whilst living in that iron lung. He sold Levi jeans to the doctors, nurses and orderlies, and started a successful real estate investment business. When he eventually passed away, Max was a very wealthy man. Max was one of the many people who lived courageously with polio in the hospital. His and other polio patients' attitudes towards living their best lives was amazing and had a profound impact on my life.

From there I joined the Salvation Army. Valuable experiences of working with people who were homeless, the mentally ill, alcoholics, the terminally ill and people from all walks of life helped me to develop a compassion and drive for working with people. I later provided critical incident stress debriefing services to the Victoria State Emergency Service dealing with road trauma on the Hume Highway near Albury-Wodonga. Years of service as an Australian Army medic and operating theatre specialist, tertiary studies in nursing and law and master's degrees in both commerce and law—applied law—later equipped me in holding chief executive officer roles in hospitals, aged care and community healthcare services in Victoria. Not bad for a disengaged youth!

It was because of significant and inspirational people who came into my life that I began to understand the benefits of hard work and grit. I studied part-time for over 20 years whilst holding demanding chief executive officer roles. An unknown author once said, 'The harder I work, the luckier I get.' I like to reframe that quote and say the harder I work, the more opportunities that come my way. I have worked hard, studied hard and taken every opportunity to use my skills and experiences in the positions I have held. Yes, there has been some luck, but mostly a steely determination to always succeed in doing my job well. Essentially, I am a people person. I love meeting and advocating for people, drawing from my work and life experiences.

After holidaying in Hervey Bay for over 30 years, I finally moved there eight years ago. I took the opportunity to run for Fraser Coast Regional Council. Whilst on council, I served on council's Water and Waste Management Committee. This committee provided priceless insights into the importance of water security and a regional waste management strategy including, but not limited to, sound landfill management and recycling. A collaborative and respectful relationship with Fraser Coast Regional Council has been cultivated over time and will be immeasurably beneficial in my role as the state member for Hervey Bay.

I have continued to make the most of opportunities to work alongside and advocate for people in our community. I can truly say I love living in Hervey Bay. I love engaging and contributing to my community, whether it is through Rotary, chairing the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal, Men's Walk and Talk luncheons, a period of time as a board director of Bayside Christian College, Fraser Community Meals on Wheels, Fraser Coast Hospice, shaving my head to fundraise for the Leukaemia Foundation, joining others in feeding the homeless, cheering on the Humpbacks All Abilities Futsal Club, participating in the Christian faith community or visiting the local Torquay Beachside Markets. Hervey Bay is my home and passion. I truly understand the reasons why people are moving to Hervey

Bay. The desire for a slower, relaxed lifestyle that might include walking on the beach and enjoying a cup of coffee in one of the many cafes is an attractive choice for many people. An outdoor lifestyle is readily available to all.

Prior to European settlement, the region of Hervey Bay and surrounds were inhabited by the Butchulla people to the east and the Gubbi Gubbi people to the west. The names of several suburbs in Hervey Bay are derived from Aboriginal expressions such as Urraween, meaning 'a place of emus', and Kawungan, meaning 'a place of magpies'. Today I want to commend the Butchulla community for the great work they do in our community, including the Kal'ang Respite Centre.

Hervey Bay, initially Hervey's Bay, was named by Lieutenant James Cook of Her Majesty's *Endeavour*, in honour of Captain Augustus John Hervey, a naval officer and Lord of the Admiralty. European settlement in the region began in the 1850s, and the first European, Boyle Martin, settled in Hervey Bay in 1863. Hervey Bay was named a town in 1959 and proclaimed a city in 1984. We have a detailed and meticulously recorded history of Hervey Bay due to the dedication of the volunteers at the Hervey Bay Historical Village & Museum. Today I acknowledge the efforts of John Anderson, Greg Jacobson and Brian Taylor, who have had oversight of the museum volunteers and have preserved our Hervey Bay historical story. In fact, I was honoured, as a Fraser Coast regional councillor, to unveil the 50-year 1974 to 2024 commemorative plaque in March of this year.

The state electorate of Hervey Bay has a long political pedigree, dating back to the first parliament in 1860. Our state electorates have been variously identified as Wide Bay, Maryborough, Burrum and Isis. Indeed, one of our former state members, the member for Isis, includes the 29th premier of Queensland, the late Jack Pizzey.

We are truly blessed to have an amazing and beautiful island at our front door—an ecotourism paradise. In 1992, K'gari Fraser Island was World Heritage listed and in 2007 added to the National Heritage List in recognition of its heritage significance under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. K'gari Fraser Island is also connected with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and is a part of the Great Sandy Biosphere Reserve. A Ramsar convention is an international treaty that aims to preserve wetlands and their resources through wise use and management.

Hervey Bay is also world renowned as an iconic location for whale watching. Whale watching commenced in 1987 with one charter boat and now contributes significantly to our tourism industry. In 2019, the Fraser Coast was accredited as the world's first Whale Heritage site and officially crowned as the 'whale watch capital of the world'. Our Whale Heritage accreditation is recognition of the region's commitment to responsible and sustainable whale and dolphin watching. Each year the southern humpback whales take the stopover route between K'gari Fraser Island and the mainland in mid-July to early November. This is their southern migration to the cooler waters of Antarctic. It is one of the few places in the world used as a whale nursery, where multiple mothers and calves play together.

Hervey Bay also has a thriving energetic and diverse multicultural community. This includes the Filipino Australian Association Fraser Coast and the Island Breeze Rugby Plus, an association of Fijian and South Pacific Islanders promoting Rugby Sevens in our community.

As a former Australian Army soldier it is my privilege to support our veterans community. We have a large veterans community supported by some outstanding advocates. Many of our veterans are doing it tough, and I pay tribute to their service. I acknowledge the efforts of the Hervey Bay RSL Sub-Branch, the Veterans of Australia Association and Legacy in supporting our veterans. Each year in Hervey Bay I am encouraged to see thousands, including many of our young people, attending the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services. Lest we forget.

Many are familiar with the heroic deeds of our soldiers in the battle of Long Tan. Delta Company 6RAR came under attack from the North Vietnamese Army. The Delta Company men were outnumbered 10 to one in a fierce battle that endured for four hours. The late Corporal Henry 'Buddy' Lea was a Delta Company platoon section commander. Buddy, a former Hervey Bay resident, was an Indigenous soldier who courageously rescued a fellow soldier whilst under enemy fire. Buddy was shot a number of times and yet survived the ordeal. Buddy later said, 'You put your own life on the line to save your mates.' On Vietnam Veterans' Day I was privileged to present a framed photograph of Buddy and his former OC of Delta Company 6RAR, the late Lieutenant-Colonel Harry Smith, to Buddy's wife and daughter.

It should come as no surprise that Hervey Bay, including the Fraser Coast region, is a must-see tourist destination. In the 2024 financial year, tourism in the Fraser Coast region contributed an estimated \$877 million to the Fraser Coast regional economy and supported about 7,900 jobs. That is 18.1 per cent of employment in the Fraser Coast region.

There are over 3,000 businesses in Hervey Bay, and it would be remiss of me not to mention our hardworking small business community. Small business is the backbone of our local, regional and state economy. My parents were small business owners and I understand that the work does not stop when the shopfront closes. I look forward to continuing to engage, value and encourage our small business community.

Hervey Bay has an interesting and challenging demographic. The median age of a Hervey Bay resident is 52, against a Queensland median age of 38. Thirty-two per cent of our population is aged 65 years and older, so it is no surprise that health and social assistance is 23.9 per cent of our total workforce. However, it is a misapprehension to mischaracterise Hervey Bay simply as an aging population. Currently there are at least 9,000 enrolled Hervey Bay public and private school primary and secondary students. We have come a long way since the first Pialba public school opened in 1884, followed by a private school in 1888. Our population has an average growth rate of 2.1 per cent over the last 10 years and Hervey Bay is the fastest growing population on the Fraser Coast. Sadly, according to 2021 ABS data, the Fraser Coast region has some of the highest chronic disease rates as a percentage of the total Fraser Coast population across all of the disease indicators.

I thank the people of Hervey Bay for the opportunity to represent them—for the opportunity to articulate and advocate their collective concerns in this House, for the opportunity to advocate for a bold and inspiring Hervey Bay vision for the next 25 years and beyond. I am humbled by the honour and privilege and accept the responsibility that comes with the power and authority of state member incumbency. State member incumbency is an opportunity not to be squandered. In a famous line from the Australian movie classic *The Castle*, the incompetent lawyer, Dennis Denuto, flounders to find the legal authority to support his client's case. In desperation he states, 'It's just the vibe of the thing.' Whilst the 'vibe of the thing' has no authority in law, there is a vibe—a distinctive feeling or quality—that can be sensed when we are comprehensively engaged in our local community. My mantra during my council incumbency and subsequent state campaign was to be visible, vocal and active in our community. The 'vibe of the thing' is that community sentiment about a particular issue or concern; however, that community sentiment requires a level of discernment that can only come from strong and consistent whole-of-community engagement. The vibe has to be verified as being in the best interests of the community as a whole.

I greatly value the importance of legacy. An 18th century lawyer and philosopher, Edmund Burke, once said that society is a contract between those who are living, those who are deceased and those who are yet to be born.

I am committed to Burke's conception of society because I, as the state member for Hervey Bay, want to leave an enduring legacy to the yet-to-be-born Hervey Bay community—our future. That is why I put myself forward as a candidate at the recent state election.


A well-crafted, bold, inspiring long-term vision for Hervey Bay is absolutely integral to our future economic, social, physical and mental wellbeing. However, a vision has to find expression in a sound implementation plan—a plan that is time bound, with KPIs. Hervey Bay is experiencing rapid and significant population growth which is building to a crescendo. It is critical that we develop, as a matter of urgency, a well-considered and fit-for-purpose infrastructure and service plan. I will assiduously pursue on behalf of the Hervey Bay community projects such as a review of the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan, health and education precinct plans, a boat harbour master plan, a new Hervey Bay police station and fire and rescue stations and an integrated Fraser Coast transport strategy. I will also assiduously work towards night lights for the AFL Bombers ground, upgrades to the change rooms at the Hervey Bay hockey club, a heat-sealing machine for Fraser Coast Community Meals on Wheels and building upgrades for the Bayside Transformations group, which does fantastic work in our community with drug and alcohol rehabilitation.

Before I conclude, I need to express my profound gratitude for the energetic support of my family and campaign team. My mother, Maureen, and my wife, Jillian, are two of the most resilient women I have ever met. My mother grew up in public housing and experienced hardship in early life. Mum was compelled to leave school in grade 6 and always wanted to be a nurse. In her mid-30s, she studied hard whilst raising a family and finally realised her dream of becoming a nurse and was awarded a graduate prize for her efforts. Mum, you are an inspiration. I would not be here today but for the support and the love of my life, Jillian. This year we celebrated 40 years of marriage. Jillian has been my true friend and soulmate through many challenges for most of my life. We have two sons, two wonderful daughters-in-law and six grandchildren with a seventh due early next year.

No successful election campaign is complete without a campaign manager. I was truly blessed to have a dedicated, hardworking, very experienced and politically astute campaigner in Paula Harberger. Jade Wellings, a former councillor colleague and a friend, provided amazing social media, media and practical support and advice. I also convey my heartfelt thanks to the Christian faith community, who supported me in prayer throughout the entire campaign and continue to do so.

Our campaign team was ably supported by Steve Coleman, SEC chair, and Greg McHugh, SEC treasurer. I also acknowledge Ted Sorensen, the former state member for Hervey Bay, a member of this House for 11 years and a good friend. Ted is an outstanding grassroots politician and a regular conveyor of 'who sold the assets'. Ted is well known and respected in our community and served for 11 years in this House. I also express my profound appreciation to Premier David Crisafulli and the member for Chatsworth, Hon. Steve Minnikin, for their inspirational leadership, encouragement, advice and support over the last 12 months.

Last but by no means least, I am perpetually grateful for the incredible support of our team of volunteers who spent countless hours in all weather conditions handing out how-to-vote cards, delivering leaflets, engaging in community chats, manning market and shop stands and putting up yard signs. I would not be in this House today but for their collective sacrificial efforts. I commend my inaugural speech to the House.

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (6.02 pm): I start by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we meet and I pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging. It is an honour and a privilege to continue to represent the great electorate of Stretton in this House. My local community is the best part of Queensland to live in. It is diverse, energetic and dynamic. There is always something going on in the Stretton electorate. I want to sincerely thank my community for their support once again. It is not something that I take for granted. I will continue to work hard for them in this House and I will not let them down.

Being elected for the first time in the 2021 by-election was a great honour and being re-elected in this, my first general election, is an even greater honour. If my first term in parliament taught me anything, it was the importance of putting the community first—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Member for Stretton, I am sorry to interrupt you. It is not your maiden speech, so there is no special treatment. However, if members could be a little bit quieter for the member on his feet, that would be appreciated.

Mr MARTIN: I will not start again. If my first term in parliament taught me anything, it was the importance of putting the community first, caring about the lives of the people you represent and being there for people when they need it most. Ultimately, the member of parliament is there to serve the community and not the other way around. We are servants of our local communities and are ultimately answerable to them.

I congratulate all honourable members who were elected or re-elected to this House and I wish them all the best for the 58th Parliament. I also want to acknowledge the members and friends who did not make it back to this place along with candidates who did not quite make it. They all fought hard for what they believed in to make Queensland a better place to live and work. I wish them all the best for their future.

I am proud to be a member of the ALP, which stands for dignity at work and decent, well-paid, secure jobs; an ALP that stands for universal health care and good schools for all Queenslanders not just those who can afford them; one that protects our environment and provides cheap public transport, free TAFE and free kindy; and finally, an ALP that stands for equality and dignity for everyone regardless of their gender, sexuality, race, religion or age.

An election loss is a time for reflection by all members of the party. Over nine years of Labor government we have much to be proud of. Under the leadership of the former premier, Anastacia Palaszczuk, we saved our state's Public Service from the short-lived disaster of the Newman government, secured the 2032 Olympics and protected our borders during the COVID pandemic. The leadership of Steven Miles brought renewed vigour in the final year of government and over the last year we delivered targeted reforms to improve the day-to-day life of Queenslanders—reforms like 50-cent public transport fares and cost-of-living relief. These reforms were backed up by a clear fiscal strategy ensuring that Queenslanders extracted a fair price from multinational corporations that are mining our natural resources.

Every member of the former government can be proud of our legacy. We are proud of the campaign we ran and I give credit to the former premier for running a strong campaign on Labor principles. While we were not ultimately successful, I am proud of our platform and the fight that we took up to the LNP. In politics you must accept the will of the public. The voters are the boss after all and ultimately they always get it right. While I acknowledge the good work done by the Labor government and former premier Steven Miles, the people of Queensland have chosen the LNP to lead them for the next four years.

After an election loss there is always a need for reflection, but the overriding need of the Queensland people is an opposition that will hold the government to account. In taking government, the LNP has made a lot of promises. When under pressure in a TV debate, the new Premier promised to reduce the number of victims of crime and said he will resign if he does not deliver. I say to the Premier that we will hold him to account to deliver on his promise. The LNP also promised to reduce ambulance ramping somehow by producing real-time data. Queenslanders will be very interested to see how that works. Again, I say to the LNP and the Premier that we will hold them to account to deliver on this promise.

The LNP promised not to criminalise abortion, and I am very aware that this is a controversial topic within the LNP. Indeed, the LNP candidate for Stretton herself openly told voters that there was a secret LNP plan. In fact, her exact words were, 'You trust me. I can't say anything yet because we have got to get elected before we do anything.' Time will tell what happens on this issue but be assured we will hold the government to account to deliver on their promise not to recriminalise abortion.

The LNP have also promised to build more houses. However, one of their first actions was to call off a housing development that would have delivered over 650 new homes on the Gold Coast. The LNP have also said they will respect Queenslanders' money, yet they have already announced they will waste time and money on a vain political policy to rename Queensland's very successful satellite hospitals. The LNP have said they will listen to the experts but seemingly they have already ignored the experts when it comes to pill testing. I say to the LNP government not only will the Labor opposition hold them to account for each and every promise they have made, but the people of Queensland will be keenly watching them as well. The LNP government has promised big things and now it is up to them to deliver.

One of the positive notes of this election is that of all 93 members elected to the 58th Parliament, none were members of One Nation. I certainly hope it remains that way. For more than 25 years now Pauline Hanson and One Nation have sought to divide our communities for their own political gain, blaming all the problems we face on immigrants. They have singled out Asian and Muslim Australians, claiming they are somehow not Australian enough. When ordinary Australians stand up to One Nation, does Pauline Hanson engage in reasonable political debate? No. Instead she uses legal threats to try to silence her critics—hardly an advocate for free speech. It is even more disappointing than that, given this, the LNP continues to preference One Nation. It is all well and good to say you support multicultural communities, but the LNP should commit to putting One Nation last on its how-to-vote cards. Labor will always put One Nation last.

I am extremely proud to represent so many Aussies who have come from all around the world to settle in the electorate of Stretton—people from China, Taiwan, South-East Asia, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Middle East and Africa—and people of all faiths: Christians, Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and Muslims. The truth is that they all make great Australians. On that note, I want to acknowledge the first person of Islamic faith to be elected to the Queensland parliament: the new member for Sandgate, Bisma Asif. It was great to see you take the oath yesterday on the Koran and it was great to see you make your first speech today in this place. It is yet another barrier broken down and a fine reflection of our diverse multicultural community.

In my electorate of Stretton I am proud to continue to represent the most multicultural electorate of this state, the electorate that has the highest number of people born overseas and more people speaking a language other than English at home. As I have said before, my local area is a place of great cultural celebration. You can eat your way around the world in the Stretton electorate, although quite often the food has a little bit too much chilli in it so always ask for them to put in a bit less if you cannot handle spicy food! While we are a diverse community, there are so many points of similarity. In our diversity we have a lot in common. People in Stretton value hard work, family and education. For a new community on the outskirts of Brisbane we punch above our weight, with above-average outcomes in education and job prospects. Indeed, the reason that so many people have settled in Stretton is to secure a better life for themselves and, most importantly, their children.

What I consistently hear from parents of all backgrounds is the pride they have in their children, who are often studying medicine, law, dentistry, engineering, pharmacy, IT or accounting. There is pride that their children were at TAFE pursuing a vital trade or setting up a small business in our local area. This is the key common unifying factor across the community. Parents want the best for their children and want to see them succeed in securing a decent job, pursuing their chosen career and carving out a future for themselves and their families. However, we cannot forget that not all children come from supportive homes. Some go hungry. Some suffer neglect or, worse, become victims themselves. Some lose hope and turn to crime, and as members we must work to give them hope and not forget that they are children.

Many locals come from countries where a decent education is not a guarantee, where getting sick can cost you your life savings, where the air and rivers are polluted, where the economy only works for a privileged few or where politics might not be stable or, if it is stable, not particularly free. Over the years many new Australians in the Stretton community have commented to me about how strange it is that they could get close to a politician, how strange it is that a politician could be walking around the streets not surrounded by rings of security or police or how strange it is for people to be able to access their local politician through meetings at their office, in the community or on the phone. This democratic access is something we should protect. The experience of so many in my community illustrates that we can never take this or the sanctity of free and fair elections for granted. As the local member for Stretton, I will always have my door open to the community.

As a local MP I am proud to have delivered important local upgrades and improvements for our community including upgrades to Beaudesert Road and Illaweena Street; building the Eight Mile Plains Satellite Hospital, which has been popular with locals; securing funding to remove the Kuraby level crossing and the Coopers Plains level crossing; and making TAFE free, especially for the many who study at the Acacia Ridge TAFE in my electorate. This is a policy that has improved the lives of workers, students and their families and I am proud to have played a role in that. TAFE is great.

I am also proud to have delivered upgrades and new classrooms to every school in Stretton—all of which are now air-conditioned—and I strongly believe in the transformative power of education. Good state schools with good learning facilities and well-supported teachers are the most important thing we can deliver for our young people. On that note, I did want to acknowledge the hard work of Labor's education ministers over my time in this place—Grace Grace, the member for McConnel, and Di Farmer, the member for Bulimba.

Finally, I want to say a few thank-yous. The first of those is to my family: my son, Ollie; my partner, Claire; my mum and dad; my brother, Patrick, and my sister, Sarah. Thanks so much for all of your support, especially over this first term. I could not do it without you. It was great to have Mum and Dad here yesterday to see the opening of parliament. Dad especially gets a kick out of it. He is a long-term union delegate at Hastings Deering and he often tells me that he cannot get over the fact that his son has become a Labor MP. He always reminds me that the only reason I am here is because of the hard work of union members—and they, after all, make up the union.

Thank you to my campaign manager, Adam Chappell. He is always as cool as a cucumber when I am making unreasonable demands. Thanks, mate. Thank you to my campaign committee: Councillor Emily Kim, David Pass, Merric Foley and David Shaw. Thank you to the mighty union movement, especially the United Workers Union, for its help on the campaign and secretary Gary Bullock, Greg Moran, Jake Araullo, Connor Wood and the whole UWW team. It is great to be part of a union that has such an impressive capacity to campaign for its members. Thank you to ALP head office: President, John Battams; State Secretary, Kate Flanders; assistant secretary, Zach Beers; and organisers Hayden Sheppard and Meredith Newman for your hard work. I am also very lucky to have two local federal Labor MPs in Jim Chalmers and Graham Perrett. They are both fantastic local members. Thank you for your assistance. I also note that Graham Perrett will not contest the next election as he has announced his retirement. I thank him for his service to our community. He is a fantastic hardworking local member. All the best for your future, Graham, and I look forward to working as hard as I can to keep Moreton Labor in the upcoming federal election supporting Julie-Ann Campbell—a fantastic candidate.

Thank you to the president of the mighty Stretton branch of the ALP, Sherif Keryakas, as well as the many volunteers who helped on the campaign: Aryan Sharma; Nicholas Trinh; Hudson Denning; Joel Krattinger; Fahima Ahmadi; Sathmi Herath; Kalliope Pass; Eric Liu; Adan and Shafaq Ansari; Semisi Manu; Samuel Zhou; Anieka, Genna and Jim McDonagh; Daniel Phelps; Teng and Michael Murray; George and Xander Addison; Prakruthi Gururaj; Tirat Achal and Master Ji; Alwin Joseph; Sudha Bhalla; Nirupma and Avnish Bhardwaz; Kerrie Kahlon; Chaiy Donati; Gigi Bruno; Lucinda and Ryan

Chappell; Rob Donald; Jannette Jennings; Soo Kim; Jim Lazzarini; Lewis Lee OAM; Sandy Luc; Nora Mansor-Clark; Jason McAulay; Hazel Hubbard; Paul Shibu; Sukhjinder Singh; Hardeep Wagla; Shaji Theckanath; Sandy Thomas; Martin Young; Terry Gobert; Rachel Matthews; Don Pettit; Renuka Reid; Monique Bielanowski; Stanley Hsu; Nick Thaqi; Bert Olausson; John Li; Nino Battist; Diya Bijoy; the Pegg family; John Prescott; Joshua Dickman; Ally Majuang; the Glaros family; Adam Kerramos; Don and Vicki Mitchell; Yui Singh; Lucky Pratham; Alan Chen; Jane Wang; Jude Hardy; Julie-Ann Campbell; Sandra Rodriguez; Preetham Krishna; Sammar Abra; Lewie, Mark; and Jimbo Jones.


A special thank you to everyone who helped me out on the day on the Kuraby booth: Syed Naqvi, Faiz Ahmed, Galila Abdelsalam, Mubunga and Mangaiko Baruti, Mudassar and Muneer. Thanks also to my hardworking Chinese volunteers led by Auntie Dong Dong, who is very well known in our community, as well as Dahan, Qingshan Tan, Boping Zhou, Happy Ping, Xinguang Liu, Zhangchuan Zhen, Xiaohua Huang, Jianmin Ca, Dehua Xu, Jiahong Tao, Xiaoyun Hua, Jenny Zhang and Rylan Ma. Also a big thanks to supporters Mannu Kala, Bhazhad Aslam, Dr Yahya Khan, Maria Zia, Paviter Noor, Clinton Debruyn and Courtney Talbot.

Lastly, I want to thank the good people of Stretton for their support. I will continue to be your humble servant and will not hesitate to stand up for you in this House on important issues.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Members, so as not to interrupt the next member during his first speech to this place and after consultation between the Leader of the House and Manager of Opposition Business, the House will break for dinner now and resume at 7 pm.

Sitting suspended from 6.17 pm to 7.00 pm.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Honourable members, before I call the honourable member for Mulgrave, I remind the House that this is the member's maiden speech and it should be heard with appropriate respect for the occasion.

 **Mr JAMES** (Mulgrave—LNP) (7.00 pm): I rise in the Queensland parliament to make my maiden speech as the new member for Mulgrave in the 58th Parliament. The Pitt family has held the seat of Mulgrave for the last 26 years and I take this opportunity to thank the Hon. Curtis Pitt and his father, Warren, before him for their service to the Mulgrave electorate. I wish Curtis Pitt and his family every success in the future. I extend my thanks to honourable members from all over the chamber, the Clerk, Mr Neil Laurie, and his staff and all those employed in the parliamentary precinct who have welcomed the new MPs with warmth and kindness.

