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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, 29 October 2025

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WEDNESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2025

The Legislative Assembly met at 2.00 pm.

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.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Order in the Chamber



Mr SPEAKER: Just before breaking for lunch during yesterday's sitting after the Deputy Speaker had stated that the House would break for lunch and return at 2 pm, the member for McConnell engaged in disorderly conduct. The member for McConnell was interjecting across the chamber as the Deputy Speaker was leaving the chair. It was highly disorderly.

The Deputy Speaker called for order but indicated uncertainty about whether he could warn the member in this circumstance. I think it is important to note that during a suspension of the House, such as for the lunchbreak, the House is not suspended until the Speaker or Deputy Speaker leaves the chamber. The member could have been warned or, if already warned, ordered to leave the House under the standing orders.

As for disorderly conduct after the Speaker leaves the chamber and the House is suspended or adjourned, I note that the Legislative Assembly chamber and its galleries are part of the parliamentary precinct and the Speaker remains in control of the precinct.

Photographs in Chamber



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to remind all members that the use of cameras including phone cameras on the floor of the chamber, including in the wings and the rear of the chamber, is not permitted during proceedings. It does not matter whether it is a selfie or a photograph of another willing participant.

PRIVILEGE

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Contempt of Parliament



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 15 August 2025, the Leader of the House wrote to me alleging that the member for Waterford reflected on the chair in social media posts from 13 August 2025. I reviewed the member's posts and observed that it did not contain any reference to me nor one of my rulings. There was no reflection. Therefore, I will not be referring the matter for further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. I table correspondence in relation to this matter.

Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to an alleged contempt of parliament by the member for Waterford [[1663](#)].

I have circulated a ruling on this matter. I seek leave to incorporate the ruling.

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S RULING—ALLEGED CONTEMPT OF PARLIAMENT

Honourable members,

On 15 August 2025, the Leader of the House wrote to me alleging that the member for Waterford reflected on the Chair in a series of social media posts from 13 August 2025.

The member for Waterford stated in her posts:

'I've been gagged from showing you actual footage in the Parliament of me asking the Minister for Women what her views are on abortion.'

The Leader of the House argued that this statement was a reflection on the Chair, and a ruling made in upholding the Broadcast of Proceedings Conditions of Access.

I sought further information from the member for Waterford about the allegations made against her, in accordance with Standing Order 269(5).

The member for Waterford submitted that she did not refer, at any time, to the decisions or actions of the Chair and that she held no intention to reflect on the Chair.

Standing Order 269(4) requires that in considering whether such a matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, that I should take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter.

An allegation of reflecting on the Chair is very serious, therefore it is clearly not trivial or technical.

I reviewed the member's post and observed that it did not contain any reference to myself, nor one of my rulings. Standing Order 266(23) specifies that in order to be a contempt, a member must comment or reflect on my decisions or actions. This has not occurred in this matter.

Therefore, I **will not** be referring the matter for the further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. .

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 4 September 2025 the member for Pine Rivers wrote to me alleging that the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers deliberately misled the House on 27 August 2025. This matter is clearly a political dispute on whether the government or the opposition have better dealt with the issue of red-tape reduction in local government. No rights or powers of the House, a member or a committee have been impinged in any way. Nor has any reputation been impacted. It is trivial. Therefore, I will not be referring the matter for further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. I table the correspondence in relation to this matter.

Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to an alleged contempt and misleading of the House by the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers and member for Warrego [1664].

I have circulated a ruling on this matter. I seek leave to incorporate the ruling.

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S RULING—ALLEGED CONTEMPT OF PARLIAMENT

Honourable members,

On 4 September 2025, the member for Pine Rivers wrote to me alleging that the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers deliberately misled the House on 27 August 2025.

The matter relates to a statement made by the Minister during debate on the Appropriation Bill.

Specifically, the Minister stated:

'... when it comes to local government, Labor could not bring themselves to talk about the equal partnership in the sector. They could not talk about red-tape reduction or depreciation.'

The member argued that this statement was deliberately misleading and provided an excerpt from the transcript of the Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee estimates hearing where she asked a question relating to the Red Tape Reduction Taskforce. She asserted that this was evidence that the Opposition had talked about red-tape reduction.

I sought further information from the Minister about the allegation made against her, in accordance with Standing Order 269(5).

The Minister argued that she was referring to the Opposition's time in government and their inability to pursue or address meaningful reform with respect to red-tape reduction in local government.