A bit about me: I hail from the far northern part of this great state, a fourth-generation, born and raised Cairns resident. I come from a working-class pioneering Cairns family whose roots date back to the late 1800s on the Hodgkinson goldfields located north of Dimbulah just behind Mareeba. My grandfather is buried there at Mount Mulligan, the site of Australia's worst mining disaster in 1921 where 75 miners lost their lives in the mine explosion. My family eventually moved to Cairns where my father commenced his trade as a cabinet-maker and then transitioned to a lifelong career as a local Cairns builder. Two of my brothers were builders and another an architect who trained me in my profession as a building designer. Hence my entire life up until last year has been wrapped around the building industry. At the age of 21 I established my own building design business, JB Design, preparing plans for many buildings in the Mulgrave electorate and beyond. I successfully operated my business for 46 years until last year when my son-in-law took up the reins. As a result I understand how hard it is for small business and I know that small business in Far North Queensland is the largest creator of employment. Most small businesses are run by mum and dad or family and I support minimal red-tape restrictions for small business.

JB Design has been responsible in one form or another for a significant proportion of commercial, industrial, residential, multiresidential and hospitality buildings in Cairns and the surrounding areas, including Papua New Guinea, Thursday Island, Normanton and Townsville. I initially subcontracted to my brother and father before building the business into one of the largest of its kind in Far North Queensland. I employed 18 staff until Paul Keating's recession we had to have in the early 1990s, a test for any small business. Then from 2007 to 2009 we were hit with the global financial crisis—another survival test. Ironically, just after, the region around Innisfail was hit by Cyclone Larry. During this downturn I supplemented my business income by contracting to the MCS Group, a privately owned Australian national company specialising in providing independent, specialist technical reports to the insurance industry, government agencies and private individuals.

With a couple of breaks in between, I spent 22 years on Cairns Regional Council serving under three mayors. I was fortunate enough to be deputy mayor for 14 of those years, including 12 years as chairman of the local disaster management group. I chaired multiple committees, including the planning

and environment committee, where I linked my professional knowledge back to the government. Others included the works committee, Cairns Water Committee, the Cairns Performing Arts Steering Committee and the much loved Cairns Esplanade Lagoon Steering Committee. I worked both sides of the local government counter, understanding the issues challenging small businesses, the complexities of the development industry and constituents dealing with governments. I am a practical, results-driven person able to work with all parties across all levels of government to get the best results for my constituents. Over the years during my term on council, I joined many delegations from Cairns navigating the corridors of this precinct to get the best results for the city of Cairns. As deputy mayor, then mayor, I was part of the teams that advocated for the current funding commitments to allow the Cairns Water Security Stage 1 project to proceed at a reduced cost to the ratepayers of Cairns. I would sincerely like to thank the then ministers, particularly Glenn Butcher, and the shadow ministers for supporting this much needed infrastructure in the Mulgrave electorate.

Late in 2023 I became the mayor of Cairns and together we got through Tropical Cyclone Jasper, which devastated many of the communities in the electorate of my good friend and new member for Barron River Bree James. During the clean-up and recovery I saw our city's best come together. After losing the 2024 mayoral election I honestly thought that my public service career had ended and that I could finally give my wife, Carole, her long-awaited holiday. A cyclone had delayed it, then Christmas, then the local government elections. But wait, there's more. I have known our leader and new Premier, David Crisafulli, since the early 2000s when he was a councillor on Townsville City Council. I have always known he would one day be our Premier. I have been proud to see him grow and develop into the leader he is today. When he called me to ask, 'Terry, will you stand for us in Mulgrave?', I was not sure if Carole could be convinced, or the children or the grandkids, but together we agreed to jump into yet another political campaign. If you asked me when I stood for my first election back in 1991 if one day I would be the member for Mulgrave I would have told you to keep dreaming. After decades in public life, I can tell you strange things can happen and that is how I came to be here.

Ironically, many years ago the Labor candidate I recently defeated introduced me to the person who convinced me that Mulgrave was winnable. The count may have taken a long time—two weeks to be exact—and we may have gone through stages where the member for Traeger's father was on TV thinking his candidate had won the seat—sorry to disappointment the Katter family and my former council colleague—but I am here now and I will work for all constituents of Mulgrave to provide the best outcomes for all of them and I seek their support moving forward.

Over the years I have been active in our community, volunteering in many local charities: the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation, Harald's House for homeless children and 19 years in the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard before council. I am married with five adult children and 12 grandchildren. Four of my children and 10 grandchildren live in Mulgrave. Two sons-in-law operate small businesses in Mulgrave. Two daughters work from home in Mulgrave and six grandchildren go to school in Mulgrave. As you can see, I am committed to Mulgrave. This brings me to the electorate of Mulgrave. The Mulgrave after the 2017 redistribution is nothing like the Mulgrave that most people grew up with and I suspect that when it is redistributed before the 2028 election the changes will be even more dramatic.

Mulgrave is a collection of everything that makes Far North Queensland unique. It brings together the rural, semi-rural and urban lifestyles of our region. I am also proud to be the member who represents the people of the Yarrabah Aboriginal community. During the election campaign I was proud to join now Premier David Crisafulli in Yarrabah to discuss their issues. I look forward to working with the new cabinet to deliver the best outcomes for that beautiful part of our electorate. It is a perfect place to empower the local community by establishing an ecotourism offering to capacity-build, create employment opportunities and promote a greater understanding of and appreciation for nature, the local society and culture.

Overall, the electorate is some 819 square kilometres and runs from Yarrabah to the east, the rural community of Goldsborough to the west, Gordonvale and Deeral to the south, and all the way up into the southern Cairns urban corridor covering the suburbs of Bayview Heights, Bentley Park, White Rock, Woree and Edmonton. The traditional centre of the electorate is Gordonvale, a major distinguishing feature being its local character and historical significance. Gordonvale is an example of a highly intact sugar town from the interwar period, with intact streetscapes and historical buildings as key features. The town centre strongly reflects its history as an early sugar town, with the Mulgrave Sugar Mill in the centre of the town. With urbanisation and the growth of Cairns southward, the town is undergoing significant change.

The challenge for Gordonvale's future is to ensure that this change does not destroy the town's fabric in such a way that it gets absorbed into the ever-growing Cairns urban sprawl. This is recognised by the current planning scheme, which supports the protection of this significant history by ensuring a strong sense of local identity is maintained through the retention and adaptive re-use of the existing buildings. As your member for Mulgrave, I will ensure that remains the case. I will work with the community and the Cairns Regional Council to find the highest and best use for those buildings and work to attract new business back to town.

This brings me to the Mulgrave Settlers Museum, which must be relocated very soon. The old Gordonvale police station site would have been an ideal site for the relocation. Recently, however, the previous government sold the police station site and we now need to find another location. There is still government land behind the old police station that could be developed for a museum and visitor centre and help promote Gordonvale as the southern entry to Cairns. I will work with the community to find a site, be it that one or another, for the Mulgrave Settlers Museum.

Mulgrave is now the growth area of Cairns and in the future has the potential to be the economic powerhouse of Queensland. The Mount Peter Master Planned Area has been designed to provide homes for 40,000 people. This growth corridor is the only remaining greenfield development area of that scale within the Cairns LGA. It is forecast that the vast majority of Cairns long-term population growth will be accommodated there, but there is a severe lack of infrastructure to allow that to happen.

The current housing related infrastructure backlog significantly affects delivering affordable new housing. Additional sewerage trunk infrastructure is desperately required to allow for the next stages of Mount Peter. For a long time people have been talking about the need for this infrastructure and I say that now is the time for us to come together and get it delivered. The new LNP government announced a \$2 billion infrastructure fund for projects like that. I particularly thank our new Premier for announcing the initiative in Mount Peter during the election campaign. I strongly advocate making Mount Peter one of the first cabs off the rank for this funding. This will address the housing shortages and affordability in our region.

Adjacent to Mount Peter to the east is the Cairns South State Development Area, SDA for short, which was established in 2018 as a special economic zone to facilitate growth and the diversification of the Cairns economy. That sounds great, but after six years there is still no trunk infrastructure. There have been countless glossy documents and a lot of talk, but now is the time to get on with it. The SDA is meant to promote new industrial developments to deliver high-paying jobs for the growing communities in southern Cairns. However, securing private sector investment to create jobs simply will not happen without the base infrastructure in place. I have been involved with governments long enough to know the difference between fancy plans and brochures and delivering on the ground. The south side of Cairns will be the growth driver for Far North Queensland for a long time to come. However, that growth needs a government that gets things done.

One of the opportunities to get things done is the development of the biofuels industry. The biofuels industry is a rare opportunity to build a transformative new sector in Queensland with sustainable aviation fuels. It will be a game changer. It will allow for the diversification of the Mulgrave mill, catapult our sugarcane industry into a bold new era of growth and prosperity, inject billions into our state and local economies, and address the challenges of greenhouse gas emissions. As your member for Mulgrave, I am keen to get behind that transformative new industry. It is crucial that our government fully supports the vision as it unfolds. It will be a win-win for our local growers and the environment.

A regular, reliable and sustainable public transport system from Cairns city to the southern towns and communities is another major issue for Mulgrave. When I grew up in Cairns, the railmotor was a regular sight on the highway between Cairns and Babinda. I would like to explore this unique transport system again. If we can have 50-cent public transport fares in Brisbane, let us spare a thought for regional Queensland that does not have a regular, reliable public transport system in many towns. Discrete Aboriginal communities like Yarrabah are desperate for a regular public or private transport system to travel to Cairns. This would solve many issues, including the cost of groceries and employment in that community. Yarrabah is also suffering from the ongoing issue of insufficient housing stock.

Many honourable members may not know just how diverse Cairns is. The city was built off the backs of many different migrant communities. The Chinese community's influence in Cairns is often overlooked. I look forward to hosting our new Minister for Multiculturalism in Cairns to meet that community and so many others. I also look forward to being at the opening of the \$2.7 million Chinese culture and heritage centre. Whilst not technically in my electorate as it is in the electorate of Cairns, it


is something I have been involved with for a very long time, as well as the Chinese New Year events, the Grafton Street Chinatown upgrade and the Garden of Friendship, during my time on council. Finally, we have a large Indian community in the southern suburbs and our huge Maori and Pasifika communities. Both are so different but both add to the fabric of what makes our communities amazing. Whether it is Kori and his team at Nga Matawaka or Aju, Subash and Jess and the fantastic team at GOPIO Cairns, those organisations do so much to make Cairns what it is today.

I also want to thank Senator Paul Scarr for his work with the multicultural communities in southern Cairns. A special thanks also goes to Senator Susan McDonald. You are simply amazing. From day one you were there to support my neighbouring colleagues and me and you continued that support throughout our campaigns. I look forward to working with you going forward.

Without the support of our families, none of us would be in this place. I want to thank my wonderful wife, Carole, and our five children for joining me on this new part of the continued journey in politics. You have seen all the campaigns and all the ups and downs of politics. I would not be here without you. Thank you to my children, who covered many of the polling booths again, and to the grandkids for wearing my shirt. I want to thank Andrew Cripps for his dedication, determination and patience when coordinating our candidates in the Far North.

To my campaign team of Ross, Gerry, Martin, Rob and Darcy, in particular, who somehow worked for David, Bree and me at the same time: thanks for keeping the faith. Very few thought this seat could be won, particularly with a short, six-week campaign, but you always believed in me through some difficult times. I will not let you down. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker and honourable members, for the opportunity to present my maiden speech to the 58th Queensland Parliament.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Mulgrave, I congratulate you on your maiden speech. Would members who are going to congratulate the honourable member please be mindful not to interrupt the proceedings of the House.

 **Ms HOWARD** (Ipswich—ALP) (7.19 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to begin by congratulating you on your re-election and on your new addition to the family. I also congratulate Mr Speaker, who was appointed this week. He is someone whom we have known in this parliament now for 10 years and he is somebody who really displays the principles of fairness and integrity in this chamber, and they are qualities that all members, regardless of which party they are from, will respect and value in the years to come. I only learned this week something about Mr Speaker that I found interesting—that is, he went to Cecil Plains primary school, which is the same primary school my mother and her sisters went to probably some 20 years before him. I look forward to working with Mr Speaker and with you as well, Deputy Speaker Lister. Congratulations on your appointment.

It is an honour to stand here once again, having been elected for a fourth term to represent the people of Ipswich. Today is a day that I am very grateful for not only because of the trust placed in me by my community but also because of the opportunity it affords me to continue advocating for Ipswich and for the people of Queensland, especially for those who need it most.

Before I go any further, I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered here today and I want to acknowledge the original custodians of the electorate of Ipswich—the Yuggera and Ugarapul people. I pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging. I am very proud to stand in this parliament as part of a party that recognises the importance of the First Nations peoples of this state.

Address-in-reply speeches are partly about acknowledging and thanking the people who made this victory possible, and I intend to do that just briefly. Firstly, I want to thank the Services Union and the SDA—my two unions. I also want to thank the Together union for its support. The work of unions in general has been instrumental in ensuring our shared values of fairness, dignity and respect for working people are heard. Together, we have campaigned for better conditions, better pay and a better future for Queensland's workers. Their work inspires me every day and I will continue to stand with them.

To my family, especially to my husband, Simon, who has been my rock through every challenge and every triumph, I could not have achieved this without you. Your patience, love and belief in me have been a foundation upon which I have built my service to this state. Our combined children—Samantha, Oscar and Oliver—remind us every day what we are truly working for, which is a better future for all. Thank you, Simon, for your love and support.

I also extend my gratitude to the Queensland Labor Party and, in particular, to our brilliant State Secretary Kate Flanders. Her leadership, dedication and vision have been pivotal not only to my own success but also to the success of our party as a whole. Her guidance and hard work are a testament to her passion for a fairer and better Queensland.

A huge thankyou to the countless volunteers who have given their time, energy and enthusiasm to this campaign. I have met so many extraordinary people along the way—people who gave up their weekends, their evenings or their free time to knock on doors, make phone calls and stand by me in our shared mission for a better future. They are the backbone of our democracy, and I am deeply thankful for each and every one of them.

There are so many people who contributed to this campaign but I would like to mention a few in particular, which is always a bit risky. Firstly, my dear friend and long-term campaign director Wayne McDonnell is patient, stoic and tenacious. He is also very wise and I am so fortunate to have his friendship and support. His wife, Bronnie, who is a wonderful human and a friend, sacrifices her husband to the cause for the duration of each campaign. I do not think I need to explain to anyone in this place what a huge commitment campaigns are and I thank the partners of everyone who dedicates their time to campaign for democracy.

I also want to acknowledge the Hon. Dr David Hamill, the former member for Ipswich from 1983 to 2001, and his successor, the Hon. Rachel Nolan MP, who served from 2001 to 2012. Both of them have supported each of my campaigns for the seat of Ipswich and I am truly grateful for their support. Former member of this House and Goss government minister the Hon. Pat Comben is nothing short of a powerhouse. He topped the list for the number of hours spent on pre-poll and I want to personally thank him for his wise counsel and his sheer hard work on this and every Labor campaign in Ipswich.

I also want to make mention of hardworking Ipswich City Councillors Marnie Doyle and Pye Augustine who gave up their valuable Saturday to work all day on two of my busiest polling booths on election day—and anyone who has been involved in council knows how busy Saturdays are. These two councillors are so well respected in our community and their support means the world.

For each of my campaigns, my sister, Laura; brother-in-law, John; and my niece and nephew, Alison and Jacob, have manned an election day booth. I know that there is no place my sister, Laura, would rather be than handing out my how-to-votes on election day, but I want to take this opportunity to thank her for her love and support of me and of the Labor Party. Laura is always the first person to have her booth set up on the day and undertakes the whole process with military precision. While scrutineering in this particular campaign during the count at the end of the day, Laura noticed that 49 of my votes were underneath one of my LNP opponent's votes and were counted as being 50 LNP votes. I am sure this was an honest mistake by the tired and hardworking ECQ employees but quite possibly one they will not make again.

My mum died in 2007, but she is always with me and I know she would be proud of my achievements. In May this year, my dad died and, even though he was so sick in the last year of his life, he was always completely switched on about what was happening in politics. He was always on the other end of the phone giving me advice and he was pretty on point with much of it. He will be missed.

My electorate officer, Keryl Harman, has been with me for many years now and she is like family to me. She is intelligent, diligent and keeps me grounded when I need it most. My assistant electorate officer, Tyler Brennan, does a great job in our office and, like Keryl, worked incredibly hard in his own time to ensure that Labor held the seat of Ipswich.

I also want to acknowledge my other part-time EO staff—Ipswich Youth Member of Parliament for 2024 Declan Grunsell and Nate Moritz. The other part-time workers in my office—Eli and Xavier Williams—are the grandsons of Labor great Dick Williams. He was the former Queensland Labor president and former state secretary of the ETU and is a long-time Ipswich resident. I want to acknowledge Dick's contribution to the Labor Party and to the labour movement and thank him for his ongoing support of me. I think his legacy will live on in his two grandsons who are wonderful young men.

Our Labor volunteers remind me every day why I do what I do. They come from all different walks of life and, like everyone, have busy lives, but that does not stop them from putting in long, unpaid hours to ensure the values that they hold dear are represented in this parliament—people like Nathan Weaver, a corrections officer and proud Indigenous man. Nathan worked on the campaign despite the many work and personal demands on his time. Due to his shiftwork, there were some days I did not know if he had slept in a few days. I do want to thank TSU organiser Jessica Daniels, another person juggling

work and family who showed up and worked long hours whenever her schedule allowed. Jessica is from Belfast and she was supposed to work on pre-poll for only a couple of hours one day, but somebody made the mistake of insulting her and the Labor Party which made her more determined to stay. I think she ended up staying for the whole day.

Mary and Allan Brown, formerly from Bulimba, recently moved to Ipswich. They worked many hours on the Ipswich campaign and brought with them a really beautiful sense of calm, confidence and solid Labor values. Another new arrival, this time from northern Brisbane suburbs, was Cathy Chapman. Cathy very recently moved to Ipswich and yet showed up time and again to work on the Ipswich campaign. I have loved getting to know her and I thank her for her advice and support.

A government member interjected.

Ms HOWARD: That is right. She was very happy to move to a good Labor area. Greg Pitt came to us from Ferny Grove. He was a constant presence on pre-poll and I know we will get to know him and his wife, Linda, well over the coming years.

I mention these recent arrivals because it is evidence that Ipswich is clearly the place to be. These arrivals are representative of the thousands of people who are calling Ipswich home. Our current population of around 254,000 is set to double in the next decade. I do, obviously, also want to thank the long-standing Ipswich branch members and Labor supporters as well. They know who they all are and I am here because of them and their tireless support.

To my political opponents I also want to extend my sincere thanks. The strength of our democracy is in healthy, respectful debate and competition, and I have been fortunate to experience just that throughout this campaign. Their professionalism and the spirit of friendly rivalry were apparent throughout the campaign, and I have no doubt that the electorate benefited from the ideas that we all brought to the table. I would also like to acknowledge their volunteers, who were a testament to the values of hard work and community spirit.

To the people of Ipswich: once again you put your trust in me to represent you here in this parliament. I am deeply humbled by the support you have shown me and the Labor Party, not just in this election but also throughout the years. Every day I am proud to represent such a vibrant and hardworking community. The Ipswich region is growing and evolving, and I will continue to fight for the infrastructure, opportunities and support we need to ensure Ipswich thrives well into the future.

The past four years have been very challenging for many of us in Queensland and the task ahead is great. Like everyone in this place, I speak to thousands of voters in my area, and my commitment to them is that I have heard their concerns and will fight every day to ensure those concerns are heard and acted upon. The strength, resilience and optimism of the people of Ipswich inspire me every day. I will continue to bring that spirit to my work here in this parliament.

Election campaigns are, by their nature, very singular. For the duration my focus was pretty much squarely on Ipswich, but I pay tribute to my former colleagues who were not successful in this election and whom I will miss enormously. You have all made an incredible contribution to Queensland through your years of service and have left big shoes to fill. You have dedicated yourselves to public service and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Queenslanders and have done so with integrity and passion. Your work will continue to resonate in this state and I wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

Looking to the future, I am excited whilst admittedly anxious about what lies ahead. There is still so much work to be done. We are facing an economy that needs to work for everyone, a climate crisis that requires urgent action and a health system that must be strengthened to meet the needs of an ever-growing population. For me, the future will be about continuing to focus on the priorities that matter most to the people of Ipswich and Queensland. I am so proud of the support Ipswich has received under former premiers Palaszczuk and Miles and their cabinets.

When I first doorknocked the area around East Ipswich in the lead-up to my first election in 2015, I heard about the need for the East Ipswich train station to be upgraded. Within a few years of my election we had a first-class, fully accessible train station at East Ipswich. I am proud of the more than \$150 million investment in local state schools. That is not including the three brand new schools we built in Ripley.

Labor fully funded a brand new ambulance station, and the new police station is well and truly underway in Ripley. We built the Ripley Satellite Hospital and it is, without doubt, one of the most well received facilities we have built. The 90-bed subacute facility next door is close to completion and will complement the work of the satellite hospital. I am particularly proud of the extraordinary Ipswich mental


health unit, which has been fully operational for over a year now. Thanks to Labor, we now have a place where people can heal and be supported on their journey back to full health. We have provided \$710 million to Ipswich General Hospital to provide an additional 200 beds and a new emergency department.

Labor has delivered hundreds of social houses right across the Ipswich LGA over the past 10 years, with hundreds more to come. This has gone a long way to reducing the housing crisis in Ipswich, but there is still more to be done.

I was pleased to secure two election commitments in the lead-up to this year's state election. One of them was for \$780,000 to upgrade courts at the Ipswich District Junior Tennis Association. That was matched by the LNP, and I will be ensuring they deliver on that commitment. The other was for a synthetic track located at USQ. This commitment was not matched by the LNP, but I will continue to advocate strongly for this important piece of sporting infrastructure. Similarly, I will advocate for a commitment from the LNP to contribute \$4 million toward a business case for the second river crossing in Ipswich.

In the years ahead I will continue to fight for those who have the least, who face the most and who often go unheard. I will continue to be a voice for fairness, for opportunity and for a Queensland that looks out for each and every one of us. I am very grateful for the trust Ipswich has placed in me and I pledge to work tirelessly in this parliament to build a brighter, fairer and more prosperous future for the people of Ipswich and for all Queenslanders. Thank you once again to my supporters, to my colleagues and to the people of Ipswich. I look forward to continuing this journey alongside you.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Before calling the member for Mirani, members are reminded that this is the member's first speech and it should be listened to with the courtesies reserved for such occasions.

 **Mr G KELLY** (Mirani—LNP) (7.33 pm): Members of the House, distinguished guests and the people of Mirani, I stand here today deeply humbled and profoundly honoured to represent the people of Mirani in the 58th Parliament of Queensland. Mirani is not just a small town west of Mackay; the electorate of Mirani is the beating heart of Central Queensland. It is the sugarcane fields, the cattle stations, the coal ports, the power station and the coastal communities that form the backbone of Queensland. It is the families who rise before dawn, the workers who keep our economy moving and the land that provides for us all. For me, this is not just a job; it feels as though it is my time. It is about carrying forward my family's legacy of resilience, hard work and a deep respect for the land we call home.

My family's story goes back to the 1860s, when two brothers, Harry and Eden Coombs, left England in search of a better life. They settled west of Rockhampton on a patch of land with rolling hills, permanent water and, as luck would have it, the sniff of gold in the air. With little more than basic tools and a lot of determination, they built a life, sending word back to England for the rest of the family to join them. They worked cutting timber for the Mount Morgan mine—back then the richest place in the world. Producing gold, silver and copper, slowly but surely they built up what became Edithvale—a 4,000-acre property that over the years was a hard slog and weathered floods, droughts and bushfires and one of the most destructive plants ever known in Australia's history, the prickly pear.

That resilience runs deep in my family. My great-grandfather Jim Kelly came from Kilderry, Ireland, and came to Townsville in the 1920s. He and his siblings were orphaned young during the black flu pandemic and grew up in an orphanage near Rockhampton in a little place called Neerkol. Despite the odds, they made good lives for themselves in these local communities surrounding Neerkol.

Jim married Mabel Coombs of Edithvale and they started a family. Together with his siblings they relocated north, where they worked as canecutters in the Pioneer Valley. Jim and Mabel later returned to the Kalapa district to start a small dairy farm. Two of Jim's brothers went off to war and one, my great-uncle John Patrick Kelly, made the ultimate sacrifice and never came back. His name lives on, commemorated near Greenmount Homestead, just west of Walkerston.

My parents, Darrell and Noela Kelly, continued the tradition of hard work. They started out on a small piece of land in Kalapa, working the dairy farm, beef cattle and a grain-growing enterprise. My dad, now 86, still lives in a little silky oak house where his mum raised my brother, Paul, and me. Life on the farm was not easy but it taught us the values that I still carry with me today: discipline, determination and a commitment to the community.

Growing up, my days started early, milking cows with Dad before school; cricket, footy and soccer on the weekends; and farm work in between. It was a simple life. I rode my pushbike three kilometres to the primary school and home again every day. I caught a 45-seater bus with 60 sweaty schoolkids to Rockhampton State High School. That is when I realised school was not for me. Mum always put her boys first. In my case, it was carting me off to sport every weekend. Thanks to her, I excelled at cricket and made the Queensland Country teams and the CQ teams. I later spent 17 years working at the Stanwell Power Station, unloading, pushing coal and earthworks while juggling running the farm. Balancing both was tough. By 2007 I decided to step away from the power station to focus on my farm.

In 2008 I met my wife, Nikki, who has been my rock ever since. Together we built a life on the family property, raising our two daughters, Laine and Paige, whom I am very proud of. Nikki's work as a teacher inspires me, and our girls remind me every day why this fight matters, not just for our family but also for every family in regional Queensland.

Life on the land is not for the faint-hearted. I fought through the devastating fires of 2018 and the crippling droughts that followed. Those challenges did not just test their resilience; they reinforced my belief that regional Queenslanders need a strong voice in parliament. Almost six years ago to the day, I was one of many rural firefighters involved in the Stanwell-Kabra fire event that has gone down in history due to the evacuation at Gracemere. With no air support available due to other wildfires in the state, rural and urban crews fought from the ground with everything they had to protect our communities. With wind speeds of up to 50 kilometres an hour, it was a harrowing firestorm unlike anything we had ever seen before. After witnessing horrific scenes on the ground, it was an enormous relief when it started to rain on us through that thick smoke as two 737 water bombers arrived from Bundaberg, dumping water on us to save our lives. Then life on the land became tougher: cattle prices crashed and we could not get feed for the stock anywhere. These were very trying times until the rain came in February 2020. These tough times strengthened my resolve about the importance of community and the need to have someone strong to stand up for the people of our region.

Politics has always sparked my interest, whether it was yelling at the radio or TV during a news bulletin, sharing a spirited debate around the back of the ute or having a good vent at the dinner table about the latest decision from the prime minister or premier of the day. These moments, though casual, were where my passion for representing everyday people truly took root—discussions fuelled by a deep sense of fairness and a desire to see better outcomes for our communities. So it was no surprise to any of my friends or family when I decided to take on the role of president of the Ridgeland LNP branch at the southern end of the electorate of Mirani, bringing along new members to join me in the fight for the bush. Now as I reflect on the tough times, I also acknowledge the tough campaign that brought me the privilege of standing here before all of you today. I want to pay tribute to my predecessor, Steven Andrew, who represented Mirani for seven years—it is not an easy seat to win, I can tell you that—and I respect his contribution.

I also offer my congratulations to the member for Condamine, Pat Weir, on his appointment as Speaker of the House. I would like to congratulate the Premier, the Hon. David Crisafulli, and all of his ministers and members of parliament on their iconic election to the government of Queensland, with a special shout-out and congratulations to my newly elected CQ colleagues. For the first time in history the voice of regional Queensland has never been louder, and I am excited to be part of this newly elected team and I look forward to working with you all in standing up for regional Queensland. I would also like to thank my federal colleagues across the state. The guidance they gave us and their support was absolutely amazing and something I will never forget.

A special mention goes to my family—Nikki, who was my fantastic campaign manager, and my girls, Laine and Paige, whose love and support carried me through this campaign. I need to thank my dear late mum. She gave me so much love and I miss her dearly. Thanks also to my dad, Darrell, and my brother Paul for their support.

To my campaign team, thank you. I could not have done this without the tireless efforts of those who letterboxed, phone canvassed and stood at polling booths in the heat of a Queensland October. I do not have to remind anyone here that the campaign does take an army. I am extremely grateful that I had the dedication and focused army of volunteers providing not only physical but emotional support to me during this campaign period. A special thanks goes out to a little dog called Bella, which I met in Mirani.

Government members interjected.

Mr G KELLY: I know.

Government members interjected.

Mr G KELLY: Please! People get very excited when they hear the words ‘10,000 steps’ and I get that, I really do. Doing 10,000 steps is something that has been very helpful in keeping Queenslanders healthy, but I did 10,000 steps that day in three-quarters of an hour chasing that little dog. It took me three hours to catch the damn dog, so you can imagine how many steps I took that day thanks to Bella! I caught the damn dog and I took it back to its owners. The owners were very proud to have their little dog back for which they were quite happy to give me two bags of lemons. As we walked towards that lemon tree, it looked like a mandarin tree to me. It smelt like mandarins, it certainly tasted like mandarins and it had peel like mandarins—but they were deadset sure it was a lemon tree. So I walked away with two bags of ‘lemons’—which to this day I have googled and searched and I have come to the decision they are called ‘lemdarins’.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to Harold James, known affectionately as Uncle George, a respected traditional elder of the Darumbal people. Uncle George has generously shared his wisdom and perspectives with me, offering me invaluable insights as a traditional owner and a fantastic adviser. His guidance has deepened my understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of our region.

The electorate of Mirani is vast, stretching over 63,000 square kilometres. From the cane fields of Sarina to the cattle country of the Isaac, from the ports at Hay Point to the reliable coal-fired power station of Stanwell, to Rookwood Weir at Riverslea, Gogango to the pristine coastlines like Clairview, Mirani is as diverse as it is beautiful. This diversity is our strength but it also presents challenges. During the campaign trail, locals in Mirani raised their concerns with me about the limited access to health care, that our roads are atrocious, that crime has been left to escalate, that farmers are burdened with endless red tape and that the cost of living has left families in my community struggling and some even homeless.

With so much happening in our lives and our focus often on other priorities, many of us in Mirani’s smaller communities may have overlooked something significant quietly unfolding around us—the rapid push towards renewable energy. I have witnessed firsthand how developers of renewable projects can operate unnoticed in our communities. By the time we become aware of their presence, decisions about what would happen in our area have already been made, leaving us with little or no say in the matter.

I strongly object to the way the red tape has been slashed, giving developers free rein to proceed without proper oversight, often at the expense of the environment they claim to protect. Many of these wind projects are concentrated along the Great Dividing Range, where vulnerable species like koalas and greater gliders are overlooked entirely. Add to this the destruction of vast areas of remnant vegetation in some of Queensland’s most pristine mountain ranges and the ripple effects on ecosystems, including the Great Barrier Reef, become undeniable.

As a farmer myself, I know our deep connection to the environment is not just part of the job; it is a way of life. Farmers care for their land not only because of their livelihood but because they understand the role of preserving it for their children, for their communities and for the future of our state. Nature is an amazing thing but, if we keep going with this plan of wind and solar projects that have been already approved, let alone what is in the wind, it will be too late and nature will not be able to heal. In parliament, I will bring this practical, grounded perspective to debates against sustainability, ensuring that farmers’ voices and expertise are front and centre in conversations about our environment.

When I think of my vision for Mirani, I cannot help but draw inspiration from a great leader and former member for Mirani, Ted Malone. Ted served this electorate for 21 years with unwavering dedication, and his legacy continues to resonate throughout our region. As a fellow farmer, Ted understood the challenges and opportunities that came with living and working on the land. Like me, he knew firsthand the importance of perseverance, hard work and staying connected to the people he represented.

Ted’s passion for advocating for rural and regional Queenslanders was unmatched. He fought tirelessly for better infrastructure, improved health care and education tailored to meet the needs of our diverse communities. He did not just speak for Mirani; he lived its challenges, celebrated its triumphs and always put its people first. As I begin my journey in this role, I aspire to carry forward Ted’s legacy of strong representation, commonsense leadership and a relentless commitment to ensuring Mirani remains a great place to live, work and raise a family.

My journey from the dairy yards of Kalapa to this chamber is a testament to the opportunities Mirani offers to those who work hard. I look forward to working with the new Crisafulli LNP government to bring back a fresh start to Queensland. May Premier Crisafulli's leadership be remembered alongside legendary figures such as Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen and Mike Ahern, who left legacies in shaping our state.

Queenslanders are calling for generational change, and the 58th Parliament has the opportunity to make transformative decisions that will benefit not only us today but also our children and grandchildren into the future. This new chapter offers the chance to build a stronger, more prosperous Queensland for generations to come. I wish to thank the House for the courtesy its members have extended to me.

Debate, on motion of Mr G Kelly, adjourned.


BRISBANE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Resumed from p. 90.

Second Reading

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (7.51 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

 **Mr MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (7.51 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. Today, on the first day of the new parliament, the Premier and his government have treated this House with complete contempt. The Premier was elected on a platform of honesty, dignity and respect. When talking about ending the truth-telling inquiry, Premier Crisafulli said it would be done with dignity and respect. He said he did not want to cause angst. He said he did not want it to be divisive. He said, 'When I say something, it will mean something,' but we now see that the Premier's word means nothing.

He has not treated First Nations Queenslanders with dignity or respect. He has caused them angst and division by intention. Just three hours into the new parliament, the Premier has completely trashed every established convention, but more than that he has trashed his own word. How can Queenslanders have confidence in this man when he says one thing and then does another? He did not even have the decency to talk to any of the First Nations people involved in running the inquiry—could not have a meeting, could not pick up the phone, could not look them in the eye and tell them what he was planning to do.

These are very substantive laws that they are demanding be passed before midnight on the day they have been introduced—without consultation, without scrutiny, without giving Queenslanders a chance to understand the consequences. He has no respect for the processes or for Queenslanders, and certainly no respect for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. I state—

People should have the right and opportunity to voice their opinion about what the government is proposing. That is why we have the committee structure.

That is a quote from the member for Toowoomba North. I also note this contribution—

We have a committee system in this parliament. Committees have to do their job. ... when the committees work effectively ... we do not have to waste parliament's time with motions to declare bills urgent.

That is what the Deputy Premier said. That was a direct quote from before the election. If the Deputy Premier sees urgency motions as a waste of the parliament's time, why was it the Crisafulli government's first act in this House?

Mr Bleijie: If only you had thought of this for 10 years. For 10 years you didn't think of this.

Mr Miles: We never did this.

Mr Bleijie: Plenty of times you did.

Mr Miles: Not like this, and you railed against it. It is a true shame—

Mr Bleijie: You changed the electoral laws in 17 minutes—the whole electoral system.

Mr Miles: That was your amendment, dude. We amended your amendment. Do you remember? It is a true shame to the people of Queensland—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order! Member for Murrumba, could you pause for a moment. Member for Logan, we have spoken about this before. I do not need your gesticulations to aid me. If you want to make a point of order then rise to your feet, seek the call and make your point of order.

Mr MILES: It is a true shame to the people of Queensland that the government seeks to repeal legislation that enables truth-telling and healing. The inquiry was a chance for First Nations people to have their voices heard, to share their stories and complete our state's history. It was established to discuss their experiences and the ongoing impacts of colonisation and to understand how we can do better by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland, because no-one should be afraid to document history. Already a number of people have come forward to contribute to the inquiry and have shared their experience.

It is no secret that there is an unacceptable gap between the outcomes of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, particularly when it comes to health. How can we do better by our First Nations Queenslanders if the government refuses to listen? That is what the LNP government are saying to First Nations Queenslanders. They are saying they will not listen. You should never be afraid to listen. That is your job as a government, as community leaders. It is an unprecedented move and a move that means the stories already shared will be hidden from Queenslanders. That is why the opposition will move to amend the bill to ensure the truth-telling and healing that has already occurred is not wasted, to ensure the testimony and documents already collected can be shared with Queenslanders and tabled in this House—recorded in the history books forever. To not do so would truly be a lost opportunity for our state, an opportunity we may never get again. As the *Courier-Mail* said today—

... we also urge him—

that is, the Premier—

to learn the lessons of history and not rush at the gate; to think things through, and to ensure that well-intentioned policies are not derailed by unintended consequences.

Today's actions are rushed at the gate, are not thought through, are not well intentioned and will have unintended consequences.

This bill does a great number of things under the guise of the Olympics. Queenslanders were promised certainty on the Olympic and Paralympic Games in the first 100 days. The Premier said—

Within 100 days, Queenslanders will see a plan that they are proud of and, in doing so, we can restore faith in that process.


We are more than a month in and there has been no progress whatsoever. How can Queenslanders have faith in the process when they will be waiting longer than promised? It is more proof that when this Premier says something it means nothing. The Premier has said there will be no new stadiums but he has promised people all over town at least one and maybe two new stadiums. The Premier has said the Olympics will be delivered on time and on budget, but there is no way to build a new stadium within that budget. Again, his word is worth nothing. He tells everyone what they want to hear with no plans to back it up.

Again, under the guise of the Olympics, this bill heralds the first attack by the Crisafulli government on the rights of workers, the first of many, we must assume. The right to a safe workplace is one I feel strongly about. My mum was a workplace health and safety inspector. I grew up hearing stories of workplace injuries, safety breaches and bosses who had to be prosecuted before they would keep their workers safe.

Ms Grace: She worked with my husband, Michael.

Mr MILES: She did. I take that interjection from the member for McConnel. Access to workplaces by unions is an important protector of workplace health and safety. The effect of this bill will be that an unsafe workplace will stay unsafe for 24 hours before a union can attend and represent workers. In that intervening period, workers will be at risk of injury or even death. Again, David Crisafulli gave workers in Queensland his word that their rights would be safe under him. Again, his word is worth nothing. It is proof that the Crisafulli government is not on the side of workers. Well, to all Queenslanders, I can tell you this: we are on your side and we will hold this bad government to account.

Today is the day we learned David Crisafulli's word was worth nothing, the day Queensland's Indigenous Youth Parliament saw this government's true colours, the day the LNP reverted to type—the very first day of this new parliament.

 **Hon. FS SIMPSON** (Maroochydore—LNP) (Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism) (8.01 pm): Before I address the legislation that will repeal the Path to Treaty Act, I want to address the hypocrisy of the Labor opposition. Somehow, when people go to an election and they vote, that is not the biggest consultation process you will get. Somehow, the voice of the Queensland people does not matter. Do not talk about the people who vote. No! They do not matter. Labor have not listened. They have not learned. They are still not listening, and they still do not care about the voice of Queenslanders at a state election.

I remind the opposition leader that under his Labor government, with 17 minutes notice, they brought in an amendment to change the Electoral Act to favour themselves. Corrupt and dodgy. What hypocrites! We went to the election with a commitment, more than 12 months ago, to say that we would address and repeal the Path to Treaty; that this was not the right way to bring about the changes that were needed to help our First Peoples in Queensland.

Queenslanders are fair-minded people who care about the vulnerable, who believe in a fair go and who aspire for a better future for their children. They believe in the principles of equality before the law. Freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of association are core foundations of our democratic rights and responsibilities whilst also celebrating people's diversity of culture and heritage. They believe people have a right to have a say. Like them, I believe that hearing all the stories of the past—the good, the bad, the beautiful as well as the painful—is important, and that is particularly true of our history in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. You do not need a lot of lawyers to do that.

Within days of this legislation passing, Labor government ministers started talking about compensation and reparation, however they did not talk about it once during debate on the legislation. They have taken this state down a very divisive road and they have turned the pathway to hope and healing into a pathway to payouts with division at its core. When 68 per cent of Queenslanders voted against the Voice referendum last year, this Premier and this government was listening. Our position to repeal the Path to Treaty was clear throughout the election campaign and, in fact, 12 months ago. It is a position we put to the people of Queensland and one they ultimately voted for.

There are people opposite who want to pretend there was no Voice referendum, they want to pretend there was no state election, and they certainly want to pretend that this issue was not very public over the last 12 months. However, the people of Queensland have spoken. They have chosen unity over division. The Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry was never supposed to be a legalistic venture, but it has become a lawyers' picnic. From July to October, \$1.45 million was spent on member remuneration, legal counsel, legal staff and other legal costs. That is 48 per cent of its total expenditure since its establishment to date on legal fees. It is this government's intention to redirect the Path to Treaty funds into measurable projects and programs that will help close the gap—money, we say, should be spent where it is needed most, particularly in our rural and very remote communities.

An opposition member: Garbage.

Ms SIMPSON: I heard 'rubbish' over there. Apparently it is not important to close the gap. One Indigenous woman leader said to me in the last couple of weeks, 'It's not a gap; it's a hole.' When you look at the closing the gap indicators, they are getting worse. They got worse under that mob opposite. In the last 25 years, we have seen the Labor Party in government have its hands on the levers and turned many situations into an even worse outcome for some of our most vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In our remote and very remote communities, primary school attendance rates are sitting at just 28 per cent and 24 per cent respectively, and 38 per cent of very remote families are not living in a house of an acceptable standard. That is where this money is needed, not on lawyers in Brisbane.

This government will not shy away from its commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We will do it in partnership, working with leaders in communities and remote councils to deliver real outcomes on the ground—unity, not division.

For 25 years, Labor state governments have dominated policies affecting Indigenous Australians, yet the gap has become wider in many of these communities. It has become wider under Labor. Under Labor, nine of the 17 Closing the Gap targets are not on track. Queensland is not on track against five targets related to life expectancy, year 12 and certificate III attainment, tertiary education, youth

employment or training and appropriate housing. There has been no progress in early childhood development. Under Labor, three targets have worsened: incarceration rates, youth detention and abuse of children in out-of-home care. We all have an obligation to act and to be open and honest about the realities we are facing as a state.

The past matters, but the past we have seen over the last 10 years under this mob is not going to be forgotten because they simply have not listened. As we have heard in this chamber, they are still not listening. Indeed, the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism—

Mrs Gerber interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order! Comments will be directed through the chair, members on my left, and use appropriate titles, please.


Ms SIMPSON: Let's talk about the records and let's talk about the personal history. I want to acknowledge the work that the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism has done through the community and personal histories unit which provides Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with access to restricted, historical records.

The demand for this service has grown considerably and there are currently more than 900 requests outstanding. I have asked the department for advice on how we can address that, because people do need access. This is very important and I want to ensure this is addressed. I would like to thank the chairperson and members of the inquiry and members of the First Nations Treaty Institute for their work to date, even though our policy was publicly known more than 12 months ago. It should not have been a surprise to the Labor Party but they are still not listening.

In relation to the records and information collected by the inquiry, all records, including personally and culturally sensitive information, will be managed in close consultation with the State Archivist and in strict adherence to the relevant record-keeping requirements. They will be treated appropriately, culturally respectfully and with a recognition of cultural sensitivity. Staff working within the inquiry and institute will be supported. Permanent government staff will return to substantive roles and non-permanent staff will be supported to find other roles. As I have already mentioned, there are 900 outstanding inquiries with the personal histories unit. In fact, in the past, as I understand it, they have had trouble filling some of those positions, but it is of importance to people to have access, particularly to those records which have been restricted.

With this move to repeal the act, which we flagged more than 12 months ago, we have also made clear that we will ensure the funds are redirected to frontline services. We are committed to finding better and more tangible ways forward to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders, particularly working with local leadership. Some of the most vulnerable in our First Peoples group are in very remote areas. The feedback I have had from them when I have been discussing issues and the pathway forward has been that they feel that there are people in Brisbane who have different agendas with respect to their policy under the Labor government and they have not been listening to rural and remote communities. Some of them do not even have clean, safe drinking water. Many do not have houses. For many, their children do not have appropriate support to achieve educational outcomes. Many have terrible health outcomes. This has occurred under the former government's watch over the last 10 years. The critical issues that they want addressed have not been addressed by the former Labor government.

We are committed to finding solutions for the issues that matter most to our First Peoples, particularly in those areas where people have poorer access to services. They deserve the opportunity to have the gap closed. It should not be a hole; it should be a pathway to a future where their children can live long, happy, economically fulfilling lives as well as celebrate their culture. We support the funds from this process going to those communities to ensure they have a true say in closing the gap and having different outcomes into the future.

 **Ms ENOCH** (Algerster—ALP) (8.13 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate of the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. Today around 60 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people arrived at parliament to participate in the annual Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament. They are a bright and energetic group of people who are incredibly active in their communities and who understand the important cultural, social and community role they

will inherit. They are the next generation with which governments will consult, make policy and help close the gap. They are the next generation to hold our stories and to hold the responsibilities of future progress in our community. They are, for many of us, our hope for the future.

Today these young people witnessed the Crisafulli LNP government undermine any future relationship between First Peoples of this state and the Queensland government. The Premier has used his first day in parliament to abuse the processes of this place and show this next generation of Indigenous leaders—and all Queenslanders—that when he says something it means absolutely nothing. He has given absolutely no opportunity for these young people, or any Queenslanders, to have their say on this important bill. By sneakily and disrespectfully tacking the repeal of the Path to Treaty Act onto this bill, after he said that his government would act with decency and respect regarding this matter, he has fundamentally removed one of the greatest opportunities of this generation.

When the Path to Treaty Bill was passed by the last parliament, it was an historic moment made all the more significant by the fact that it was passed with bipartisan support. I can tell you, it was enthusiastic bipartisan support. It was heartfelt bipartisan support. When the Path to Treaty Bill was passed, the member for Broadwater, the now Premier, made a very stirring contribution to the debate at the time. I remember hearing him speak and thinking, ‘This is quite remarkable.’ He said—

Path to Treaty offers ... a fork in the road. Down one well-travelled path lies a discussion had for political purposes. It talks a big game but achieves little for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—a path where political battlelines are drawn but ultimately ends with a decade wasted and no progress made. Down the other path is a treaty.

These were his words. They were strong words. Unfortunately, they are words that now mean nothing. Of course, we know that those words stirred something else in his party and he found himself in a position where he had to capitulate to the far right of his party to keep them all calm. We know that will happen again, given who he has on that side.

I said at the time that the Path to Treaty legislation, the first of its kind in our state, would be a course that would not always be comfortable or easy—that there would be times when it would be hard to navigate, when the truth would be painful and shameful, when the truth would open up challenges that would be so complex that our resolve to take these steps would be tested. Just three hours into the new parliament, the Premier has not only trashed every established convention today; he has failed every test of this legislation and trashed his own word. In doing so, he has trashed the relationship between the First Peoples of this state and the Queensland government. He said that he would act with dignity and respect on this matter. He said that he does not want to cause angst. He said that he did not want to be decisive. The exact opposite has happened.

The way in which the Premier and his minister have conducted themselves is absolutely appalling. The Premier’s handpicked Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, the member for Maroochydore, has refused to engage with the chair or any member of the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry. She could not even pay the most basic of respects to the highly regarded people leading this significant work. Tonight in her contribution we hear, ‘I don’t have to do any of that because we told you a year ago we would not be doing it’—that you did not have to do any of that, that you did not have to show basic respect to people. In fact, the chair of the inquiry received an email today from the minister outlining the plans of the LNP—at the very same time as the government was announcing the repeal of the act in parliament. This has been the standard of the member for Maroochydore, the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, led by the Premier. This is the standard: to treat the inquiry members with such disregard and disrespect. The Premier and his minister have also ignored the many groups that have called on the LNP to reconsider their position on the inquiry. On 12 November, Queensland Churches Together circulated a statement made by 13 faith leaders in Queensland including the Anglican Church, the Archdiocese of Brisbane and the Catholic diocese of both Townsville and Cairns, to name just a few.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Comments may come through the chair, but they are still interjections.

Ms ENOCH: I table a copy of that statement for the benefit of the House.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 12 November 2024, from the General Secretary, Queensland Churches Together, Rev. David Baker, to the Premier, Hon. David Crisafulli, enclosing a joint faith leaders’ statement regarding the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry [214].

I would hope that the member for Maroochydore, who would have received the exact same statement that every other member of parliament apparently received, has had some conversations with her own church about that statement and what that means in this House. Their statement expressed their 'profound concern about the Queensland government's intention to abolish the recently established truth-telling and healing inquiry'. The statement went on to say—

This independent inquiry is a vital public platform for listening to and recording stories; collating evidence to shine a light on our past; educating and fostering understanding about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories; and, making informed recommendations.

Government members interjected.

Ms ENOCH: I do not know why the members opposite are mocking the churches in their statement. This is their statement. They are mocking the churches. Today the Premier has ensured that the views of these faith leaders and any other Queenslanders will not be heard with regard to this legislation.

The Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry was fundamentally established to gather evidence, data and historical records scattered across the state's archives and in our government agencies, bring them all together in one place and then gently place them next to the lived experience stories generously and courageously offered by Indigenous and non-Indigenous Queenslanders. The protections and powers afforded to an inquiry meant that healing could be at the heart of their work. There have already been a number of individuals who have generously shared their sometimes traumatic experiences, shared their sometimes heartfelt and very personal stories, and many more had been preparing to be witnesses at future hearings—a task, I have to say, that takes its toll on the social and emotional wellbeing of so many. The Premier has now essentially cut them adrift.

What is to come of the three communities who had been preparing for a community truth-telling hearing: Cherbourg, Doomadgee and Minjerribah, or North Stradbroke Island? Last week the inquiry was due to conduct a community hearing in Cherbourg, a discrete Aboriginal community located in the Attorney-General's electorate of Nanango. I wonder if she has bothered to consult with her constituents in that community on this matter. I very much doubt it. The community, assisted by the inquiry staff, and members had been preparing since before the election but were told that due to the LNP's position the hearing would not go ahead. The Cherbourg community decided to go ahead anyway. Last Monday hundreds of people from all walks of life arrived to hear from a number of brave individuals who were willing to tell their stories. I was privileged to be there as the shadow minister and hear firsthand the accounts of life under the control of the Queensland government, what it was like to be separated from your family in dormitories on the mission or placed effectively as slave labour on various stations. I also heard of the intergenerational impact those acts have had on so many families in the community.

The people of Cherbourg said they would not be silenced. The Quandamooka people of Minjerribah, or North Stradbroke Island, have also said they would not be silenced and have continued on their path of truth-telling. The community of Doomadgee have also said they will not be silenced, but tonight on this day, this first day of parliament, the Premier has made sure they are, in fact, to be silenced. Those communities will have no say over this legislation, the legislation that is being rammed through the House tonight. The Premier has determined, in fact, that all Queenslanders—Indigenous and non-Indigenous—will have no say over this legislation, which I find despicable.

The Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry is not divisive, it is not offensive and it is not the referendum. Those things are two separate things. For the member for Maroochydore to continue this falsehood that somehow they are of the same thing is absolutely appalling. For her to not have a full understanding of what this actually means is absolutely appalling. The referendum was related to a constitutional question to change the Constitution and the people of Australia voted a particular way and we honour that. This work has nothing to do with a discrete and distinct question with regards to the Constitution. This is completely different. It is not divisive; it is not offensive. It is, as are all inquiries, an exercise in gathering the evidence and experiences, the data and records to better understand where we have come from and how we got here so we can fundamentally develop a path forward that is informed and has a chance of ensuring we do not make the same mistakes as were made in the past. It is like any other inquiry that this House has ever supported—and funded, by the way.

The member for Maroochydore and others feel as though the cost of an inquiry that is related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is somehow offensive, so how about every other inquiry that has ever been conducted in this House? What about the inquiry that the member for Warrego is

wanting to put into this House with regards to volunteering? What about that one? Was that going to happen for free? Tonight I will be moving amendments to this legislation, and I table them for the benefit of the House.

Tabled paper: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, amendment to be moved by Ms Leeanne Enoch MP [\[215\]](#).

Tabled paper: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, explanatory notes to Ms Leeanne Enoch's amendment [\[216\]](#).

Tabled paper: Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024, statement of compatibility with human rights contained in Ms Leeanne Enoch's amendment [\[217\]](#).

These amendments will ensure that the work of the inquiry is not, once again, scattered across agencies and institutions but is housed in one place, the people's place, so that all Queenslanders can have access to their own story. As we continue this debate tonight my thoughts are brought back to the almost 60 young Indigenous people participating in the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament this week and watching this appalling breach of trust by the LNP.

Mrs Nightingale: Did you see their tears?

Ms ENOCH: I take that interjection. I hope that those opposite, the government, did take time to speak to those young people and to see the incredible upset and the tears they were shedding. I wonder whether the minister even showed her face. It is an appalling breach of trust for the LNP but—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order! There are too many interjections.


Ms ENOCH: One young participant said to me today, 'This must be what it was like for our old people, the lack of consultation, the fight to be heard, the feeling that the government just wants to erase our state's history, to erase us.'

Mr Head: We're not erasing anything.

Ms ENOCH: You are erasing the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry. That is what the LNP government is doing. I say to those young people and to all First Peoples: our stories will never be erased. I call on all Queenslanders to stand together. I call on all First Nations people. I call on traditional owners to all stand together: Yalanji Bama, Kaantju Bama, Yidinji Bama, Irukandji Bama, Djabugay, Durumbal, Bidjara, Bigambul, Kalkadoon, Wakka Wakka, Gubbi Gubbi, Yagara, Yugambeh, Gooreng Gooreng, Butchulla, Iningai, Jinibara, Quandamooka. I call on all traditional owners to stand together to ensure our stories will never, ever be erased—not by this LNP government, not by this Premier, not by that minister.

Our stories are important. Our history is important. Our history, our shared history, belongs to all of us: every single person in this House and every single constituent that those opposite—all of us—represent in this chamber. Our shared history is not always comfortable. Our shared history is not always beautiful. Sometimes it is uncomfortable, sometimes it is ugly, but it is our story. Until we actually embrace it, we will never understand and never be fully reconciled as a state. We will never be able to close the gap because we will never accept the truth. We will never be able to then forge the path forward that makes a difference to people's lives.

Today and every day this side of the House, the Labor Party, will stand with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the telling of the truth and we will stand with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in ensuring that we have a reconciled Queensland and a Queensland that honours the work that must happen to close the gap.

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (8.29 pm): Tonight I rise to speak on the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. As the current Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, it has been interesting for me to watch the journey of the former government over the last three years. When we were awarded the Olympics on 21 July 2021—that is, three years and four months ago—it had bipartisan support from the beginning, because the then opposition and now government realised that the Olympics were a wonderful opportunity for this city, for this region and for this state to bring about the infrastructure changes that were so desperately needed, particularly in terms of transport, and that was one of the many reasons that we supported the bid from the very beginning.

The intergovernmental agreement was signed one year and nine months ago, so a lot of time has passed since we were awarded the Olympics and agreements were put into place. Unfortunately, over that period of time we have had nothing but chaotic decision-making when it comes to the infrastructure that is required to bring about a successful Olympic Games. The former government and current opposition—and it wonders why it is in opposition—dillied, dallied, dithered, deceived and tried to dupe Queenslanders and treated them like dills with regard to the promises that it made.

One of the promises that those opposite made as one of the principles of the Olympics was that 85 per cent of the infrastructure that was required for the Olympics was already in place. However, what they failed to mention is that one of the significant pieces of infrastructure that was part of the 85 per cent was the Gabba. The then government decided that the Gabba was to be the place for the main stadium of the Olympics. One afternoon, then premier Palaszczuk made a press announcement that that was where it was going to be. When she was asked about the cost, she very confidently said that it would cost \$1 billion. When she was asked, 'Have you spoken to the feds at all and when were they advised that this was going to be the location of the Olympics?', she said, 'They know now.' That was when it was going to cost \$1 billion.

It was not long after that when the then government finally decided that it had better do its homework a bit better and the figure for the Olympics came in at \$2.7 billion. Going back to the original \$1 billion announcement, when the then auditor-general, Brendan Worrall, was asked in a parliamentary committee about the business case supporting the \$1 billion and the source of that, he answered, 'I think you'll find the source of that was a press release, from my understanding.' That was the amount of effort and research and investigation that had gone into the first \$1 billion estimate. Then those opposite did their homework and found out that that \$1 billion was actually \$2.7 billion.

In order to provide capacity for an extra 8,000 people in the stadium, a local primary school would be removed. Could members imagine if an LNP government ever did that to a school? Could members imagine that? Not only that, the long-term tenants of the Gabba—the AFL and the cricket—would have to go to another location. That location would be the RNA and that was going to cost \$137 million. Guess what? They had to pay for it. They had to make a major contribution towards that and dislocate themselves from the Gabba for five or six years. That is why we do not have the first test. We do not have test cricket scheduled over that period of time because of this ridiculous decision made by the then government under the infrastructure minister at the time and now the opposition leader, the member for Murrumba.

What happened then? That was the final straw—asking the AFL and cricket to pay for their own interruption. Not long after that, then premier Palaszczuk realised it was, 'Bye-bye. I've got to go.' Well, she did not realise it; she got tapped on the shoulder: 'You're out!' Blocker came in, tapped her on the shoulder and said, 'Away you go.' She was waiting to beat Peter Beattie's record, but no—'Zip, away you go'—and then the left faction finally got its say and the member for Murrumba became the then premier. He then realised the damage that had taken place with the decision-making chaos. He realised the damage that had happened to public sentiment. If anyone had done a survey at that time, not just in the regions but also in Brisbane, most people would have said, 'Let's just get out of this mess.' He realised that damage and he had to jettison everything: 'No, no, we're not going to do that. That was a bad decision. We didn't go through the proper evaluation process,' even though he was the infrastructure minister, do not forget. It was his responsibility. Rather, they decided to do a 30-day review. It might have been 60 days. I forget how many days it was, but it was the Quirk review. So the Quirk review took place to re-evaluate where we should go.

What those opposite did not realise is that they had picked somebody with integrity—that is not something they are used to—to do the inquiry and he actually did a fair dinkum inquiry. Then through that inquiry they realised, 'He's not going to come back with the result that we want,' so he then started his own evaluation. Despite spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on his own inquiry, the then premier decided to get the department to do one at the same time. Within minutes of the Quirk report coming down, the major findings were rejected—and guess what? We had that unbelievably bad decision to say that we were going to have the Olympic Games stadium at QSAC. One thing I have over everybody else in this room is that I have refereed at QSAC and it is the worst ground in the history of sport. You need binoculars to see the game, and everybody knew that. The many games I had there—and I think most games I did extremely well—

Government members interjected.

Mr MANDER: I said 'most', so that is what those opposite came up with. That is when it just fell through the floor and everybody realised what a joke the former government was and how it was taking people for a ride. Thank goodness the adults have finally taken over the government with cool, calm, calculated decision-making.

Mr Dick: What arrogance!

Mr MANDER: I take the interjection from the member for Woodridge—arrogance. He must be beside himself that he cannot take those presidential photos in the office anymore. He now has an office that does not have windows. He now has no windows to gaze out—looking, thinking and pondering, but not about the next budget.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Member, I ask you to direct your comments through the chair.


Mr MANDER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, for your direction; I appreciate that. Now we have the adults running the government with cool, calculated decision-making doing what those opposite did not do, doing what they were supposed to do. They were supposed to put an independent infrastructure coordination authority together and they did it a couple of months before the election because they were embarrassed into doing it. Again, the then premier realised he had to do something to make it look like they were doing something. They appointed a CEO but nothing else. Now we are in government and we will appoint a coordination authority that is independent and is full of experts—people who actually know what they are doing. This will be done over this 100-day period and the final decisions will be made about the infrastructure that is so desperately needed.

One of the things that we have appreciated is that these games are not just for Brisbane or for South-East Queensland; they are for all of Queensland. That is why there will be at least one regional representative on the coordination authority. That is why during the election campaign we announced the \$250 million Games On! sporting program to fund community sporting facilities not just in South-East Queensland but right across the state. Across the regions people will be able to look at something in their area—whether it is new floodlights, a new sporting ground, a sporting precinct, new surfaces or whatever it may be, swimming pools even—and they will be able to say, 'We've got that because of the Olympic Games.' That is the legacy that we will have in our local communities, and there will be a lot more than that as well.

Holding the Olympic Games in less than eight years is the greatest opportunity of our generation. London, Paris, Beijing and LA did not need an Olympic Games to build their profile—they did not need an Olympic Games to attract people to visit their cities—but for Brisbane it is a unique opportunity to help us showcase our beautiful region to the rest of the world, and the benefits are beyond comprehension at the moment.

Our aim is to once again get people enthusiastic about the Olympics and to understand the benefits that come with the Olympic Games and look forward in particular to those transport infrastructure projects that are so desperately needed to ease the congestion not just in Caloundra but in Brisbane city as well. It is the biggest issue in my electorate in the north-west suburbs and, of course, in Chatsworth and the eastern suburbs. We want to be able to move around freely, we want to be able to move around safely—we want to be able to get there as quickly as we can. It is not just us, business needs it desperately to make sure that we bust congestion.

There are a couple of other issues in this bill which I will let others speak about. My remit is the Olympics and I cannot wait to see action at last. When people eventually see the coordination authority they will be excited by the calibre of people on it. I can assure people in this House right now of one thing: we will not embarrass this state in front of the rest of the world. We will host an Olympic Games that we will be proud of and that everybody will get behind.

 **Mr McCALLUM (Bundamba—ALP)** (8.40 pm): It did not take long. With the very first bill to be debated under the LNP government we see the masks that they have been presenting to Queenslanders fall. They have revealed their true selves, laid out in this parliament for every single Queenslanders to see. It is cruel, it is mean spirited and it is grotesque. The process by which this bill has been brought forward for debate today is a trashing of the democratic law-making process that exists here in the Queensland parliament. Gagging debate on the motion around whether or not this bill should be declared urgent was absolutely shameful. This is a heartless action by a gutless government that has no respect for this parliament or its processes or the proper scrutiny that should be afforded under our democratic process. It has denied Queenslanders and stakeholders the opportunity to have

their say on the bill that has been brought before this House, whether it is on important issues like the Olympics, watering down work health and safety laws or the Path to Treaty Act. Just like those opposite guillotined debate earlier today, Queenslanders will not have the opportunity to have their voices heard when it comes to the matters that are contained in this bill.

Those opposite can bleat on and on about a mandate, but the fact is that their little brochure that they took around and waved in front of the TV cameras did not have any of this in it. It did not say anything about trashing the processes of bringing forward bills for debate into this House. I am glad to see that one of the new members thinks that it is hilarious. They have been here for five seconds. Yes, get your laugh on. There were no details in their plan about how they were going to do it. Whenever there was a question that their leader did not like they said, 'It is not part of our plan.' We have seen their true colours with this bill. The fact is that they have absolutely no mandate to come forward and trash the processes of this parliament in the way that they have done today.

With respect to the Olympics, the days are counting down as they head towards 100 days when they are going to solve the issues that we have around the Olympics. The big solution in this bill is to rebadge and rename an existing Olympic authority that the Labor government brought forward. Also contained within the bill is legislation that will make our workplaces more dangerous. Those opposite are watering down laws to make already dangerous workplaces even more dangerous for workers. It is an absolute disgrace. It is not born out of any kind of considered reform. It is not born out of any kind of evidence. It is complete ideology. It is an attack on workers. This is the LNP reverting to type.

This bill repeals the Path to Treaty Act. The now Premier said at the time that this will be done with dignity and respect, but what has been delivered is brutality and disdain. That is all that has been delivered by the LNP today when it comes to the repeal of the Path to Treaty Act. It was done in a very deliberate and calculated way to inflict maximum damage. The chair of the independent statutory inquiry, who had been reaching out repeatedly to try to establish a dialogue with the Premier, the Deputy Premier and the responsible minister, was met with silence. Just as this bill was introduced and the gagging motion came, that is when the letter arrived via email. Those opposite could not even pick up the phone. They did not have the guts, the fortitude, the ticker, to pick up the phone.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My point of order relates to unparliamentary language. I would ask that the member withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): I did not hear any unparliamentary language. However, if it is possible that you said something, I would ask that you withdraw.

Mr McCALLUM: Thank you, Deputy Speaker, for your advice and direction. I withdraw if I said anything that was unparliamentary. As I was saying, those opposite did not have the intestinal fortitude, did not have the ticker, to pick up the phone. This is a government that has promised to support and help First Nations Queenslanders, but on day one in this parliament this is a government that has delivered an absolute kick right to the abdomen of First Nations Queenslanders. Today's events have shown that this government, the same government that said that there would be dignity and respect, is as hollow as the words that were spoken.

This is not what Queenslanders were promised. It is not what Premier Crisafulli said he would be delivering and it is not the values that he said he would lead by. When the Path to Treaty Bill was debated in the last parliament, the member for Algeester quoted the member for Broadwater and now Premier. He said—

I believe in truth-telling, and to me that means telling it like it is. We need to be up-front. We cannot shy away from the real experiences of Indigenous Australians throughout history. We must tell the truth about the real challenges they are facing today.

...

Down one well-travelled path lies a discussion had for political purposes. It talks a big game but achieves little for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—a path where political battlelines are drawn but ultimately ends with a decade wasted and no progress made. Down the other path is a treaty.

Those words are as meaningless as the words that he spoke when he said that he would be dealing with the Path to Treaty and the truth-telling inquiry with dignity and respect. They are as meaningless as the words of the member for Surfers Paradise and now education minister when, during that debate, he said—

I urge all members of this House to work towards a future where Indigenous peoples in Queensland are recognised as equal partners, their voices are heard and their rights are respected. Let us take this important step towards reconciliation and build a brighter future for all Queenslanders.


Once again, those are hollow words.

My question to the LNP government is: what are you afraid of when it comes to a conversation? What can possibly be the problem when it comes to a dialogue and consultation? That happens all the time, even on bills, although it will not happen on this one because it has been guillotined by the LNP. Why are they so afraid of the truth?

In the short time since this bill was introduced into the parliament earlier today, like many members on this side of the House I have been contacted by upset, angry, outraged and confused Queenslanders who want to know how a government can trash proper processes and do what this government is doing on this the very first full sitting day of parliament. They are people from all kinds of backgrounds. Queensland Churches Together have put out a joint statement calling on the government—urging the government and asking the government—to continue with the inquiry. Once again, that has fallen on deaf ears and the government has steamrolled ahead with trashing the process and repealing the bill.

I would urge the government to continue with the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry. We know that there will be Indigenous communities that will push ahead anyway, but the government will not continue. This parliament is the poorer, this state is the poorer and it is an incredible shame. It is beyond regrettable. It is beyond unbecoming conduct of a government in this great state of Queensland, let alone a government that has only been a government for 30 days. Let us be clear that, for this government, ramming through this bill to repeal treaty, weaken workplace health and safety laws, rebadge an Olympics authority and deal with the Public Service Commission is more urgent than their community safety laws. That is a fact. When it comes to repealing the Path to Treaty in this state, this is an unprecedented attack on a statutorily independent inquiry by a government for purely political purposes. Those on the opposite side of this House will be judged by history and they will be condemned for this.

I conclude my contribution by speaking to all Queenslanders including First Nations Queenslanders and allies of First Nations Queenslanders. I say that it does not have to be this way. There is a party in this place that will respectfully stand shoulder to shoulder with First Nations people. We will work in genuine collaboration and have a genuine conversation so that we can work together and move forward towards a reconciled Queensland, because that is what we all want. The only thing that is being achieved here today is the ripping away of an opportunity to take meaningful action towards that. It has been ripped away with cruelty, in a calculated and deliberate way, by a government that today has revealed at the first opportunity its very grotesque and mean-spirited heart.

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (8.56 pm): As Queensland's new public works minister, I will make a contribution in relation to my portfolio area and the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. We are doing what we said we would do, which was, in fact, outlined in one of the brochures that those opposite are obsessed with. It was in our 100-day plan and we are acting on it. We are getting straight to business and we are doing what we said we would do.

This bill represents our commitment to our state's future to ensure the games deliver a legacy of opportunity, of growth and of pride for generations of Queenslanders to come. The Olympic and Paralympic Games are not just about the two weeks of the competition themselves; they are about transforming our state with much needed infrastructure and positioning us as the global destination we should be known as. This bill delivers the urgent action Queenslanders voted for just a month ago. It will ensure we seize this opportunity to build the infrastructure that will benefit all Queenslanders in the short term and long after the games have concluded. The LNP is committed to restoring confidence in our state's ability to deliver the Olympic and Paralympic Games and all the legacy programs associated with this event.

After years of delays, budget blowouts and mismanagement under the former Labor government, it is time to restore public trust and to finally deliver results. That is why this bill establishes the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, which will be a truly impartial body tasked with overseeing infrastructure delivery. This is the start of achieving the Crisafulli government's commitment to ensuring generational infrastructure that will benefit every corner of Queensland. We know that the former government wasted over 1,200 days on the games and we have less than nothing to show for that. The 100-day review will allow Queenslanders to see a clear road map for success and to address the gaps and inefficiencies inherited from Labor. This will allow us to embrace the opportunities hosting the games offers for our state. Across the many failed infrastructure projects and budget blowouts, our state has been left with a tarnished reputation.

Serious concerns have been raised about our ability to deliver a successful Olympic and Paralympic Games. At the heart of these values lies Labor's cosy relationship with the CFMEU whose unchecked influence over the construction industry has driven up costs and hampered productivity on job sites across Queensland. We have discovered a massive \$1.4 billion budget blowout for Olympic and Paralympic Games venues which would have been completely wasted money if BPIC had been allowed to continue.

One of the biggest issues with BPIC was the prequalification system that contractors and subcontractors needed to go through to take part in major government projects. I can reveal to the House tonight that independent advice received on the effects of BPIC, commissioned by the former government, quantified the impact this was having on restricting access across our state's building and construction sector.

Advice provided to my department showed that, of the over 176,000 QBCC licensed contractors and subbies in Queensland, just 204 were certified under the complicated BPIC prequalification system. That meant just 0.12 per cent of participants across our building and construction sector were able to bid for those major government projects. Tens of thousands of small and family businesses from right across Queensland would have been locked out of the once-in-a-lifetime economic opportunities hosting an Olympic and Paralympic Games brings if the LNP had not taken immediate action to suspend BPICs.

With regard to the commentary we have heard from those opposite on the notice of entry requirements for workplace health and safety permit holders, these changes are reasonable and sensible. This change simply aligns the Queensland legislation with the entry requirements under Commonwealth legislation.

Ms Grace: Rubbish. Absolute rubbish!

Mr O'CONNOR: There is an exception included. It is in the explanatory notes, member for McConnel. There is an exception included so that this notice requirement does not apply in circumstances where a worker is exposed to a serious risk to their health and safety emanating from an immediate or imminent exposure to a hazard. This will ensure there is still an appropriate mechanism to enable workplace health and safety permit holders to enter a workplace without delay when there is a serious risk to workers.

Our new government will ensure there is a level playing field for Queensland's building and construction sector, empowering local businesses and delivering projects which are value for taxpayers' money. Our fresh approach is about more than just fixing Labor's mistakes—it is about restoring confidence in Queensland's ability to host an incredible games and deliver the generational infrastructure our state desperately needs.

I will take this opportunity to raise a couple projects in my own community on the Gold Coast. One of the most exciting developments for Brisbane 2032 is that, for the first time in Olympic history, surfing will be an official sport. Although the Bonney electorate clearly does not have the golden surf beaches that we see in other parts of the Gold Coast, like the glitz and the glamour of Surfers Paradise, we are very much a suburban area with the calm waters of the Broadwater. That is all about to change with an exciting project on the horizon.

Last week, I went to the launch of Palm Valley in Parkwood, which will be Australia's first surf and golf resort. Designed as the world's best high-performance surf training facility, it will provide specialised training programs for Australian athletes targeting Olympic glory in 2032.

Ms Grace: It's going to house a lot of people.

An opposition member: So much for healing the housing crisis.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Order! Members to my left. I will have no more interjections like that, thank you, or I will have no hesitation in warning members if they persist.

Mr O'CONNOR: I will take that interjection from the former housing minister. That is a project approved by the Gold Coast Council. It is a site where over 200 apartments are being built on the edge of a golf course. It is something that worked. It shows we do not need to railroad local councils to deliver housing on sport and recreation properties like this.


This site also has the potential to host the Olympic para surfing competition. It will mean consistent waves in a controlled environment, perfectly complementing our natural surf beaches on the Gold Coast. While the games bring fresh opportunities, they also offer a chance to build on our existing strengths.

As a proud supporter of the Labrador Hockey Club, I have seen firsthand how local players from juniors up to national representatives have benefitted from the legacy of our world-class Gold Coast Hockey Centre. Our amendments to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021 emphasise the importance of leveraging venues already in place. This venue in Labrador was originally built for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. It has proven itself not just as a premiere facility for international hockey competitions but also as a great place for our local community.

As a potential training or alternate venue for Olympic hockey, this perfectly aligns with the LNP's vision of a sustainable games with infrastructure that will have use far beyond the competition, and I certainly hope it is considered as part of the review. An approach like this minimises unnecessary expenditure on new venues and maximises the use of facilities that are already integrated into local communities.

This bill lays the foundation for a games that will be remembered not only for sporting excellence but also for leaving a legacy for Queensland. Under previous Labor governments, the lack of a coherent legacy strategy led to the real potential of underutilised venues, of neglected infrastructure and of missed economic potential.

The 2032 Brisbane Olympics represents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform Queensland. It will create jobs and opportunities for local business. It will deliver world-class generational infrastructure for all Queenslanders. It will showcase our state's natural beauty to the world. This is our moment to shine, to deliver a games that Queenslanders will not only watch but also participate in, celebrate and be proud of. The changes that we are passing today will put Queensland on the path to delivering the best Olympic Games ever. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr KNUTH** (Hill—KAP) (9.05 pm): I rise to contribute to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. I note that this is an omnibus bill that lumps together completely unrelated legislation. This was a regular occurrence under the former government and it appears that this new honest and accountable government is going down the same path.

The KAP did put its hand up to fast track the crime bill because this has been a long time coming and desperately needs urgent passage. I note that this bill contains the repealing of the Path to Treaty Act, which both major parties voted together to pass at the Cairns regional parliamentary sitting. The KAP members were the only ones who opposed this when it was debated in Cairns and we copped some abuse from some members of this chamber, many of whom are no longer here.

The KAP has a proven track record on representing Indigenous people and communities for almost five decades. This includes through market gardens, dialysis units, better health care, Katter leases and Indigenous blue cards. The member for Traeger put in three bills which would offer equal opportunities for Indigenous people in the cape and the gulf. We also have been pushing for subsidised freight—the list goes on.

This is very important to hear: I worked on the railway track for 20 years and it was the Goss government which closed the railway stations, the sidings and the track gains. They also sold Queensland Rail. Queensland Rail was the biggest employer of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and they sold it. I do not want to hear that they are the party for the Indigenous people because they have done considerable damage and we do not see too many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders or South Sea Islanders working out on the railway track anymore. I want to bring that to the attention of the House because I was one of those who copped it at the time.

This bill also talks about the Olympics. The KAP has called for the Brisbane Olympics to be scrapped right from day one. We simply cannot afford it and regional Queensland in particular will suffer because of it. We are seeing the billions of dollars being spent on the south-east corner—the footbridges, the sports stadiums, the tunnels, and the list goes on. We had the massive floods up there in regional Queensland. In Far North Queensland, we are seeing a death nearly every week on the Bruce Highway. We are seeing the massive destruction on our main roads network due to flooding. The Palmerston Highway has constant stop-gos as well as the Kuranda Range road yet all that we are hearing about is the Olympics in the south-east.


People in the Far North are struggling and doing it tough. There are constant stop-go signs on the Kuranda Range, so people are constantly stopping and starting when they are trying to get to appointments or catch a plane. There are 44 closures of the range a year. That money could be better spent. There are big discussions about a new Barron River bridge. For 40 years, people have been pushing for a new inland highway that starts at Davies Creek and goes straight through to the southern part of Cairns—

An honourable member: The Bridle Track.