Standing Order 269(4) requires that in considering whether such a matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, that I should take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter.

I refer to my ruling of 10 June 2025 where I stated:

'In looking at whether a matter is serious, I consider matters such as: does the matter seriously impinge upon the rights and powers of the House, committee or members—for example, does the matter seriously misrepresent the record of the House or has the matter unfairly affected the reputation of a member?'

This is clearly a political dispute on whether the government or the opposition have better dealt with the issue of red tape reduction in local government. No rights or powers of the House, a member or a committee have been impinged in any way. Nor has any reputation been impacted.

Therefore, I **will not** be referring the matter for the further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee.

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House



Mr SPEAKER: On 16 September 2025 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services wrote to me alleging that the Leader of the Opposition deliberately misled the House on 26 August 2025. The matter relates to a statement made during matters of public interest. I consider this to be a dispute on policy where both the minister and the Leader of the Opposition have provided statistics to support their differing arguments and political perspectives. Therefore, I will not referring the matter for further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. I table the correspondence in relation to this matter.

Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to an alleged contempt and misleading of the House by the Leader of the Opposition and member for Murrumba [\[1665\]](#).

I have circulated a ruling. I seek leave to incorporate the ruling.

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S RULING—ALLEGED CONTEMPT OF PARLIAMENT

Honourable members,

On 16 September 2025, the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services wrote to me alleging that the Leader of the Opposition deliberately misled the House on 26 August 2025.

The matter relates to a statement made during Matters of Public Interest.

Specifically, the Leader of the Opposition stated:

'The LNP said there would be no cuts to health, but its budget reveals there is \$2.5 billion less for employee expenses over the forward estimates, meaning there will be fewer frontline staff and more pressure on those who remain.'

The Minister argued that this statement was deliberately misleading and provided excerpts from the 2025-26 budget papers to support his position that the Queensland Health workforce will be increasing in the coming years. The Minister also noted that there is no explicit line item for Queensland Health Employee expenses over forward estimates, but that general government sector employee expenses will rise by \$6.3 billion between 2025-26 and 2027-28.

I sought further information from the Leader of the Opposition about the allegations made against him, in accordance with Standing Order 269(5).

The Leader of the Opposition provided his reasoning for his statement which was a comparison of the employee expenses outlines in the 2024-25 Mid-Year Fiscal and Economic Review with the 2025-26 Queensland Budget.

Standing Order 269(4) requires that in considering whether such a matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, I should take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter.

I consider this to be a dispute on policy where both the Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have provided different statistics, using different methods of calculation, to support their arguments and political perspectives.

Therefore, I **will not** be referring the matter for the further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee.

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Contempt of Parliament



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 8 October 2025 the member for Bancroft wrote to me alleging that the member for Redcliffe referred to matters that were before the Ethics Committee in the adjournment debate on 17 September 2025. The member for Bancroft alleged that such conduct was in breach of standing orders 271 and 266(22). The matter in question related to a referral to the committee I made on 26 June 2025. The member for Redcliffe's statement did not in fact refer to any particular matter before the Ethics Committee but rather traversed a subject incidental to a matter before the committee. Therefore, I have determined there is no matter of privilege and I will not be referring the matter for the further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. I table the correspondence in relation to this matter.

Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to an alleged contempt of parliament by the member for Redcliffe [\[1666\]](#).

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Engineers Australia, Presentation of Citation



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise that yesterday I hosted representatives from Engineers Australia, who presented the Queensland parliament with the citation awarded to Edward GC Barton—the most recent Engineers Australia Queensland Hall of Fame inductee. Edward Barton was instrumental in commissioning the first government power station to supply new electric

lighting to Parliament House. He was also a former member who represented the Brisbane North electorate in the early 1900s. The citation is now proudly displayed in the annexe alongside samples of the Edison tubes. I encourage all members to view the display in the foyer. They also presented me with this tie that I am wearing this morning.

Visitors to Public Gallery



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise members that we will be visited in the gallery this afternoon by students and teachers from the Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School in the electorate of Jordan; the Mountain Creek State High School in the electorate of Buderim; and St Carthage's Primary School in Lismore, New South Wales.

PETITION

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

Bus Drivers, Safety

Mr McCallum, from 696 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure TransLink is held accountable when their delivery partner and/or bus companies refuse to ensure bus driver safety.

Petition received.