Mr KNUTH: The Bridle Track. We could spend \$500 million on a new Barron River bridge, but if the new inland highway were built it would bypass the Barron River bridge so that \$500 million would not need to be spent. We could put that money into the Olympics or we could put it into a new inland highway. This is very important to us.

We know that billions will go into the south-east and that regional Queensland will not get sports stadiums. We will lose our tradies to Brisbane, which will mean in regional Queensland that the cost of infrastructure will skyrocket and the cost of home construction will skyrocket, too. I want to acknowledge in the chamber the minister who is responsible for regional Queensland. This is the first time there has been a little hope that we may benefit.

The one good thing to come out of this legislation is the reinstatement of the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, which apparently will be transparent when it comes to expenditure. I have not heard the word 'transparent' used for a long time. I do not see transparency in the House much. One good thing coming out of this is that at least regional Queensland will be able to see how many billions of dollars are being robbed from it for a two-week party in the south-east corner. I wanted to bring that to the attention of the House.

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (9.11 pm): I rise to address the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. Introduced by the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations, this legislation seeks to amend the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021, the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024, the Planning Act 2016, the Planning and Environment Court Act 2016, the Public Sector Act 2022 and the Path to Treaty Act 2022.

I first wish to address those amendments as they pertain to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. When it comes to the infrastructure and planning that is required for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games, it is clear that the former state Labor government was woefully underprepared. The collective multipremier and multiministerial failure of the former Labor state government to properly plan for the infrastructure needs of Queensland has put our great state at risk of missing the immense multigenerational opportunities that this once-in-a-lifetime global event presents.

On 26 October 2024, Queenslanders spoke loud and decisively. Queenslanders voted for the Liberal National Party's Right Plan for Queensland's Future and Fresh Start for Queensland. Queenslanders voted for change. They made it clear that not only do they want their state to host a world-class Olympic and Paralympic Games but also, more importantly, they want the legacy infrastructure that will transform our state and improve the lives of all Queenslanders for decades to come. I know there are those within the state Labor opposition who are yet to accept this, but Queenslanders well and truly voted for the Crisafulli LNP state government's plan to end the over 1,200 days of Labor chaos and crisis and deliver the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, tasked with developing an implementation plan within 100 days.

This is about more than just meeting the baseline requirements of hosting an Olympic and Paralympic Games. This is about delivering on the promises the Liberal National Party made to the people of Queensland—our promise to ensure that these Olympic Games deliver a lasting legacy with benefits that are realised right across our state. This includes generational infrastructure and a tourism plan that is truly worthy of our state. Time is of the essence. That is why within its first 100 days the Liberal National Party government is taking decisive action—the action that Queenslanders voted for—to address the failings of the former state Labor government.

As I said earlier today, it is now time to get on with the job. Queenslanders cannot afford further setbacks and further international embarrassment caused by the chaos, crisis, delays and mismanagement under the former Labor state government. Delivering a successful Olympic and Paralympic Games is not just an obligation; it is an opportunity—the likes of which we have never had before—to showcase Queensland on the world stage to an unprecedented global audience. Moreover, these Olympic Games provide us with a platform to showcase our rich culture, diverse communities and natural beauty. Queensland is already one of the most desirable destinations in the world, and the Olympics will allow us to tell our story to a global audience like never before. This is not just about the spectacle of sport; it is about reinforcing Queensland's place as a global destination for investment, innovation, leisure and opportunity.

We have a unique opportunity now to unleash Queensland's potential and leave a lasting legacy for future generations. A world-class Olympics demands world-class preparation, vision and implementation. The Liberal National Party is determined to get on with the job and make the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games a success that every Queenslanders can be proud of. These games are not just a moment in history; they are an opportunity to cement Queensland's future. It is time to move forward, time to deliver and time to ensure the legacy of the 2032 Games is a Queensland that is stronger, more connected and more prosperous than ever before.

I wish to now briefly address those amendments as they pertain to the Work Health and Safety Act. All Queenslanders deserve a safe workplace. It is a fundamental right, not a privilege, that every worker should leave home at the start of their shift and return safely to their loved ones at the end of the day. This basic yet fundamental expectation must be protected by strong, fair and effective legislation—legislation that ensures the health, safety and welfare of workers across Queensland.

Queensland's Work Health and Safety Act 2011 has long served to ensure the wellbeing of Queensland's workforce. It is important legislation. However, as with all legislation, it is incumbent on the parliament of the day to ensure that any legislation must, where evident and necessary, evolve to meet new challenges, strengthen protections and correct past failures. The changes that are proposed in this legislation enshrine the Liberal National Party's firm commitment to safe workplaces and the position that the Liberal National Party debated and adopted in the 57th Parliament of Queensland prior to the 2024 Queensland state election.

Under the former state Labor government, the safety of Queensland workers was politicised and compromised. Labor's amendments in the 57th Parliament were more about suiting their blatant political agenda than about worker safety, selling out the very people they claim to represent. The Crisafulli state Liberal National Party government will not allow that to continue. The Liberal National Party is committed to promoting safe and productive workplaces across Queensland. Our approach balances strong worker protections with practical, effective regulations that support both safety and productivity.

One of the key changes in this legislation is the introduction of a 24-hour notice period for entry permit holders. This should not be controversial as it aligns with the federal Fair Work Act, ensuring consistency in how workplace inspections are conducted. That aligns with what the federal Labor government has implemented itself. By providing such notice, we are fostering a cooperative approach to inspections—one that respects businesses whilst also maintaining rigorous safety standards. These changes underscore the importance of creating workplaces that are productive but are also places where safety is a shared priority. Strong legislation, clear expectations and sound practices form the foundation of safe workplaces.

By strengthening the Work Health and Safety Act, the Liberal National Party is ensuring that Queensland workers are protected today, tomorrow and for years to come. The Liberal National Party is committed to creating workplaces where safety is non-negotiable, where every worker is valued and where families can rest assured that their loved ones will come home safely.

Finally, I wish to address matters pertaining to the Path to Treaty Act. Over many years I have long maintained that, with all matters that pertain to Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it is incumbent on the state government of the day to seek a way forward that unites rather than divides. The pathway under the former state Labor government was always one that would only lead to more division and not one that has ever focused on improving real and practical outcomes. The Liberal National Party is committed to delivering real, tangible outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. For too long, First Nations communities have been let down by policies of the former state Labor government that failed to focus on genuine solutions.

Ms Farmer interjected.

Dr ROWAN: I hear the member for Bulimba interjecting. The former Labor government has failed on closing the gap here in Queensland and our First Nations Queenslanders have been falling behind. The latest *Queensland Closing the Gap: Annual report 2023* revealed that nine of the 17 key targets are not on track. These include critical areas such as housing, education and health.

Ms Farmer interjected.


Dr ROWAN: I know that the member for Bulimba is ashamed of the former government in relation to the fact that they have not been closing the gap here in Queensland. The member for Bulimba interjects because the member for Bulimba, as the former minister for education, child safety and other portfolios, and as a member of the former government, failed here in Queensland—failed to close the

gap on Indigenous communities. It was widening in relation to health, education and housing under the former government. That is why the members opposite are embarrassed when it comes to their track record here in Queensland—a track record which is abysmal and shameful when it comes to that.

These figures are more than just a statement in an annual report. They are a reflection of systemic failures under the former state Labor government that have left First Nations Queenslanders disadvantaged for too long. The Liberal National Party believes it is time to turn this around and focus on initiatives that make a real difference, with dedicated funding towards practical, measurable actions aimed at reducing disadvantage and closing the gap.

The Liberal National Party state government will focus on lifting living standards in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, particularly in discrete First Nations communities where basic amenities are often lacking. The Liberal National Party state government will work closely with agencies, local leaders and communities to improve health, education and employment outcomes. This means fostering partnerships that deliver meaningful change on the ground.

By providing certainty to all stakeholders and ensuring funding is provided to initiatives that deliver measurable benefits, we will work towards a future where every Queenslanders, regardless of background, has the opportunity to thrive. The Liberal National Party stands ready to deliver that future and a fresh start for Queensland—and that is what Queenslanders voted for. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (9.21 pm): In my first address in this House as a member of Queensland's 58th Parliament I acknowledge that we meet on the land of Aboriginal people. Long before this sandstone building was built, long before the state of Queensland existed, this was a meeting place for generations of Aboriginal people. I acknowledge Aboriginal elders past and present, particularly Yagara and Turrbal elders, and thank them for their ongoing custodianship of the land where this parliament convenes.

At the outset can I also say this: Labor says no to the LNP, Labor says no to Premier Crisafulli and Labor says no to this bill!

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order! It is late and this has aroused a lot of passion, but those interjections were unacceptable. They were too loud and were not being taken. Please take a chill pill and we will have a courteous orderly debate.

Mr DICK: It did not take long, did it? It did not take long for Premier Crisafulli to reveal his true face to the people of Queensland. It did not take long for Premier Crisafulli to reveal what really lies in his heart. As soon as the Premier got his hands on the levers of power in this state, he was quick to pervert the parliament, its processes and its procedures. The Premier was quick to deny due process to terminate proper scrutiny and, in particular, to silence the voice of Queenslanders—in particular, the voice of First Nations Queenslanders who might, just might, want to be heard on a bill that impacts their rights in this state. Why? Because Premier Crisafulli can—because he can. Just like his idol Joh Bjelke-Petersen and his mentor Campbell Newman, this parliament is his place to do what he wants, when he wants and how he wants just because he can.

Isn't it just sickening to reflect on all the fake promises Premier Crisafulli made to the people of Queensland during his four years as opposition leader—all the false promises he made during the recent election campaign, promises Premier Crisafulli made sure to ensure Queenslanders' voices were heard—

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Nanango, your interjections are not being taken.

Mr DICK:—promises Premier Crisafulli made to listen to Queenslanders and, absolutely the worst of all, promises Premier Crisafulli made to treat Queenslanders with decency and respect. In this bill we see the complete opposite—nothing decent and no respect. Promises made by this Premier are now broken and discarded just because Premier Crisafulli can.

Ms Boyd: On day one.

Mr DICK: In his very first act—I take the interjection—on the very first day of this government Premier Crisafulli has made a mockery of the parliament, its procedures and its processes, and the people of this state will not forget it.

Let's go to another mockery. After the ongoing complaint for four years about the Olympics, what is the first thing the new government does under Premier Crisafulli? Have a review. Isn't that a government of action! Let's have a 100-day review. During the election campaign Premier Crisafulli

claimed that he would provide certainty. That is what he said on the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Then he had the absolute gall to refuse to answer any questions at all about his plan for the 2032 Paralympic and Olympic Games. Premier Crisafulli will scrap QSAC, a stadium project that would have stopped billions of unnecessary dollars being spent on a new stadium, and why? Because the Premier is an inner-city snob. No Queenslander will forget the Premier from Bulimba, where he lives, saying QSAC is 'out in the bush'. Remember when Premier Crisafulli said QSAC is out in the bush? I grew up on the south side of Brisbane. The member for Logan grew up on the south side of Brisbane. It is not out in the bush. It is about 15 minutes drive from here. That is because he is an inner-city snob looking down on the people of the south side.

There is no-one this Premier is not willing to denigrate for his own political purposes. The LNP spent months, if not years, denigrating the Gabba proposal. It is simply not tenable for them to possibly renovate the Gabba as part of their Olympic plan, so that leaves them with one choice—no QSAC, no Gabba—a new stadium where they will pour billions of dollars into the inner city and ignore all of those new LNP members from regional Queensland.

Mr Stevens: It might be in Woodridge.

Mr DICK: I hope it is in Woodridge—I take that interjection—because we know this from the LNP: the people of Woodridge never get anything from the LNP. They just take things away. That is all Woodridge ever gets from the LNP.

In typical LNP fashion, we see Premier Crisafulli in this bill moving to wreck the rights of workers in this state. It is unsurprising because the Premier is part of a political organisation that has a long and lamentable history of damaging, denying, diminishing and destroying the rights of workers in this state. That is what the LNP always does in government. Reforms passed by the Labor government in March this year were as a direct result of recommendations from the *Review of Queensland's Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and the national 2018 *Review of the model work health and safety laws*.

The changes the Premier seeks to make today begin to dismantle those changes, taking the rights of workers backwards—and it is the first chapter, on the first day of this government, of what will be a relentless assault on Queensland workers and their rights, making them less safe at work, stripping away their conditions and cutting their wages—that is if they get a job at all.

This bill also seeks to remove planning measures introduced by the Miles Labor government to get more Queenslanders into affordable homes—on the first day. All that sobbing and moaning from the LNP about healing the housing crisis came to nothing because in their first act these legislative reforms have the very real potential to negatively impact housing supply in Queensland. Labor introduced these measures earlier this year because we listened to industry and stakeholders who told us this was what they needed. I commend the member for Gaven for her leadership in government to deliver that.

These measures were about getting more shovels in the ground and getting more projects underway. The fast-tracked approvals process Labor implemented could have delivered almost 4,500 new homes for Queenslanders. Today those new homes are at risk because of this bill and Premier Crisafulli's arrogance in ramming this bill through at midnight tonight because he simply will not listen to the Property Council, to the UDIA or to Master Builders. We do not even know what they think. Maybe they support it; maybe they do not. But in his arrogance he will not listen to them.

Despite the Premier's promise during and after the election that his government would deliver a place to call home for more Queenslanders and despite the need for more homes, this LNP government has already cut almost 400 homes from the Gold Coast and now under this bill is looking to put another 4,500 in jeopardy as one of its very first acts.

In May 2023 the 57th Parliament gathered in Cairns on the land of the Gimuy Walubara Yidinji people. Members made heartfelt contributions to the Path to Treaty Bill.

Mr Power: We thought they were heartfelt.

Mr DICK: I take the interjection from the member for Logan—all those fake, false contributions by the LNP that came to nothing. The Path to Treaty Act and the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry that it created represented a genuine opportunity to change the lives of so many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. The then leader of the opposition and member for Broadwater made his own contributions in support of the Path to Treaty Bill. He said—

Down one well-travelled path lies a discussion had for political purposes.

...

Down the other path is a treaty. It places accountability on this and future governments ...

You can see him in the parliament, getting out the invisible box and looking down the camera and being so serious about things. What was in the invisible box when it came to the Path to Treaty? Absolutely nothing. By introducing this legislation and ramming it through the House tonight, Premier Crisafulli has in his own words decided to go down the path of action for base political purposes. Premier Crisafulli has decided that, instead of listening, he will silence the voice of First Nations people in this state. This Premier and this government have so little respect, so little consideration, for our First Nations people that his own minister could not even be bothered meeting with the inquiry chair.

Ms Enoch interjected.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): The member for Algester and the minister will cease quarrelling across the chamber.

Mr DICK: Queenslanders now know that this Premier is not a leader, he is not an enlarger and he is not an enabler; he is a diminisher. The destruction of this inquiry now means the stories of Aboriginal elders will not be told. Their voices will be silenced. Their stories will be erased. The tragedy of the Premier's action is that it is likely that the voices of a generation of First Nations elders will never be heard. Their voices will forever be silent, and that will be Premier Crisafulli's lingering legacy.

Like the member for Algester today, I had the privilege of meeting with 60 brilliant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people who came to this place, our parliament, to convene the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament. What an extraordinary group of young people they were—like Bria Cusack, Kane Playford and Takeisha Riley from Logan, amongst so many brilliant young people. A day filled with happiness and excitement was shattered when they heard about this bill and the actions of Premier Crisafulli. You could just tell their hearts were heavy. Some were sobbing, including Seleena Blackley, a mentor and leader who was on the First Nations Treaty Institute Council, a young woman who was part of the Interim Truth and Treaty Body. Not one member of the government had the decency to walk 15 metres to speak to them—not one of them. Not one of them could talk to them—

Mr KRAUSE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order—

Mr DICK: But you could tell that these young people were strong, proud and resilient, and their voices will not be silenced.

Mr KRAUSE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at the comments by the member for Woodridge and I ask that he withdraw.

Mr DICK: I withdraw. Not one member opposite could do it. The speech of one young man—Danzel Lewis from Bowen—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Nanango and Attorney-General, you have had a good go. I have noted you have been quarrelling with members on the other side of the chamber, and I will particularly note the member for Algester. It would assist the House if you would desist from that.

Mr DICK: There was a speech from one young man that stood out, and that speech was from the opposition leader in the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament, Danzel Lewis from Bowen. It was a brilliant speech. You could see how much effort and time he put into preparing his speech, and his delivery was magnificent. He finished his speech by quoting one of his idols, the Reverend Dr Martin Luther King Jr. That quote from Dr King states—

If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving.

Even if these Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people have to crawl, they will keep going. They will keep going even if the LNP make them crawl, because they will not be beaten or bowed or silenced by this action by the LNP and Premier Crisafulli in this parliament tonight.

I conclude my contribution by quoting Hayden Johnson, the political editor of the *Courier-Mail*, who said it best when he said—

Without warning, the state government's first act in power was one of political cruelty, free from the decency and respect Premier David Crisafulli promised.

For all of those new LNP MPs who have been congratulating one another today, this will be your first vote. This will be your first vote—trashing process and proceedings in this parliament.

Ms Pease: You will go down in history for this.

Mr DICK: I take that interjection. You will go down in history. This will be the first vote of those opposite—


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Deputy Leader of the Opposition, resume your seat, please. I am sorry to interrupt you. The member for Lytton has been here long enough to know that she is not to interject from a seat other than her own. You are warned under the standing orders. I will have no hesitation in warning other members. Everyone has had a good go.

Mr DICK: This will be their first vote—trashing process, trashing procedure and destroying the treaty act and the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry. I will conclude where I started tonight when they all howled me down. Labor says no to the LNP, Labor says no to Premier Crisafulli and Labor says no to this bill.

Interruption.

PRIVILEGE

Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House

 **Mr KRAUSE** (Scenic Rim—LNP) (9.37 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise on a matter of privilege suddenly arising. The member for Woodridge I believe has deliberately misled the House tonight. I chaired the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament this afternoon for an hour and a half, and during that time the member for Woodridge—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Scenic Rim, you will resume your seat. If you believe that a member has misled the House, as you well know, you have the opportunity to write to the Speaker about the matter. The Speaker only this morning made it clear that the abuse of points of order and matters of privilege is not to occur. I invite you to consider your options there.


Mr KRAUSE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I was about to state that I will be writing to the Speaker about this matter of privilege.

Mr DICK: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order and a matter of privilege suddenly arising. If to any extent I have offended the member for Scenic Rim, I do apologise to him. If he was there, I apologise to him and I withdraw my remarks in that respect.

BRISBANE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Resumed.

 **Hon. AC POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation) (9.38 pm): I rise to make a brief contribution to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. As the Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation, I support this bill and the 100-day review of our infrastructure and transport needs required for the 2032 games. I have raised on many occasions over the last four years the fact that the original intent of seeking the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games got lost under the leadership of then premier Palaszczuk and then premier Miles.


When the SEQ Council of Mayors first pitched the concept of bidding for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games it was for three reasons: one, so that this part of Queensland, indeed all of Queensland, would benefit from legacy investment in transport, road, rail, bus, infrastructure, the length and breadth of the state; to invest in legacy sporting infrastructure, community infrastructure, infrastructure that our kids playing soccer, netball, any sport would benefit from for years to come, and a legacy around tourism when the world's focus would be on Brisbane and Queensland. It was in our hands to make sure that that focus stayed for decades to come.

Unfortunately, under Premier Palaszczuk, the focus became on red carpets. It became on glitz and glamour. It became on trying to take the shine away from the games themselves and put the shine on herself. When those opposite realised that that focus was detracting from their political opportunities, they changed leadership to Premier Miles. Unfortunately, in changing leadership, it did not change the outcome for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and when their own review produced results

that they did not like, they came up with harebrained schemes, including spending billions of dollars on putting temporary facilities at QSAC which is just ludicrous. What sort of legacy will that leave the state of Queensland?

I do back this legislation which establishes that 100-day review of our infrastructure and transport needs for the 2032 games. I do it also because we have an unparalleled green and gold runway for Queensland's tourism in the lead-up to this games. We know that the Olympic and Paralympic Games deliver millions of visitors to their host city, their host state, their host nation. Those visitors come for the sport, but we want to make sure they stay for the state. We have the best tourism offerings in Australia, and under the of Crisafulli LNP government those nature-based tourism offerings are set to bloom. We are committed to clearing the hurdles for operators who want to bring people into the beauty of Queensland, right into the heart of it, because we know that once they have had that taste, they will spread the word and they will hold the conservation and preservation of those natural wonders dear to their own hearts. Whether it is the reef or the rainforest, the outback or the opera here in Brisbane, Queensland has so much to offer. That is why in conjunction with this 100-day review, my department is leading a 20-year tourism plan, including consultation the length and the breadth of the state as we do so. We want to know what our tourism operators need in preparation for the Olympic Games, not just in the lead-up to the games, but to ensure we get not one but two decades of legacy for our tourism industry.

We have to make sure that these games deliver for Queensland. Only the LNP will fix the 1,200 days of Labor's games chaos—1,200 days. All we are asking for is 100 days to get it fixed. This bill will deliver the solution with an independent infrastructure coordination authority tasked with developing an implementation plan within those 100 days. Without that critical audit of facilities and of the requirements—the transport and community sport legacy requirements—we cannot deliver the legacy that these games should deliver. We owe it to our children, to our future athletes, and to each and every tourism operator and every single Queenslander that those operators employ to get this right. I support this legislation.

 **Mr DAMETTO** (Hinchinbrook—KAP) (9.43 pm): This will be my first time rising in the House in the 58th Parliament. I would like to congratulate everyone in the House, from the right and left side of parliament, and also yourself as Deputy Speaker Lister. Welcome back to this parliament.

I give my contribution on behalf of the KAP for the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. From the outset, I must put on the record—I have said it in this House before and I will say it again—that the KAP has been opposed from the very start of the Brisbane Olympics here in Brisbane, not because it would be the Queensland Olympics but because it would be the Brisbane Olympics. I know that there has been a change of name of the authority from the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority to the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority to improve the alignment to the response of the International Olympic Committee's call for this games to have legacy projects around the state. However, I must remind people in this House that what the KAP sees as legacy projects for the state is not the same as that of the people who reside here in the south-east corner. We would not be talking about this if the KAP held the balance of power. After the last state election, we would be forcing the department in this first round not to be talking about the Olympic Games but talking about where are the dams. Why are we not building dams in this state? Where are the rail lines? Why does the Bruce Highway still have someone dying on it once a week while we are talking about having a party in Brisbane?

I am furious because I hold the seat of Hinchinbrook in North Queensland along with the rest of the seats have been forgotten for too long. Those seats have been forgotten for too long. The first piece of legislation to come before this House is to make sure that the authority that is set up to deliver a party for two weeks to this state is being run the way the new government wants to see it run. That is fine, if that is the priority of this government, but the priority of the KAP is to make sure there are legacy projects that generate wealth for this state for years to come. The opposition leader at the time, who is now the Premier of Queensland, would have known how much legacy we gained out of hosting the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast. Businesspeople on the Gold Coast reported people left the Gold Coast in droves. They left it in droves because they did not want to deal with the congestion. They did not want to deal with the extra people there. People spent millions of dollars preparing for those games and it was a failure. I was a tourism operator at the time in North Queensland and they were telling us to prepare for those games as the state was getting ready.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order, members! Sorry to interrupt you, member for Hinchinbrook, but there are too many interjections. I am struggling to hear at times.

Mr DAMETTO: Thank you very much for your protection, Mr Deputy Speaker. In preparation for the Commonwealth Games, as a tourism operator at the time, we were told of the riches that would flow north and the people that would stay on afterwards. Fortunately, I was elected as a member of parliament in 2017, but I had a chance to go back and talk to those tourism operators that I used to work hand in hand with and not one of them said they had an influx in Townsville of people visiting the north after the Commonwealth Games. They did not see the people heading north because the Commonwealth Games was set up in a way that it was trying to attract people to the South-East, just like this Olympic Games will. Yes, it will probably be really nice to have some pools and extra track and field events in North Queensland and maybe some schools will get some benefits from that, or even local sporting associations, but the fact is, as the KAP called for from the very start, if we are going to spend billions of dollars—at the time it was \$5 billion—put aside \$5 billion for regional infrastructure that will generate an income for this state for years to come.

Look back on the great people who built the state, the people in the Joh Bjelke-Petersen era, the giants that lifted this state up. They built the railway lines, they built the dams, they opened up the coal fields and they opened up ports across Queensland. We need to return to a time where we actually build things in this state so that in generations to come, we can look back and see the wealth they created. We should not be squandering the wealth; we need to take that on board.


I do give acknowledgement to the new authority. There is an appropriate number of members from regional Queensland which will be on that board to make sure it functions effectively. I wish them well. There is also a provision to make sure that there are legacy projects in regional Queensland from the games. Once again, I hope they do return some wealth to the regions, but we are not very convinced just yet. This bill also, as the member for Hill had described earlier, is an omnibus bill and there are things lumped together in this piece of legislation that do not really coincide with each other.

The other thing is the Path to Treaty and the fact that it is being scrapped with this legislative change. I must reflect on my time in the House during the regional sitting of the parliament in Cairns. Mr Deputy Speaker Lister, you were the Deputy Speaker at the time I was making my speech. I once again thank you for your protection, because I was one of the first people to speak against the bill. Both sides of the House joined together in chorus to support treaty. As the first member of the KAP to stand up and oppose the bill, I was shouted down in a disgusting way. There were interjections of 'racist' being yelled at us. Why? Because we had an alternative view on how we should be delivering things back to those Indigenous communities that need it most. Indigenous people in remote Indigenous communities in parts of the Traeger, Hill and Hinchinbrook electorates will say that they are being disadvantaged. Although telling their story may help, what would really help is trying to address the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the areas of youth justice and child safety, and to address child abuse and sexual abuse in remote Indigenous communities—things that people do not want to talk about. They want to talk about the past and not address current problems for the future.

In terms of unemployment, three times the member for Traeger has introduced his blue card bill to try to give people living in remote Indigenous communities an opportunity to access work through a blue card system that would work for them. In terms of negative health outcomes, the member for Hill talked about the wins we have had over the years. We need to see more of these wins. We need to make sure there are health services in remote Indigenous communities—not \$300 million spent on truth-telling. The expenditure of \$300 million on dialysis in remote Indigenous communities would extend the lives of people trying to live in community, not die in community. Adult incarceration needs to be addressed as well—finding ways to get people back on the straight and narrow, not going through the system seeing that as their only future.

While I was in Cairns I reflected on my opportunity in Townsville to actually sit—well, it was more of a truth circle than a committee hearing. It was quite interesting to see that play out. When the microphone was passed around the group—I hope those who are in government now listen to this—some people were a bit confused about what the truth-telling thing was all about but they said, 'We are having problems accessing our land. We're having problems accessing water. We're having problems getting permits and licences to set up our businesses.' As a whitefella sitting in that group I thought, 'Geez, I know a lot of non-Indigenous people in Australia who are having the same problems with the government.'

We need to open up opportunities for Indigenous people. We opposed the truth-telling inquiry and treaty from the very start. In my opinion, it is good to see that the LNP have done this, because I think it should never have been supported in the first place. I acknowledge that it was a backflip by the opposition at the time after 68 per cent of Queenslanders voted against the Voice referendum. I wish they had the courage to say that they were against truth-telling from the start, but it is good to see that they have landed with the rest of Queenslanders and have acknowledged that there are probably better ways to spend \$300 million when it comes to making sure that Indigenous Australians—particularly those who live in Queensland—live longer, have better opportunities and have an opportunity to participate.

 **Hon. SJ MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (Minister for Customer Services and Open Data and Minister for Small and Family Business) (9.52 pm): At the outset of my short contribution to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, I take the opportunity to congratulate all returning members. I would also like to acknowledge the inaugural speeches that we have heard today from members on both sides of the chamber. I always find them fascinating, and I congratulate all of the new members.

I was born in Brisbane and lived the early part of my childhood in Brisbane. I then spent several years as a kid in Mount Isa before coming back to Brisbane. Ostensibly, members take great pride in where they come from. I take great pride in being a Brisbanite. Before I get down to some of the detail in the bill that I would like to refer to, I remind members, from a Brisbane perspective, of three significant events that have occurred in my lifetime, culminating in the fourth one, which will be no surprise.

It might surprise some members but, growing up as a child in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the first is the implementation of sewerage in Brisbane. The second was in 1982 with the magnificent Commonwealth Games at QEII. We all thought we were so sophisticated when we had, effectively, a skeletal steel structure with papier-mache on the outside as an exoskeleton. When it looked at camera No. 2 and it winked, we thought we had made it as a city. We thought that was big-time, only to have it followed by the little joeys coming out of Matilda. The third big step along the path to what I call true cityhood occurred in 1988 with Expo 88. That was when, for the first time in many of our lives, we got to experience—

Mr Stevens: The chicken dance!

Mr MINNIKIN: I will take the interjection: the chicken dance, which the member for Mermaid Beach knows so well. We were also exposed to a la carte dining. This was the third big evolution in the ongoing drive to fully-fledged cityhood. As per the title of this bill, the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games will indeed, in the next eight years, put Brisbane well and truly on the world stage. This will continue the evolution of this great city. But it is more. We on this side of the chamber have made it very clear that it is of benefit to far more than just the state's capital. There will be an absolute desire to make sure that the benefits of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games will be spread throughout the entire state. People have heard the Deputy Premier talk about the exciting fund that will be unleashed to make sure that all of Queensland gets its fair share of decent sporting facilities.

I would like to talk about two aspects of the bill: the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games arrangements part as well as the Planning Act amendments in relation to state facilitated development. Going back to the Olympics, I will note some of the key elements that I picked up from reading the bill and the explanatory notes in preparing my brief contribution. First of all, the Queensland government committed to, within 30 days, appoint an independent infrastructure and coordination authority to conduct a thorough review and map out infrastructure and, most importantly, the transport needs for the Queensland games within 100 days. The bill's amendments to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act will result in, amongst many things, the name of the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority changing to the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority. There will be new functions and powers for the authority being added which relate to planning and assessing potential games related infrastructure, including part of the 100-day review. There will be clarification of the interim CEO's powers, functions and delegations.

I also note that an additional two directors will be able to be appointed to the authority's board, up to nine, and that there is a new requirement that the board have at least one regional representative. There is the removal of prescriptive nominal dates in key documents and agreements so that the authority—this is important—has flexibility in preparing and entering into arrangements as well as the removal of an unnecessary requirement for the authority to enter into a memorandum of understanding with games delivery partners. There is also clarification of when the president of the Brisbane 2032

Organising Committee may attend the authority's board meetings. Furthermore, the amendments to the BOPGA Act will allow for a board with regional representation to be appointed and ensure the authority will have the necessary powers, functions and delegations.

I can recall in the lead-up many years ago when I was swimming at the Carina pool in 1974 and 1975 there were lanes 7 and 8 and we would be threatened with death if we crossed into those two lanes. Whilst we ran out of puff swimming 100 or 200 metres, there was a gentleman by the name of Steve Holland who was training for the 1,500 metres in Montreal—

Mr Mander: The 'Super Fish'.

Mr MINNIKIN: I take that interjection. As a young—I would hardly call myself an athlete—swimmer, I was absolutely in awe that when you have the opportunity to see a true Olympian training, at a very young age you could see the amount of dedication that Olympians have to have. The least we can do as a state is provide every young girl and young boy with the opportunity to aspire to greatness. There is nothing greater than the ability to strive for success. What I love about the Olympics is it makes things crystal clear in society. There is a gold, a silver and a bronze and then there is try harder in the next four years. That is the way it is. That is why we need to make sure that the talk is over.

I listened carefully to earlier interjections from other speakers who were harping on. They were saying, 'Hold on. You were elected four weeks ago; 100 days is more of a talkfest.' Give us a break. Those opposite had 1,200 days to do something. They have achieved something on that side and are now the opposition; they have indeed achieved their own gold medal and that was the goodwill that was being generated when the announcement was first made. When it was first made there was a buzz. It was the vibe, as the member for Hervey Bay said in his inaugural speech. There was a real buzz going around Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, the regions—everywhere I went. However, due to a complete lack of activity month in, month out and year in, year out what has happened? The pulse, the mood of people, sadly has dived. I am not saying it has dived everywhere, but if you were to go outside of Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast and go into the regions, they generally wonder what is in it for them. That is something that those on that side should be absolutely shameful about.

There was a golden opportunity to start to tap into the marketing essentials, but no, what have they done? That is maybe just one of many reasons why as we come here today for the first real engagement, they are on that side of the chamber. It is funny, here we are now 10 or 11 hours into the day and some of them have not got the memo that they had their time, particularly when they had 1,200 days and what did we get? Doughnuts and absolute zero. Yes, we have requested 100 days to get this back on track, and we will do just that. However, we will not only give certainty to the people of Queensland. Coming from a development background, I say we will give a clear check mark in terms of business confidence, decision-making confidence, that many of those on the other side who have not come from the private sector would fail to grasp. We will get the Olympics back on track and as my colleagues said earlier, we will make this an Olympic Games that will make every single Queensland proud.


In the remaining few minutes of my contribution I would like to talk about another issue dear to my heart and that is in relation to the state facilitated development that is part of this omnibus bill. It did not come as a complete surprise that only a few weeks before we went into the pre-poll and the hurly-burly of the campaign people in my electorate of Chatsworth were outraged about a proposed development at Dianthus Street and New Cleveland Road at Wakerley. We made it very clear with our language for months and months that we know there needs to be more affordable housing and we fully support more affordable housing in every electorate, mine included. What the residents of Wakerley in my electorate of Chatsworth took absolute objection to was the fact that this happened under the cover of darkness—if you want to talk about openness and accountability, here we go. This was something that was almost like a call-in under the SFD arrangements—and 48 units is completely overcooked. You do not need to be a town planning expert to realise if you have a parcel of land and propose to build 48 units directly opposite Gumdale State School with no consultation whatsoever, from a planning perspective that would be a complete disaster.

Let me be very clear. I had a meeting only a couple of weeks before the election. It was probably attended by just under 100 residents. They were outraged that when they went online to see what the project actually involved it literally was a blank A0 PDF; there was nothing to show for it. It was an absolute travesty and a joke, just a complete smoke and mirrors exercise. How can we give meaningful feedback when all we are seeing is a white sheet of paper? It is an absolute joke. That may be—ding—another reason why as we sit on this side today, those opposite are sitting over there. It was sneaky,

mean and tricky. It does not matter whether it be the full scale of developments proposed for Hamilton, Noosa or the Gold Coast; this one was just the tip of the iceberg and it showed a complete lack of accountability and trustworthiness.

On behalf of the people who live in the Wakerley area I am totally supportive of the need for these amendments to pass to give the minister the ability to make a decision one way or the other. I would hope there will still be—and I have had discussions with the local councillor; he, too, believes there needs to be—sensible, affordable housing on that site, but 48 units or thereabouts is totally and absolutely overcooked.

At the end of the day in the overall scheme of things the couple of things I have raised are just two microcosmic examples of the reason why we sat on that side of the chamber and had to reflect every day for nine years when we made mistakes in the past. We paid the price, but here is the memo: so did the members on that side. When we analyse their body language and their tone and after listening to their contributions today, we know that many of them simply have not learnt one single thing. One thing is for sure, we will ensure we do not use the typical, 'You've got six months and one day and then the honeymoon's over, so what have you done?' We are going to prosecute every single day when we get the opportunity to point out to Queenslanders what went wrong and then offer a positive solution. We will not just harp on for the sake of it. We will absolutely prosecute the reason why we are doing what we are going to do. Having had the privilege of being a minister for only four weeks, I love the fact that already we have a leadership team and a leadership group and when they say they are going to do something, they do it.

 **Ms GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (10.07 pm): I am hearing a lot of arrogance and hubris in this chamber tonight. Yes, we have had an election and there has been a change in the government which, I might add, went very smoothly. In this House we should all be proud of the manner in which Queensland was able to do that. However, at the end of the day we do not throw away good practices simply because we won an election. There has been a lot of talk opposite and it is very obvious—and it was very obvious during the campaign as well—that there is very little detail about any of the slogans or any of the issues brought forward by those opposite. They have come in here today on the first day of the 58th Parliament, of which I am very proud to be part, and the first thing they do is espouse that all of that which was tabled earlier this morning is urgent and requires debate straightaway. We on this side of the House do not accept that. It demonstrates the arrogance and the hubris that is already on display in the leadership of those opposite.

On 19 November two workers were seriously injured at a workplace in Newstead in my electorate. Unfortunately, Mr Stevens passed away earlier this week from his work related injuries. The death of any worker is a tragedy and I express my deepest condolences to Mr Stevens's family and friends. I understand that Mr Stevens and his workmates had been working in torrential rain. Anyone around Brisbane would remember that around that time we experienced very high rainfall. When he sustained his fatal injury, those workers were working in torrential rain. While I will not pre-empt the important work of Workplace Health and Safety Queensland, his injury and subsequent death underscores how important our workplace health and safety laws are and why unions are so important for keeping workers safe, particularly workers working in extreme weather such as torrential rain. At the recent march we saw the parents and friends of a worker who lost their life when those opposite were in government in 2013 after working in extreme heat. These are real fatalities.

We can be very sorry for those workers and for others who lose their lives in tragedy, but this happens on our worksites far too often. If those ultracrepidarians opposite want to talk about lost productivity on workplaces, let me tell them when lost productivity is at its highest. I drive past that worksite in Newstead every single day to go home and it has not been operational since that workplace fatality. That is when you lose productivity. The ultracrepidarians on the other side have every opinion on concrete pours but have never been anywhere near any of them I bet or never been anywhere near any construction site. You lose productivity when workers lose their lives. These changes that are being rammed through tonight at the dead of midnight do nothing to improve health and safety in this state. I challenge any member opposite to get up on their feet and say that these changes will make workplaces safer, because not one of them would be able to do it with a straight face.

This is deeply concerning for every worker because those opposite have tried to frame this under the CFMEU attack, bash or whatever. I can understand why they want to use that politically. We took the action that we needed to address that when we were in government. However, with this bill the Deputy Premier is signalling that every worker in this state will have their rights reduced—every worker. This is not just about the CFMEU. It will strip away the rights about not providing notice and he will ram it through tonight and this will affect every workplace and every worker in Queensland. It is incorrect to

say that it just affects the CFMEU. Rather, every single worker in our hospitals and schools, our firefighters and those in manufacturing, retail and hospitality will be 10 years behind. The last time those opposite did this was when the Newman government was in power, so here we go again with this as the very first thing they want to change when there is not even the ability to debate this and to look at this legislation, because there are some other issues that I want to raise in this legislation after the quick cursory look I have had. This legislation will put us 10 years behind with health and safety in the workplace and make no mistake that it is out of step with the rest of Australia.

There is also this inability to understand that 24 hours notice under the Fair Work Act is about entering a workplace to inspect books or to enter a workplace to talk to members maybe about bargaining, maybe about treatment or maybe about issues to do with industrial relations. The rights under health and safety come under the state laws, so those opposite do not even understand that there is a big difference in terms of 24 hours notice for a union official to do a wages and records check. After 24 hours the books are there and you do the check to see if people are paid well. That is a bit different to someone whose health and safety is in jeopardy—bit different—so there is a big difference between the two and those opposite do not even understand that. The model workplace health and safety laws and the laws of most jurisdictions do not have this requirement because it is counterproductive. It has been found time and time again to be counterproductive. During the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill debate earlier in the year, a bill which I introduced as minister, I quoted what Craig Dearing from Master Builders said. He said—

Good PCBU—

persons in control of a business or undertaking—

will work closely with their workers to understand what the safety issues are.

That is true. That is why when health and safety workers cease work under section 85(1) they give the notice to the PCBU to issue the worker to stop and cease the work but only after, under subsection (2), they have had discussions with that PCBU. It is incredible that—and I have read all of this now and I think I have this right, but of course we cannot scrutinise this; we cannot even be briefed on this—those opposite have removed the ability for an employer to cease a worker working in their worksite without the rep giving the directive. They have taken away the right of the person in control of a business or undertaking to actually cease the work of a worker based upon a notice after consultation. They go even further because the worker rep does not have to always go to the PCBU to cease the work. Under subsection (3), they can do it if there is real imminent risk. However, they do not have to do that—they can go straight in—but obviously they then have to provide the employer—the PCBU—with the necessary written notice and display it et cetera. All of the safeguards are there. Those opposite are now removing even the ability for the employer—the PCBU. Sections (7) and (8) are being omitted from the legislation. In my reading of the legislation, they have removed the PCBU's ability to cease the work of a worker that they employ. In other words, if they have to cease the worker—and it is not available in this legislation—they could be prosecuted for forced industrial action. I would love to be able to prosecute this a little bit more if given the time, yet I do not understand why this is so urgent. Why is it so urgent? Where is the explanation about the urgency to do this to make our workplaces less safe?

I now want to move to the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority, which is the current legacy authority. It is interesting that those opposite all get up and talk about legacy, yet what is the first thing they do? The first thing they do is remove 'legacy' out of the title. I cannot fathom that. It is all about legacy and transport throughout the whole state. The member for Moggill talked about legacy, as did the member for Everton. They all talked about legacy, yet the first thing they do is remove it from the title. I find this quite amusing because at the end of the day they are going to establish an authority called the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, yet it is not going to be very independent. They are increasing it by two to nine. They are only going to still have one from the regions. I was hoping to have more and I would have liked to have moved an amendment to have at least three from the regions. If there are nine, let us move an amendment to have three of them from the regions. If those opposite are so willing to have regional people, let us have more than nine.


The bill removes the ability for delivery partners, government representatives, as well as Olympic and Paralympic bodies to be a panel to appoint the board. It will be appointed by the minister alone. How independent will this be? Will it be completely appointed by the delivery authority?

The worst part of this bill is, as the *Courier-Mail* reported, the heartless and destructive decision to repeal the Path to Treaty Act 2023. The minister cannot explain why this is urgent. It was kept under wraps from First Nations people, this parliament and media scrutiny. It is a disgrace. People can talk a

lot of talk but actions speak louder than words. It is a slap in the face to First Nations representatives that in the three or four weeks since the election the minister and the Premier could not find time to meet any one of them. Shame on the government of the day. It does nothing to nurture trust and respect. There is no doubt that what we are debating tonight is process, dignity and respect. In Cairns those opposite got up and said they were all for it, they were all going to vote for it, because they wanted to win a seat in Cairns. What does the Premier stand for? Who is actually in charge in this House?

The first piece of legislation by the minister, the member for Kawana, gets up and it is urgent and there is no explanation. We really need to have a look at what is in here. Those opposite cannot give one reason why it is urgent and yet at the stroke of midnight we will be voting on legislation that has major implications for workers, First Nations people, the Olympic and Paralympic Games, affordable housing—for everything that we need to do in the state. This is about transparency and integrity.

It is interesting that the minister, the member for Maroochydore, was the shadow minister for integrity. I do not see much integrity in here tonight. This is about the ability to properly scrutinise legislation and not interpreting winning government as being a green light to do whatever they want and for the government to say, 'We mentioned that during the campaign. We do not need scrutiny. We are now in charge. We are on this side of the House, you are over there—cop it.' We will hold the government to account every single day. Shame on the Premier and the ministers responsible for this legislation to put the new members in this House in the position where they are voting for a piece of legislation without proper scrutiny. They can blame their leaders for putting that to them. If it was to be done properly it should have been scrutinised. I can almost accept the Olympic and Paralympic Games changes being urgent, but the rest is absolute fabrication by the Premier and the ministers who now form this government. Shame on them!

 **Hon. BA MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.22 pm): This being the first time I have risen in this parliament, I congratulate all returning members and new members for the exceptional speeches we have heard so far today and I am sure the many more to come. In particular I congratulate the Speaker, a man who I call my friend—a man of integrity, a man of capacity—who I am sure will do an exceptional job as Speaker. He guided Battie and I through our first three years on committees. We were a bit of a handful. He did a good job of that. I am sure he will do a similarly capable job in guiding the parliament over the next four years.

I rise to speak to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. I will start my contribution by focusing on the Olympics related aspects of this legislation. As the public are aware, the Crisafulli government has committed to appoint an independent infrastructure and coordination authority to conduct a review and to map out the venue infrastructure and transport needs for Queensland and the games and report in 100 days. We did that because in the last 1,226 days since Queensland was awarded the games, nothing has been achieved other than chaos and crisis.

First the Labor government committed to rebuilding the Gabba at a cost of a billion dollars—a billion dollars that the Auditor-General said was made up in a press release. That was, according to the government, a made-up figure and it quickly grew to \$2.7 billion. Then the then premier Miles, sensing that Queenslanders had turned against the games, needed a quick circuit breaker so Graham Quirk was appointed to do an independent review and he came up with a plan B. When then premier Miles and Labor found out that plan B was going to be a new stadium, a stadium that they knew would be hated by most Queenslanders who were suffering in the middle of a housing crisis of Labor's making, they came up with a plan C—QSAC. Wasn't that an ordinary idea?

Just about every single stakeholder has been critical of the cost of that proposal, which was also announced without any proper analysis, just like the Gabba. It would be \$1.6 billion for a largely temporary venue with very little legacy for Queenslanders. Even Buderim local and Queensland Olympic legend Raelene Boyle, who won a gold and a silver at the 1982 Commonwealth Games at what was then QEII, what is now QSAC—I was one at the time—thinks that QSAC is not up to the job, despite the fact that Raelene recognises that QEII was up to the job in 1982. Raelene said in media—

The QSAC Stadium is very appropriate for the Commonwealth Games—it is not certainly appropriate for the Olympics ... Too small. Too insignificant. The athletics stadium is the centrepiece of the games. You need to be able to do a respectable job for the athletes around the world.

Those are Raelene's words, not mine.

QSAC was chosen because of political expediency. It was chosen without any consideration of the transport needs. It has no heavy rail station anywhere near it. The nearest heavy rail station is 2½ kilometres away from QSAC. As a consequence there would have been a reliance on shuttle buses for

events. How many buses do we reckon that would have taken? I have been told by the department that the initial evaluation showed that they would need a fleet of between 276 and 370 buses. That equates to a line-up of buses 4½ kilometres long—a 4½ kilometre bus traffic jam just for QSAC. Two bus hubs would also be required to support spectator access, one to the east and one to the west of the venue and that is due to the space constraints that exist and in order to facilitate efficient operations. Those hubs in Griffith University and at Nissan Arena that is adjacent would require new permanent or temporary bus loading infrastructure to support safe passenger movements. There would also be limited legacy benefit from that infrastructure.

At least three temporary event park-and-ride facilities would also need to be established to service QSAC. Those facilities would then also be serviced by shuttle buses. Temporary modifications and intensive crowd management would be required at public transport hubs, including at the train station, at Garden City and at Griffith University busway stations just to support the games operations. Games operations would necessitate significant traffic management around the stadium, including a full or partial closure of Kessels and Mains roads, two major thoroughfares in that part of the world. That would cause significant disruption to the local community and the broader road network. This significant impact on the local traffic network has never been disclosed to the residents of Macgregor or Nathan or other nearby suburbs prior to the election. I would suggest that this debate might be an opportunity for the member for Toohey to clarify if he knew about these significant local impacts. Did he know or did he choose not to tell his constituents, or was he kept in the dark by the then minister for transport and main roads, the member for Aspley? QSAC is an example of what happens when you do not plan properly.

The good news is that with the passing of this bill the chaos and crisis will end. This bill marks a fresh start for the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games. We are going to assemble a group of experts who will investigate all of the options. They will consider the needs of the community. They will consider not only the transport needs for the games but also the transport needs for Queenslanders in years to come. I can advise that the Department of Transport and Main Roads stands ready to assist the new body in their considerations. For this government, transport will not be an afterthought; it will be an integral part of the deliberations. So too will local sporting infrastructure be a priority for this review. We need to see a legacy of local sporting infrastructure.

Groups such as the Sunshine Coast Hockey Association and the Buderim Wanderers Football Club stand ready to support the review to deliver both infrastructure to assist the games and a lasting benefit for my community, and to provide for grassroots engagement into the future. That is what should have happened 1,226 days ago when we won the games. Rather than the petty politicking, the back and forth, the glitz and the glamour, we should have had a calm and considered approach to planning and executing the plan for the games.

I now turn to the parts of the bill that relate to industrial relations matters. Queensland is a growing state with a growing need for infrastructure. We need better roads, better rail, more bikeways and more homes. That infrastructure can only be delivered if we have an efficient and productive construction sector. The LNP wants all workers to be safe. We want all workers to be well paid. The Crisafulli government is committed to driving productivity on work sites for Queensland workers as well. I note that the re-establishment of the Productivity Commission is currently a matter before the House as a part of the government's agenda to get productivity back where it needs to be. The passage of this bill and the subsequent investigations will take time. However, we also know about the devastating impact of the CFMEU tax and how that is affecting productivity. That is why this government has taken decisive action to suspend the industrial relations elements of BPIC.

This legislation seeks to deal with the weaponisation of workplace health and safety by the CFMEU. This is about the actions of the CFMEU. The actions of the CFMEU in weaponising worker safety have been all about increasing their power. I noted with interest that the member for McConnell gave the example of a tragedy that occurred in recent works when two workers were injured at Newstead. All members of this House would agree that that was a tragedy and that the death of any worker is unacceptable. It is something that all members would abhor. Therefore, anything we can do to ensure that workers are safe on site must be considered. However, I feel the member for McConnell was being disingenuous with her example. I draw her attention to page 4 of the explanatory notes in relation to the notice-of-entry requirements for WHS entry permit holders. It states—

An exception is included so that this notice requirement does not apply in circumstances where a worker is exposed to a serious risk to their health and safety, emanating from an immediate or imminent exposure to a hazard. This exception will ensure there is still an appropriate mechanism to enable WHS entry permit holders to enter a workplace without delay where there is a serious risk to workers which requires urgent attendance.

I do not know the finer detail of that individual incident, and neither does the member for McConnel, but I would contend that there was an imminent threat that could have been addressed under the provisions that exist in the proposed amendments. That is what this is about. It is about ensuring workers' rights while restoring productivity and stopping the CFMEU from weaponising provisions that were implemented by a weak Labor government and a weak premier who was installed by the CFMEU. That is why we are here today.

Look at the flags outside. Look at the graffiti. Look at the conduct of the CFMEU and the ETU outside the parliament yesterday. The CFMEU think they own construction sites. They say when the next concrete pour happens. They say who enters sites and who does not. They get to say which subbies get contracts and which do not. It stops now.

Just last week we read reports of the Cross River Rail Woolloongabba site being shut down due to the actions of CFMEU officials who turned up on site unannounced. The police were called, but not before the CFMEU officials delayed a critical crane lift for the station structure. The cynic in me thinks that could be linked to the fact that the CFMEU are currently in EBA negotiations with the main contractor on Cross River Rail and that perhaps they were trying to be deliberately disruptive. Ultimately, that will be for the courts to judge.


Ultimately, site safety is the responsibility of the primary contractor, yet right now they are unable to stop union officials coming onsite, without warning or notice, to bully and intimidate their staff. A couple of weeks ago I visited the bridge project on the Centenary Motorway and I spoke to workers onsite. I note that the member for Moggill was also onsite. The workers told me they feel threatened by the CFMEU. The CFMEU were coming over the fence. They have had to employ security guards and install CCTV cameras at considerable cost because the CFMEU are seeking to bully and intimidate workers.

This is about protecting worker safety. Psychological safety onsite is just as important as workers' physical safety, yet time and time again those opposite have chosen to ignore the actions of the CFMEU and militant unions. No-one denies that unions play an important role in the workplace. I certainly do not deny that. I accept that reasonable unions that want to conduct themselves in accordance with the law and in the interests of their members play an important role. However, that is not what the CFMEU does and this government will not stand for it.

Requiring unions to provide a 24-hour notice of entry will allow primary contractors to ensure that staff can be appropriately supported during visits from aggressive unions such as the CFMEU and protect them from the psychological harm that they are often forced to endure. WHS entry permit holders will still be able to immediately enter a workplace without prior notice, as I identified earlier, in circumstances where there is a serious risk to health and safety. This is about installing a balanced approach that ensures that a respectful dialogue can occur between unions representing workers, the workers themselves and site managers and that serious and immediate safety issues can be dealt with.

This bill also removes provisions that would have allowed photos and videos of workers to be taken without consent and potentially misused. I am sure we have all heard the stories of onsite managers having their kids filmed as they go to school by militant unions wanting to make a point. While this bill does not address those matters, it demonstrates how photos and videos can be weaponised by those who seek to do harm. Imagine you are a site manager who prides himself on the way he maintains safety onsite. Suddenly, a video from your site emerges on social media. It is taken out of context and presented in a way that attacks your professionalism. Under Labor's laws, that would have been a common occurrence.

There is only one enforcer of workplace health and safety in Queensland and it is not the CFMEU. The Office of Industrial Relations is the enforcer of workplace health and safety. Unlike those opposite, we do not believe that the Office of Industrial Relations should be a wing of the CFMEU. Anyone who does the wrong thing onsite should be prosecuted with the full force of the law. The Office of Industrial Relations will follow due process. They will gather evidence in the appropriate way. We will not allow workplaces or workplace safety to be politicised by militant unions such as the CFMEU. We will not sell out workers for political gain, as the former premier did when the CFMEU installed him. This LNP government will choose workers over the CFMEU. This LNP government will fight for workers—unlike the Labor Party, which abandoned their roots years ago.

 **Mr BERKMAN** (Maiwar—Grn) (10.37 pm): I rise to make my contribution on the omnibus bill. I have to confess at the outset that I am a little horrified to have to speak on this legislation and I do so as my first speech of the 58th Parliament with a sense of almost morbid disbelief that this will be the first act of an LNP government. I am especially horrified that, despite every opposition member at the

time having supported the passage of the Path to Treaty Bill, they are now so eager to undo the progress we have made that we are expected to pass this repeal bill in a single day, without any opportunity for the parliament to hear directly from First Nations communities or the broader community. That is not to say that First Nations communities and leaders have not fought tooth and nail to make their voices heard because they have. However, this LNP government is actively shutting down Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices at every opportunity.

Exhibit A is the way they have absolutely trashed process to smash this bill through in a day. I understand that there is probably a much longer history than I am aware of where either side try to justify their own procedural excesses on the basis of what the other party did before, but this is a whole new level. This is literally their first act. We have four more years to see just how low they are prepared to stoop and trash this institution which they purport to respect so deeply. What a crock.

That approach, though, is perfectly consistent with the intent of this bill, which is to shut down the path to treaty, shut down the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry and shut down the First Nations Treaty Institute. Others have made the point in this debate, but it bears repeating: if this legislation itself were not disrespectful enough, both in its substance and in the way it is being smashed through parliament, let's take a moment to note that the bill was introduced with no notice to the chair of the inquiry. The minister could not even pick up the phone. Not only that, it has been introduced and will be passed on the same day that some of our brightest young Indigenous youth leaders are here for the Eric Deeral Youth Parliament. It is disgraceful.

It is such a disgraceful message to those young leaders of tomorrow and such disgusting respect for the chair and the other staff of the inquiry and the institute. They are just the people that this bill directly touches. I want to take a moment to quote the chair of the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry, Joshua Creamer, who said—

The Crisafulli government might like to think it can stop the truth from being told but the truth of their disrespect towards Queensland's First Nations Peoples and communities cannot be hidden.

It is in plain view for everyone to see. Let's be clear, though—the LNP cannot and will not silence First Nations peoples and communities who are expert storytellers. Storytelling is so deeply embedded in Indigenous culture that the government cannot possibly expect that they are going to wipe it away with this one repealed bill. No matter how hard they try, they cannot stop the tide of truth.

As dire as this is, I think we should take some hope, some consolation from the communities and independent institutions that are maintaining their own truth-telling forums. Nonetheless, this is an enormous blow. It is an extraordinary lost opportunity, especially to hear from elders who have lived through the White Australia policy and struggled for justice. Theirs are the stories that we need to hear if we are to understand the way our current policies perpetuate those injustices.

I took a moment earlier today to just reflect on the first actions of the Newman government. My colleagues in the office of climate change and I were understandably more focused on the canning of the office of climate change. They shut that down overnight. The now environment minister, who was the then environment minister, put on the public record at the time that he was not in fact convinced that humans were having an impact on the changing climate, but that is by the by. I think their first act in government was to can the Queensland Premier's literary awards. In reading through one of those articles, I read some comments from Uncle Sam Watson when he was commenting about the cutting of the Unaipon Award for unpublished Indigenous writers. It really hit me in the guts to read those words from Uncle Sam and to reflect on the fact that, 12 short years later—

Dr ROWAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My point of order relates to unparliamentary language. We have discussed that before. I ask that the member for Maiwar withdraw that.

Mr Power interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): I will take some advice. Member for Logan, I do not need your assistance or commentary while I am taking advice. Member for Maiwar, the terminology you used has previously been considered as unparliamentary language. I would caution you, please, to refrain from using similar language in the remainder of your contribution.

Mr BERKMAN: Certainly. I felt a really visceral reaction not just remembering Uncle Sam and the powerful activist and advocate he was but also reflecting on the fact that he is not with us. Even if this inquiry were to go ahead, we have lost the benefit of his experience as a fighter. It lands on me because of all of the conversations I have had with other elders and heard them express the pain and anguish they feel about the fact that they have lost so many of their old people while there is so much unfinished business left to deal with.

Every year that this government is prepared to backslide on First Nations justice and pull off disgraceful moves like shutting down this inquiry is another year that we lose those stories, we lose that history. How many old people must we lose before we get the chance to hear their stories? The inquiry is established. It is on foot. There is nothing lost by allowing it to continue—yet this cruel, despicable move is going to cut it short for no reason.

Truth-telling is not in and of itself divisive. Sure, it is uncomfortable. It is supposed to be. It is inevitably going to be uncomfortable, given the dark, violent and racist parts of our colonial history here in Queensland. But what does cause division is the denial and the perpetuation of that injustice, the intergenerational trauma and the disadvantage. That is what causes division in communities.

With the repeal of the Path to Treaty Act, the LNP has denied us the opportunity for as many Queenslanders as possible to tell the truth and to hear the truth. The LNP has denied us as a community the opportunity to learn, to show respect for those stories and to recognise what we can learn from First Nations peoples and cultures, and our own history as a state, so that we can do better. It is not about making anyone feel bad. It is not about division. It is about learning so that we can do better. In a time of such deep and worsening environmental and social crises, we should be listening to, respecting and learning from the wisdom of First Nations leaders.

The LNP have been explicit—they do not want to hear from First Nations people. They only want to tell them what is good for them. This is the same disgusting paternalistic attitude that underpinned the barbaric policies of assimilation and child stealing and policies that led to mass stolen wages and excessive control over Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's lives.

The minister spoke before, and countless other members have spoken, about how they want to redirect the treaty funding into other programs, as if we cannot possibly fund a truth-telling and healing inquiry at the same time as funding other practical and measurable initiatives to close the gap. What utter tosh! I have never heard a bigger load of rubbish in here, or are they really that lacking in vision and that hopeless that they do not think we can do two things at once? It is rubbish and it is nothing more than a false justification for this government to blithely pursue its racist agenda.


What does one say about our new Premier's disgracefully two-faced approach to this whole issue? Decency and respect—I have never seen anything more lacking in decency and respect than his approach to this, the confected sincerity on the debate of this bill. This man either has no principles that he is prepared to stand by and talks out both sides of his face or is just weak as water and is going to capitulate to the racist directions coming down from Peter Dutton and the federal party.

We have to be clear-eyed about the fact that both the federal party and the state party are pretending that the Voice referendum and the outcome are somehow a proxy vote for supporting whatever racist policy they want to push through. They are not. It was a discrete question and it was blown up out of all proportion by divisive misinformation and disinformation. To use that outcome now as the thin end of the wedge for this kind of disgraceful racist policy is beyond the pale.

No-one in this chamber can plead ignorance to the profound impacts of colonisation on First Nations people and the profound and enduring consequences of government policies that continue to deny the rights of First Nations people and communities. They would plainly rather that no-one talk about it so that they can keep using young First Nations kids as political footballs instead of affording them the safety and wellbeing they deserve so that we can have real, enduring community cohesion and safety for all.

I have not even touched on the work health and safety changes. I will keep my comments brief. It should be so plain to everyone here that the reintroduction of notice periods for entry into a workplace can only make workplaces less safe. There is no other way to interpret it. It will make workplaces less safe and it will cost lives, and none of us here is going to take any pleasure in the hand-wringing over that side when we see those consequences play out.

The first act of this 58th Parliament is an absolute stain on the institution. It is a stain on this party. Each and every one of them deserves to feel ashamed that this is their first act in government. It is absolutely disgraceful, and the new Premier is not even here to watch it all happen. I withdraw. One would not want to be found to fall foul of standing orders. My apologies, Mr Deputy Speaker. I will leave it there.

 **Hon. RM BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training) (10.51 pm): I rise to tonight to speak to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. The bill will implement a number of commitments that the Crisafulli LNP government took to the Queensland people on 26 October—part of our mandate that the

Queensland people endorsed. The elements of this bill will deliver on the LNP government's Right Plan for Queensland's Future. The LNP government will respect taxpayers' money, deliver a place to call home through better planning and cooperation with local governments and local communities, and drive government to work for Queenslanders.

These principles represent a fresh start after the chaos and crisis of the former Palaszczuk-Miles Labor government—their repeated budget blowouts, their failures on housing and their secrecy and cover-ups. The bill will end Labor's Olympic and Paralympic Games chaos with the establishment of the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, delivering on our commitment to appoint the authority within our first month of government.

The independent authority was part of the original Olympic and Paralympic Games bid. Like everything else during their time in office, Labor walked away from delivering on that commitment. The independent authority will consider all infrastructure and venue requirements for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, including transport requirements, legacy and benefits for all Queenslanders. The LNP government will end Labor's over 1,200 days of chaos, with the independent authority to report within 100 days.

Under the Miles Labor government, Queensland would be spending \$1.6 billion on the temporary facilities that would not be value for money or deliver legacy infrastructure. We have seen Labor's cost blowouts for three of the smaller venues of more than \$180 million. Then there is another Labor blowout of \$500 million on the plans for the Brisbane Arena. In stark contrast, under the LNP government, through the independent authority's 100-day review, the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be a world-class event that delivers a lasting legacy for Queensland and generational infrastructure across our state, on time and on budget.

As we have already seen, Labor's budget blowouts and mismanagement have not just affected the Olympic and Paralympic Games. We have seen Labor's Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro hoax, which Labor originally said would cost \$12 billion but, in fact, would have cost Queenslanders \$36 billion. We have seen over \$6 billion on Labor's unfunded expanded hospital expansions across projects that have commenced and contracts that have yet to be awarded.

Mr de BRENNI: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker, in relation to relevance. The member is straying well outside the long title of the bill and matters contained in the amendments in the bill and I would ask you to draw her back to the detail of these particular amendments.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): I have heard your point of order. As it turns out, Manager of Opposition Business, I was seeking advice from the clerk at the table at the very moment you raised your point of order, so I apologise that I did not hear exactly what the member for Mudgeeraba was saying. However, I will, in that context, give advice to the member for Mudgeeraba to remain relevant to the long title of the bill. We will be listening carefully from here on in to make sure that is the case.

Ms BATES: This is the record of the Miles Labor government and the member for Woodridge when he was treasurer when it comes to disrespecting hardworking Queensland taxpayers. How could the member for Woodridge—the former shareholding minister for Powerlink—not have known the true \$9 billion cost while he was saying publicly in August—

Mr de BRENNI: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I assume it is the same point of order you are making on relevance?

Mr de BRENNI: Standing order 236 is quite clear. I understand the latitude that you gave to the member previously. I think she ignored that opportunity that you gave her deliberately.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: You do not need to make that accusation or reflection, Manager of Opposition Business. I will take some advice. Member for Mudgeeraba, having taken some advice, I would ask that you please return to the long title of the bill and the elements of the bill.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Waterford, your interjection is not required and is disorderly given that I have—

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: As is yours, member for Pine Rivers. I am still giving a ruling. You are warned, as are you, member for Waterford, for interrupting me while I am giving a ruling. Member for Mudgeeraba, please remain relevant to the bill and any amendments that have been foreshadowed.

Ms BATES: Unlike Labor, the Crisafulli LNP government will respect taxpayers' money and deliver our commitments on time and on budget. Much of the problem with blowouts we have seen under Labor can be boiled down to one thing: their cosy sweetheart deals with the CFMEU. The LNP government supports good pay and conditions and safe workplaces for all Queenslanders, but we will not allow the CFMEU to push up the costs of infrastructure, housing, road and rail. We have paused the best practice industry conditions, the BPICs, on new government funded construction projects to boost productivity, ending Labor's CFMEU tax.

Mr de BRENNI: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker, in relation to standing order 236 and relevance and the tedious approach the minister is taking to this. I acknowledge that, on a number of occasions, you have sought to bring her back to the detail of the bill. I think there is a point at which a line ought to be drawn, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Dr ROWAN: I rise to a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker, in relation to standing order 236. The member for Mudgeeraba is making a contribution which is referencing the CFMEU and the elements in relation to industrial relations. I put forward that point. While I am making my point of order, I would also reference that the member for Waterford has interjected in relation to the point of order.


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take some advice. Member for Mudgeeraba, I consider that you are being broadly relevant to the bill and its overall context. Member for Waterford, would you please withdraw and apologise for your outburst during the point of order.

Ms FENTIMAN: I withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Waterford, for aiding the House.

Ms BATES: We will restore productivity to building sites through the restoration of the Productivity Commission by the end of this year, with its first order of business to be a regulatory review into the building industry. The bill will also put an end to the CFMEU's cultural practice of bullying and intimidation on Queensland worksites by reinstating at least 24 hours notice before work health and safety entry permit holders can enter a workplace.

The LNP government will strengthen our Public Service so that we can deliver the programs and services that Queenslanders need in urban, regional, rural and remote areas. This is the fresh start that Queenslanders voted for on 26 October. The LNP government will continue to deliver the right plan to deliver a fresh start. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Ms FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (10.59 pm): Today is a sad day for Queensland. It is a sad day for Queensland because it is a stark indication of what is to come over the next four years. The Premier has today decided to rush through a bill that strips workers of their rights and axes the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry with no consultation, with no respect and certainly with no decency. We should not be surprised when it comes to the LNP stripping away workers' rights and ensuring that there is no transparency and consultation with the community. The rights of workers and the rights of First Nations Queenslanders have never mattered to the LNP and they have never mattered to this Premier.

There has still not been throughout the course of what is a very short, rushed debate any explanation for why this bill is urgent. Not one member of the government has stood in this place and explained why this bill was urgent. There is still absolutely no rationale for why this is urgent. When asked what the biggest lesson the Premier had taken away from his time in the Newman government, he said, 'The biggest lesson is that you've got to treat people with compassion.' I would argue that the introduction of this bill in this manner not only illustrates that the Premier has learnt absolutely nothing but also indicates that his time in power will be more like his predecessor's than he would like to admit. Welcome to Newman 2.0.

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Silence.

Ms FENTIMAN: Treating people with compassion means including them in the conversation, but that is not a right that has been afforded to workers. It is not a right that has been afforded to First Nations Queenslanders. This bill is a testament to the Premier's true character. The Premier has used his first day of parliament to trash his own word and to take healing opportunities away from First Nations people by scrapping the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry.

When the Premier, David Crisafulli, said that this matter would be handled with respect and dignity, he has clearly misled the people of Queensland. He has clearly misled the members of the inquiry. He has misled First Nations people. He has misled elders and traditional owners. He has misled the entire Queensland community.

The Premier said he did not want to make this a divisive issue. He said he did not want to cause angst, yet his actions would indicate the exact opposite. To push through a piece of legislation in one day in a five minutes to midnight session on the very first day not only is unprecedented but also goes against the very parliamentary process that the Premier and his government chose to lecture others on during their time in opposition.

There is no respect and there is no decency in any of this. Not only that, but the LNP have decided to do this whilst the Eric Deeral Indigenous Youth Parliament members are here sitting in this place. It is a disgrace, and my heart is with those young people who have had to bear witness to a shameful display of disrespect and disregard. Just this afternoon I had the opportunity to speak with Ngara, one of the wonderful Indigenous Youth Parliament members, who shared her pain with me over the introduction of this legislation in this manner. She is not alone in her pain. We will stand with her and with all first peoples in solidarity against this harmful and divisive bill.

The Premier said in his own words that 'we need to do more for Indigenous communities', yet he seemingly cannot afford First Nations elders the opportunity to speak or appear before a parliamentary committee on this important matter before it is rushed through the parliament. 'We need to do more for Indigenous communities', he said, but he could not even pick up the phone to Joshua Creamer, the chair of the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry, to offer him the respect and decency of a conversation before announcing his plans to the media. Mr Creamer said today, 'They strung us along, suggesting that they were undertaking getting advice and that we were going to meet after they received that advice, but they introduced this bill. They sneaked it through the back door.' I am deeply ashamed that our state's new leader can be so disrespectful and manipulative about something as important and as critical as this.

Just today at the front gates of Parliament House there was a Red Rose Rally to honour those whose lives had been claimed by family and domestic violence. We listened to Aunty Edwina, a proud First Nations elder, who shared her story with us and the goals of her organisation, Strong Women Talking. Members of this House stood there and listened to Aunty Edwina as she talked about how First Nations women are disproportionately affected by family and domestic violence, amongst many other issues—the result of systemic failures that have left them disadvantaged and unrepresented. How can we expect to close the gap if we are not prepared to even listen to the stories of those like Aunty Edwina?

Mrs Gerber interjected.


Mr SPEAKER: Member for Currumbin, you will be warned. Another outburst like that and you will be warned.

Ms FENTIMAN: How can we expect to achieve reconciliation if we are not prepared to hear Aunty Edwina's truth and elders—

Mr Molhoek interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Southport, you will be warned if I hear your voice again.

Ms FENTIMAN:—like Aunty Edwina who have important stories to share? It is incumbent on all of us in this place to listen to their truth. The utter disrespect that this legislation represents is exactly why Premier David Crisafulli and this new LNP government cannot be trusted. Unless we have completely different definitions of what respect means, today proves the Premier's word is worth nothing. This has been a test of David Crisafulli's leadership—a test he has failed.

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (11.07 pm): Mr Speaker, I want to congratulate you on your appointment. I know that you have been a fantastic parliamentarian and will make a fantastic Speaker. Welcome back to everyone in this House. I have just had my first general election, having first been elected in a by-election. It is great to see so many new faces here in the parliament. I congratulate all of the members so far on fantastic maiden speeches and, of course, the fantastic Central Queensland team we now have. I have previously commented about it being a little lonely in Central Queensland at the top end of my electorate, but now there are three great LNP members who will serve their communities well.

I note that the members of the opposition are criticising us about the time and that we will be voting on this legislation tonight. Ironically, when Labor wanted to guillotine debate, they pulled up stumps before dinner. Here we are late at night.

Ms Camm: Every week.

Mr HEAD: I take that interjection. Every sitting week they pulled up stumps at dinner and guillotined debate on many occasions and on a number of occasions also rammed through legislation, but the LNP want to give as much opportunity as practical and possible. That is why we are sitting here late at night. We are not afraid to work hard for Queenslanders.

I move to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Those opposite had 1,200 days to get a decent plan to take forward for Queensland for the Olympics. As a regional and rural member, I certainly have a lot of constituents who are not a big fan of the Olympics. When they come to me with those concerns I say to them that I personally do not oppose infrastructure developments in other parts of the state because I would expect that when I bring forward reasonable requests for infrastructure in my electorate other members in the House will not stand in the way of those investments as well. When you are building legacy infrastructure that is value for money, Queensland can go a long way with that investment.

When the games were announced, those opposite had an idea about rebuilding the Gabba. However, that was not so popular so the former premier, Steven Miles, then announced the Quirk review. As my colleagues have already been talking about tonight, when the former premier realised he was not going to like the outcome of that particular review, he then decided to have yet another review to come up with what he wanted, being QSAC, and we all know that is going to be a horrible idea. What we need in Queensland is legacy infrastructure that provides bang for buck.

Importantly, the LNP is the government for all of Queensland. That is why with this bill we will ensure that the new board authority will have at least one regional representative sitting on it. That is an amendment we actually moved in the previous parliament, and Labor voted against it. Labor voted against having a regional rep sitting on the Olympic Games infrastructure delivery authority because Labor were not interested in ensuring that regional Queensland had a voice on that authority.

Further to that, we are ensuring that Queenslanders can have their say through the 100-day review that this bill implements. This is important because the LNP listens to Queenslanders. Importantly as well, the LNP backs in our local sports clubs. As part of our election commitments, we committed to a \$250 million package to help grassroots clubs grow our next generation of sports stars. I have a couple of great clubs in Callide that will benefit from our investment in their infrastructure, such as the Gin Gin sportsgrounds. A number of great community groups operate out of those grounds. The member for Chatsworth was with me in Gin Gin recently for a fantastic afternoon with the club. It is a fantastic little community. The Calliope Football Club will also benefit from investment in infrastructure by the LNP.

These are some of the key community groups that will benefit from the Olympics coming to Queensland because the LNP is a government for all of Queensland and we will ensure that rural and regional communities benefit. There are far too many clubs in Callide to count and name, but they will benefit from a regionally focused games. Who knows, there might be a few great Olympians coming from the electorate of Callide. I dare say I have missed my chance, but you never know. Meanwhile, Labor have wasted years. The clock has been ticking down and we have practically nothing to show for it.

I move to another part of the bill with regard to the workplace health and safety amendments. The LNP has supported and always will support strong safety laws and good safety outcomes for Queenslanders. I did not quite know where the member for McConnel was going with her speech, but it seemed to be that she was suggesting that deaths tend to only happen because of an LNP government. Unfortunately, deaths tragically have happened throughout Queensland far too often under consecutive governments. I am personally committed and I know that the LNP are committed to this, and I know that all members of this House do not want to see more tragic deaths happen on construction sites.

This legislation does not impact the authority of the Office of Industrial Relations. Those opposite are saying that this is going to take us back in time and all the rest, but that is simply not true. Further, workers still have the right to stop work if they do not think a job is safe. I say that to all the workers in Queensland. If they are about to do a job and they think it is not safe, they still have every right to stop work and report that through the appropriate channels. I encourage them to do that if they are about to do a job and they believe it is not safe. What this bill does is ensure the CFMEU stops holding Queenslanders to ransom. The CFMEU—

Mr Stevens: Thugs.

Mr HEAD: I take that interjection. They are thugs, and they hold Queenslanders and small businesses to ransom. They dictate, as we heard earlier, which concreters get the job and which subbies get the job. If they do not like what is happening on a particular site, they abuse their powers to hold that site, and in turn the Queensland taxpayer, to ransom. The 24-hour notice provision importantly aligns with the Fair Work Act, which is, as many people would know, an old Labor trademark bill. Labor are saying that it is not a fit-for-purpose provision to have, yet their federal colleagues certainly have not done anything about it in the few years they have been in government. I would ask why they have not done so if it is such an important clause.

I have been in this House for only a couple of years. On several occasions, Labor have voted against workers' rights in this parliament in the pursuit of protecting the unions that run campaigns for them, that donate to them and that run protection rackets for them. When it comes to workers' rights in Queensland, Labor will get up and carry on about it but we have seen bills that have consolidated union power to ensure that the likes of the QNMU and the Queensland Teachers' Union have full authority and there is no competition in that space. It is a disgrace because it means that teachers and hardworking nurses are forced to pay a union fee—

Mr McCALLUM: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member's contribution is straying outside the long title of the bill. He is talking about teachers and nurses. I ask that the contribution be brought back within the long title of the bill.

Mr SPEAKER: This is a very broad-ranging omnibus bill. I would encourage the member to stay within the long title of the bill. I am listening carefully.

Mr HEAD: Thank you for your guidance, Mr Speaker. I also want to ensure that nurses and teachers have a safe workplace when they are working hard to serve Queenslanders. Labor have voted against workers' rights when it suits them, especially when it is defending the unions, supporting the unions and lining the pockets of the unions that actively campaign for the Labor movement.

We have heard that there was no consultation on this bill. However, I actually sat on the committee recently where there was consultation with regard to videoing and photographing worksites. I will read from the transcript of the inquiry into the Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill where the Queensland Law Society raised concerns about the provision that Labor only recently brought in. There has been consultation previously, and we picked up that consultation and decided to scrap something that was suggested to be bad in the first place. I quote from the Queensland Law Society—

While QLS considers there is some utility in allowing those people to take photos and videos, there are significant risks of misuse, whether intended or otherwise, and we do not consider the bill or the current provisions of the act have addressed those.

Further—


Our concern is the risks with videos and images taken on a personal phone and the privacy concerns that we are becoming more alive to as technology grows. There have been a number of privacy reviews and other inquiries that are really trying to rein in what is out there. Our concern is that the existing provisions do not address the risks.

The Queensland Law Society raised significant concerns about some of the provisions in this bill that were meant to come in at the start of next year, and that is one of the many reasons that tonight we are repealing it before it gets enacted. There is some consultation for the House.

With regard to the Planning Act, the LNP wants to have a good relationship with local government. Local government exists to ensure that, where possible and where practical, a lot more local decisions can be made, because the closer you are to the ground often the better decisions you make. What we saw from those opposite was a government that would turn up and overrule decisions in some instances where councils had unanimously voted against projects. The previous government would overrule those decisions even though there had been significant community concern about the lack of infrastructure the particular developments would bring, the bottlenecking of suburbs and communities and the fact that they were not being set up properly to see those housing developments get off the ground. These provisions give power back to local government, and the LNP is not afraid to ensure local government is respected in this state. In turn, because local government will be in power through these provisions, this will help address the housing crisis, importantly, without lumping these communities with the burden of poor planning.

Briefly, I will touch on the Path to Treaty Act. We do listen to Queenslanders. In Callide, there was an 87 per cent no vote in the referendum last year, the highest no vote of any electorate in Queensland and likely the highest no vote of any state electorate in the country. When we listen to Queenslanders, we say what we are going to do and we go through and do it. We did say that we would

repeal this legislation. The treaty process is clearly divisive to the people of Callide, and that is why I am happy to stand here today as part of the LNP team to address this issue. Tonight we will follow through with what we said we would do. Importantly, the money saved by this can instead go to assisting communities—and I have Indigenous communities in Callide—where we can direct that money into improving tangible outcomes for the communities that deserve it. The LNP will treat all Queenslanders equally and we will not divide our state. This is something I have not said in this House before: I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (11.20 pm): I rise to make my contribution to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Inspired by the member for Hinchinbrook, I also offer my congratulations to the many newcomers here to the parliament. It is nice to see a fresh start and here's to some optimism in the new parliament.

I rise to firstly speak about the truth-telling and Path to Treaty portion of the bill. I do not really need to change much from what we said in the regional sitting of parliament in Cairns because our position still stands exactly as it was then. I would like to characterise the KAP as being geared to trying to see problems and fix them. I know we may not have the mortgage on that, but that is a really strong characterisation of what we do here.

I have a lot of interaction in the Aboriginal communities in my electorate—Doomadgee, Mornington Island and the towns of Dajarra and Normanton. There is a vast array of issues up there; they are swimming in problems. I am always trying to solve the problems such as getting renal services, trying to address the high grocery prices and communities being cut off for three months of the year two years in a row. I remember a good mate of mine from school, Glen Campbell, said to me, 'Brother, how does this work? How can we just be left up here where for three months you cannot drive out of here?' I come down here to ask for \$10 million, \$15 million for crossings to get into Doomadgee. 'We cannot do that, we cannot help people like that, but we can give you \$300 million to tell your stories.'

Perhaps there is some value in it. It is hard to say that there is not value in it. I have Irish-Lebanese heritage. The Irish were horribly oppressed by the English. I do not think it serves me well to dwell on that and think about how terrible that was. I have read a lot of the history books of North Queensland. *Queensland Frontier* is a great history book. I think of Frank Jardine who, as I understand, had an islander wife. He was protecting one of the tribes from being massacred to extinction by another tribe. That is an interesting story. I read it. It is good history. There are stories of the Kalkadoon people wiping out a lot of the police force and other people and winning a lot of the battles through the Kalkadoon country. These are proud stories told still today around the dinner table in North Queensland and North-West Queensland. There are a lot of stories.

Do I see that as one of the primary things we should be doing to help Aboriginal people in those communities to lower the mortality rate and to lift their aspirations in life? I see young people up there but I do not see them craving to hear stories on their past; I see them wanting a job and something to do, something to give them meaning and purpose in life. That is what I want to focus on.

I cannot see this as anything but a distraction. Let's face it: there is a lot of politics played where you throw these smoke bombs in the air and say, 'Look at this. This is the big thing we have to concentrate on,' yet you have all the mess down on the ground that is not being dealt with.

As we mentioned before, the KAP has brought a blue card bill into this parliament three times. Go and find me an Aboriginal community that will say anything bad about the blue card bill we introduced. They all want it; they are all crying out for it. No-one in here can support it other than us. We can't do that, but we have to push for this stuff.

We are not sold on this; it is not for us. You can say, 'Oh, you can find a friend here. You can still get the \$300 million; it's not just a matter of spending it somewhere else,' but you might say it is a figure of speech. That money can be better spent. We cannot deliver cheap grocery prices; you pay \$13 for a loaf of bread in Doomadgee. They are still getting cut off for three months of the year. Surely that must be the priority. Surely getting these kids into jobs should be the priority, but it does not seem to be. That is not for us. We will not be supporting that.

In regards to the Olympics, when you consider the inequities in rural and remote Queensland, how on earth can you support the Olympics? It does not make sense. It is really insulting to someone to say, 'Oh, you could have the torch come through Mount Isa,' or, 'You might get some swimmers visit you.' Mate, we want bridges and roads. We want the crippled Bruce Highway fixed. We want to help you guys help the economy by building dams and building roads that helps us all to create some wealth

so that we can have parties in the future. But you do not hold the party first and then get to the critical infrastructure that will help build the wealth of the state. That is not how you do it. That is not the responsible, mature way to do it.


Let's be reminded that there is a good reason no-one else bid for this Olympics. No-one else bid for it. We did not win it; no-one else went for it. We grasped it. Again, it is a great distraction from all the other things that are going wrong.

Whatever the Excel spreadsheet for the business case on the Olympics was, I would love to apply that for some dams and some roads into the heavy industry areas in North Queensland because I think we would see a lot more of them built if we applied the same metrics, but we are never afforded that opportunity.

The Olympics is a 17-day party. Look at the cost of the last one. In 2022, the costs, even before inflation, were \$16 billion, \$23 billion, and \$13 billion and \$14 billion for the last ones. These Olympics will not be a tick under \$20 billion. One of the economists from North Queensland is saying that with indexation we could be looking at spending over \$50 billion here. Anything other than \$10 billion or \$20 billion—it is not bottomless. This budget is not a magic pudding; it has to come from somewhere.

We are not going to get renal dialysis units. We are not going to get the Bruce Highway upgrade. You cannot have both. If you put all the infrastructure down here, you will not have the resources, even if it is not a matter of money, to build things in the regional and remote areas, so how can we possibly support that in this House? It does not make sense.

I understand everyone in Brisbane loves it and wants it; I get it. You are entitled to that opinion. However, outside of the south-east, especially the further we get away from Brisbane, people really do not like the idea. We are so heavily opposed to it. These are two very important pieces of this large omnibus bill that have come into this very first sitting of the new parliament and will be strongly opposed by the KAP.

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (11.27 pm): It is a privilege to be able to rise to speak tonight. This is the first occasion I have had to speak in the 58th Parliament. I, too, would like to place on record my congratulations to the 93 members in this House and to the wonderful 21 new members on the government side with 18 additional seats to make up a wonderful 52 to form government. I congratulate our Premier, David Crisafulli, and Deputy Premier, Jarrod Bleijie, on the work which they have done, and particularly I congratulate the Deputy Premier on the speech that he made earlier tonight with regards to this matter. Getting things done for Queenslanders is what counts.

I hear those opposite speaking about this bill and questioning why it may be urgent. I think that they should think about the last few months where we made very clear decisions, calm and clear directions, for Queenslanders who, on the 26th of last month, voted for the LNP government and all of those matters that are contained within this bill, the oldest of which is the Path to Treaty Bill. After the Voice to Parliament referendum, our leader, now Premier, clearly articulated that the LNP would not be supporting the Path to Treaty in its current format.

This part of the bill is a continuation of that calm and clear direction that Queenslanders voted for, but we will certainly be very focused on looking after and protecting the livelihoods of Aboriginal people in this state. Talk is a great thing—it makes people feel good—but, as we have seen for the last 10 years, it has not improved the lot of many of our Aboriginal communities. In fact, the Closing the Gap report showed that seven out of the nine factors actually went backwards. This government is being very serious about making a better lot for the First Nations communities of this state.

I turn now to the Olympics bill. It is important for us to go back in history to solve some of the problems we have today. I was a member of the Lockyer Valley Regional Council when former lord mayor Graham Quirk came and visited us back in 2015-16 with a proposal and a pitch for the Olympics for 2032. That proposal was all about bringing forward generational infrastructure connecting our region—having infrastructure right across the state and bringing forward infrastructure spend for 10 years. I welcome the recent discussions about an 80-20 share in infrastructure funding, because it is all coming out of a big pot of money.

When that pitch to bring forward the infrastructure was originally made, it was all about Queenslanders and certainly the Council of Mayors (SEQ) sharing in the vision to make a successful proposal to get the Olympics. Unfortunately, the former government put politics in the way and appointed themselves to boards. For 1,200 days now, there has been no move forward. A number of months ago our leader said, 'We want a 100-day review.' We are now in government. The second order

of business of this parliament is this bill we are debating tonight. I suggest that opposition members support this bill to deliver certainty and a clear direction for Queenslanders, because they have been crying out for that for a long time.

Queenslanders did vote for a fresh start for Queensland. I note the amendments in the bill about the Public Service Commission and seeing an independent appointment as the Public Service Commissioner. What a change this is to the fear the former government instilled in the Public Service. One of the first orders of business of the new government is to see an independent Public Service Commissioner put in place to give good advice without fear of reprisal and to lead our Public Service forward.

I hear members opposite raise concerns about legacies for Queensland from the Olympics. That is exactly what this review will do with regard to the independent delivery authority, making sure we get great legacy investment across the state. I certainly have been advocating to make sure we are all connected through improvements in road, rail and public transport both before and after the games. I note the Minister for the Environment and Tourism's 20-year plan, which I remember our now Premier talking about in opposition—a 20-year strategy for tourism improvement, 10 years before the games and 10 years after the games. Unfortunately, the government did not take up that opportunity. The clock has been ticking for such a long time. I welcome the Minister for Tourism's suggestion that there will be that 20-year product for tourism. Tourism operators right across the state are certainly seeking that.

I turn now to the workplace health and safety amendments. I welcome the amendments the Deputy Premier spoke about which will see our workplaces free of fear and intimidation from the CFMEU. They have been using the entry permit provisions to bully businesses. I know of a number of cases where they have used the entry permit in a coordinated fashion to stop businesses the day before one of the 26 programmed days off across the year.

Mr SPEAKER: There is way too much chatter happening in the chamber. I ask members to lower the volume or take their conversations outside.

Mr McDONALD: I am making a great contribution, so it is important that people can hear it. Thank you very much for calming the chamber. There must be too much excitement! There have been a number of instances of the CFMEU causing disruption to workplaces. That should not be tolerated in Queensland and it will not be tolerated under this LNP government.


Mr Smith interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Bundaberg, you are sitting much closer to the Speaker these days. There is only one person who has the call and it is the member for Lockyer.

Mr McDONALD: We are putting in place changes immediately, on day 1 of this new 58th Parliament, to get things done, because Queenslanders deserve a fresh start. It is a long way from the chaos and crisis that we saw with the Labor government.

We are making very sensible changes to planning, particularly with regard to making sure that there can be amendments and a repealing of some of the applications so that the call-in powers can be attended to in an appropriate fashion, working closely in a meaningful partnership with local government. That has been missing over the last 10 years and has been eroded enormously. In fact, many members on our side who are former councillors and mayors will say that many people across the state have been very concerned about running for council because of fear about the legal issues faced by councillors and mayors. Many people are leaving local government or are concerned about joining local government. That should not be the case. This bill shows, in a great and meaningful way, that we want a partnership with local government.

I turn back to the Olympics, which I am very passionate about. I remember very fondly when Sydney was announced as the Olympic host city for the year 2000. That is a great memory of mine. What a great celebration it was for Australia as a nation. We should be in this same situation now with Brisbane 2032—celebrating that wonderful opportunity. This is the greatest event on earth and something we should be celebrating. Unfortunately, politics got in the way. With the LNP government we are making a fresh start. We will see this 100-day review and deliver a wonderful event in 2032.

 **Ms FARMER** (Bulimba—ALP) (11.37 pm): In May last year the Queensland parliament sat in Cairns and passed the Path to Treaty legislation. It was not a contentious bill. It was an unusual example of both major parties being in agreement. In fact, it was so unusual that I talked about it for quite some months. I would talk to schoolkids about how unusual it was that we would all come together to acknowledge something that was just right. I believe that everyone who was there in that parliament at that time walked away feeling that we had actually done something momentous, that we had really

made a difference. It was a really edifying debate. There were some outstanding contributions from both sides of parliament. Together we made a statement about the sort of state that we are and about the sort of Queensland we want to be. We said to First Nations people that we were on a shared journey, that we were going to have a future and to do that we must understand our past, and that we were on a path to healing and we were not afraid of the truth. That was the essence of the speeches.

In fact, the then opposition leader spoke beautifully. He captured the essence of the bill. He said—

I rise to support the Path to Treaty Bill 2023. I do so in the hope that it can be the catalyst for true accountability of government—a catalyst for materially improving the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in this state. ... a genuine opportunity for our state to improve the lives of Indigenous Australians. It is an opportunity I believe Queensland should embrace wholeheartedly. I believe in truth-telling, and to me that means telling it like it is. We need to be up-front. We cannot shy away from the real experiences of Indigenous Australians throughout history. We must tell the truth about the real challenges they are facing today.

The member for Warrego said—

Path to Treaty is a shared journey ... a key reform with the ultimate goal of negotiating treaty or treaties that will reclaim and strengthen the relationship between Queensland's First Nations and the wider community.

The member for Moggill wanted to—

... reiterate the importance of acknowledging the challenges and struggles of our past in a manner that is done objectively, carefully and diligently—

he kind of retranslated this tonight but this is what he said at the time—

with full transparency and accountability ... Acknowledging our past ... helps to frame the present, and future, of our state of Queensland.

It was like this from that side and from this side—beautiful words, all of them. We passed the bill and we started on the journey. The Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry was established. We had a board and a chair. It was always going to be so important. Joshua Creamer, who is the chair of the board, recently gave the 2024 Dr Charles Perkins oration. He shared the results of a recent survey which found only three per cent of Australians have a direct engagement with Aboriginal communities yet, as indicated in last year's referendum, many Australians hold significant and, at times, harmful views in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It was so clear that that truth needed to be told not to cause injury, but to cause healing.

However, it was a painful process we were asking First Nations people to go through. We were asking First Nations people to come forward and speak of some of the most horrific lived experiences of themselves and their families—of their dispossession, their suppression, the erasure of their culture and language. I was the ministerial champion for Aurukun and the elders still cry when they speak of their books being burned. In the eighties their books were burned by the director-general of Education because they were in traditional language. This is the grief we were asking people to come and speak of for the first time. It was a huge thing to ask people to do, but we told them—this parliament told them—that they could trust us. We said they could trust us, but it turned out they could not trust us at all.

In the meantime, in October of last year, the Voice referendum happened and it became clear that we were getting a sense of who Premier Crisafulli truly is. He had reassured us all in the lead-up to that time. He had reassured the media and Queenslanders that he was not Campbell Newman; those terrible days were over. It was Campbell Newman's fault that all of those things happened. He was not going to make the same mistakes. 'When I say something, I mean it,' he kept on saying. However, in October of last year he saw the results of the Voice referendum and he thought, 'If I'm going to do this Path to Treaty stuff I might lose the election because, of course, they're just the same,' so he withdrew his support and none of those beautiful speeches they gave, including his beautiful speech, meant anything. All of that goodwill, all of the hope for First Nations people, did not mean anything. When he said he was going to repeal the legislation, when the Premier reneged, not one of those people opposite spoke up. We know now that when Premier Crisafulli says something he does not mean it at all. His word actually means nothing.

It was not a surprise that if they won government the LNP would not proceed with the Path to Treaty; that was always on the cards. However, it is the way it has all been rolled out; it is the hypocrisy of this government which shows they are just the same old LNP. Literally days after they were elected, of all of the things they could have made a priority in their first couple of days, they announced via

media, with no consultation with the chair or the board, that people may as well pack up and go home because the inquiry would not be proceeding. They literally unlawfully halted the inquiry just as it was about to sit in Cherbourg.

I remember last year the member for Nanango, who is the LNP member representing Cherbourg, was having a go at the then government because she did not think we had consulted Cherbourg enough. In fact, she said she was deeply saddened that the people of Cherbourg had not been consulted. To think that the Labor Party could have missed out on consulting Cherbourg beggars belief. She was outraged. Was there any outrage just before the inquiry was about to be held in Cherbourg, when people had prepared themselves, when they had gone through that grief, when they had pulled together all of those experiences, when they were ready to share that because they trusted us? There was not a word from the member for Nanango and not a whisper from any of those other people because they have no moral compass. There was not a word from people like the member for Bonney, who spoke so beautifully. We did not hear a thing and he did not even mention that in his speech tonight. He was not even courageous enough to speak about this part of this bill.

It was not until today that anybody—the chair of the inquiry, the board or First Nations people—had any idea what was to happen. The chair wrote to the minister and to the Premier; he wrote to them six times saying, ‘Please just tell us. Please just show us some decency and respect. Please show these First Nations people who have delved into themselves and their family grief, who were prepared to share because they trusted us.’ There was nothing—no decency, no respect—and today was when they found out. I was at that Queensland Women’s Legal Service breakfast last week and there was Joshua Creamer, the chair of the inquiry, and the minister. She saw him and she ran in the other direction because she has no courage because Premier Crisafulli—

Ms SIMPSON: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr SPEAKER: There is a point of order—

Ms SIMPSON: We are having a story session.

Mr SPEAKER: Excuse me.

Ms SIMPSON: It is nonsensical—

Mr SPEAKER: Excuse me, member for Maroochydore.

Ms SIMPSON:—it is offensive and it is untrue and I seek that it be withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Member for Maroochydore, I called you several times, which you ignored. I rose to my feet. Do you have a point of order?

Ms SIMPSON: I apologise. I did not see you rise until the end. I do have a point of order, Mr Speaker. The minister is misleading and offensive. It is personally offensive and untrue and I seek that it be withdrawn.

Ms FARMER: I withdraw, Mr Speaker. Today we know what this government is really like and my office has been flooded with people ringing and emailing, ‘This is just like the Joh Bjelke-Petersen days, their first sitting day. They are not even as bad as Campbell Newman; they are actually as bad as Joh Bjelke-Petersen.’ In their first month we have seen them sack public servants. There is Joshua Creamer and all the people on the inquiry. There are about 50 of them; they will be sacked. We have seen them make Public Service appointments without any merit selection process. We have seen them not listen to any experts. It is just the same as the Campbell Newman days. Everyone has been thinking, ‘This is not looking good. This is pretty dodgy,’ and then tonight they come in and just like the good old Campbell Newman days, they rush through bills with no notice and no reasons whatsoever for putting forward urgency motions. This is just the first day; this is just the first month, and they told those people they could trust them. They cannot trust them and Queenslanders cannot trust them.


If they are going to close down this Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry I want to table this document. It is *Report 1: The story of Queensland connects us all* of the Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry.

Tabled paper: Truth-telling and Healing Inquiry—Report 1: The story of Queensland connects us all [\[218\]](#).

I want to table this because I want the stories of Uncle David Wragge, Aunty Lesley Williams, Aunty Ruth Hegarty and Aunty Flo Watson to be here and I want them to be heard. I want them to be on the record of this parliament because this government has given no-one else an opportunity to speak and it is a shame. As our deputy leader said, this is the first vote of you people here and you should live—

Mr SPEAKER: Through the chair.

Ms FARMER:—in shame for the rest of your parliamentary careers for passing this bill.

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (11.49 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Before I start, Mr Speaker, I want to congratulate you on being elected to the high office of Speaker. Also as it is my first speech in the 58th Parliament, I wish to congratulate all new members and returning members to this chamber.

Mr Bleijie interjection.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Kawana, it is the member for Theodore who has the call.

Mr BOOTHMAN: Thank you, Mr Speaker, for your protection. I want to talk specifically about the Olympics. Given that my electorate is positioned on the northern Gold Coast—the green behind the gold—it had a lot to do with the Commonwealth Games in 2018. The 2018 Commonwealth Games left some wonderful legacy projects in the region of the Gold Coast. However, it is very important to properly review these processes to ensure that we have legacies that will be generational.

We all enjoy the Queen Street Mall. We all visit the Queen Street Mall. People throughout South-East Queensland and even people from as far away as Townsville or other areas enjoy the Queen Street Mall when they come to Brisbane. The Queen Street Mall was a legacy project of the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane. It was opened by Queen Elizabeth for the Commonwealth Games. It was a legacy project that has seen generation after generation of people coming to this region, and that is why it is so important that we get this right.

At the moment some 1,200 days have passed since we received the Olympic Games tick, yet nothing has happened. Residents in my area continually ask me, ‘Mark, what is happening with the Olympic Games? Is it still going ahead?’ The issue is that we need to be extremely thoughtful about legacies going forward because it will put Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Queensland on the map. It will be an Olympic city. Before the Commonwealth Games came to Brisbane, Brisbane was known as a big country town. After the Commonwealth Games, it became a city. It was recognised as a city. We need these legacy projects from these big events, and there is no bigger event on earth than the Olympic Games.

The Gold Coast relies on tourism. We rely on a healthy tourism market, and that is why the legacy of these games and preparing these games is critically important for us. We all remember what happened with the Commonwealth Games in 2018 in my electorate. There was such a fear campaign that there was going to be traffic chaos that people stayed away. Locals stayed away from the Commonwealth Games. Therefore, as part of a review process, we need to ensure that we learn from these mistakes because they hurt local businesses economically and they destroyed that boost that they were hoping to get. They were hoping to get that massive boost from the financial windfall from all of those tourists coming to the games, but the issue was that a lot of locals stayed away. They decided to go on holidays elsewhere because they were warned to stay away because they were told it was going to be an infrastructure nightmare with traffic jams all over the place. The residents in my electorate have never had a better trip down the M1 motorway after the Commonwealth Games chair Peter Beattie scared the bejesus out of every single resident on the northern Gold Coast.

Mr Minnikin: Genius!

Mr BOOTHMAN: I take that interjection. That is why we need to ensure that the legacy of these Olympic Games hits the mark, and that is why we need the Games Independent Infrastructure Coordination Authority to conduct a proper review.

Mr SPEAKER: Pursuant to the motion agreed to today and the time limit for this stage of the bill having expired, the question is—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Division: Question put—That the bill be now read a second time.

AYES, 53:

LNP, 50—Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Field, Frecklington, Gerber, Head, Hutton, Hunt, B. James, T James, G. Kelly, Kempton, Kirkland, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Lister, Mander, Marr, McDonald, Mickelberg, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Stoker, Watts, Vorster, Young.

KAP, 3—Dametto, Katter, Knuth.

NOES, 35:

ALP, 34—Asif, Bailey, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Grace, Healy, Howard, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Power, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Grn, 1—Berkman.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

Consideration in Detail

Mr SPEAKER: Pursuant to the motion agreed to today and the time limit for this stage of the bill having expired, I will now put all remaining questions.

Question put—That clauses 1 to 51 and schedule 1, as read, stand part of the bill.

Motion agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 51 and schedule 1, as read, agreed to.

Third Reading

Question put—That the bill be now read a third time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Long Title

Question put—That the long title of the bill be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (12.01 am): I move—

That the House do now adjourn.



Mr SPEAKER: I believe somebody has a birthday, since it is after 12 o'clock. Happy birthday to the member for Currumbin!

Question put—That the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 12.02 am (Friday).

ATTENDANCE

Asif, Bailey, Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, Dametto, de Brenni, Dick, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Field, Frecklington, Furner, Gerber, Grace, Head, Healy, Howard, Hunt, Hutton, James B, James T, Janetzki, Katter, Kelly G, Kempton, King, Kirkland, Knuth, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Linard, Lister, Mander, Marr, Martin, McCallum, McDonald, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Mickelberg, Miles, Minnikin, Molhoek, Morton, Mullen, Nicholls, Nightingale, O'Connor, O'Shea, Pease, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Power, Pugh, Purdie, Rowan, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Simpson, Smith, Stevens, Stoker, Vorster, Watts, Weir, Whiting, Young