TABLED PAPERS

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32)

MINISTERIAL PAPER

The following ministerial paper was tabled by the Clerk—

Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Powell)—

[1661](#) Health, Environment and Innovation Committee: Report No. 9, 58th Parliament—Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025, interim government response

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Crisafulli LNP Government, Achievements



Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (2.08 pm): Our government promised to be a government for all of Queensland. We are delivering a fresh start for Queenslanders in every part of this great state. We are delivering key infrastructure for regional areas. CopperString—the biggest energy project in North Queensland's history—has been saved by this government. Billions worth of cost blowouts under Labor would have resulted in the project never being delivered.

Our Energy Roadmap outlines a credible plan to deliver the project as well as the jobs and opportunities that come with it. Securing the future of those workers in the coal industry, a credible plan to use our natural gas and a clear plan with a community-backed planning framework to bring on and firm up renewables—that is an energy plan.

Our Country Roads Connect program is improving transport connections. The \$100 million fund will support local governments in paving unsealed regional roads to improve safety and connectivity. We are investing a record spend on the Bruce Highway after being told that an 80-20 funding deal would never be secured.

The Residential Activation Fund will fast-track housing projects, with at least half of the \$2 billion fund spent in regional Queensland. To support that growth we are also developing 13 new regional plans and working with local governments to deliver more homes. We are also focused on ensuring regional areas are supported with the services they need.

Our Hospital Rescue Plan is delivering more than 2,600 new beds right across Queensland. That includes: new hospitals in Toowoomba and Bundaberg; expansions in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay; maternity services in Biloela and Cooktown; mental health services in Rockhampton; and new CT scanners in Ingham and Charleville. These are just some of the other health services we are delivering for regional Queensland.

Our government is also supporting regional businesses. A new manufacturing hub in Toowoomba will create jobs for future generations and strengthen our regional industries. We established the Resources Cabinet Committee, a key election commitment, to improve consultation across government and boost investment in the resources sector. Resources are critical to Queensland's future and to those families who demand and depend on them.

Primary Industries Prosper 2050 was launched in August. It sets out a long-term vision for the prosperity of our primary industries right across this state, including in places like Gympie. Work is now underway to develop action plans to boost Queensland's primary production output to \$30 billion by 2030. We have also made the Works for Queensland program permanent: \$100 million in funding each year will support regional Queensland councils to deliver job-creating projects.

Representing regional Queensland means showing up. It means visiting communities right across the state to hear from Queenslanders. It means running candidates and not farming them off elsewhere. I digress. That is exactly what the government is delivering for regional Queensland. We have held—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Power interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Logan, I just called for order. The Premier has the call.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Thank you, Mr Speaker. We have held community cabinets in regional areas such as Cairns, Townsville and Emerald. Next week we will be in Mackay. We cannot wait to discuss with locals, leaders and community members how we can better serve them. We are just getting started on delivering the fresh start we promised. We will continue to listen to regional Queensland and deliver for them.

Housing; Local Government, Planning

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (2.11 pm): Mr Speaker, as I said yesterday, 12 months ago Queenslanders voted for change. They voted for a fresh start. One of the biggest crises we inherited from the Labor Party is the housing crisis. The Crisafulli government is delivering on our commitment to ensure that every Queenslanders has a place to call home after a decade of decline under those opposite. We know that under Labor the dream of home ownership for Queenslanders became a nightmare, with the rate of home ownership becoming the worst of any state or territory in the country. Our commitment to Queenslanders is that, under the LNP, you will be closer to home ownership under this government than you have been in the past 10 years.

We are delivering practical measures to undo the failed housing policies and failed Labor record of those opposite. We are delivering one million new homes by 2044. I am pleased to work with the honourable Treasurer and Minister for Home Ownership and the Minister for Housing as we combine with the Minister for Local Government to look at housing supply across the state. We already seeing green shoots. I am particularly pleased to see Queenslanders being able to afford to buy a home under an LNP government when they could not afford to buy one under the Labor government.

I know we have lots of hot debates in here and it can get pretty testy, but I do sincerely want to congratulate the member for Gaven because yesterday she could proudly stand up as a homeowner under this LNP government. That is something she could not achieve as the housing minister in the Labor government, but when you change the housing minister home ownership can become a reality. Queensland under an LNP government: the place where dreams come true, even for Labor members. I am so happy for her and I wish her all the very best living the Australian dream. More people are coming online to live the Australian dream just like the member for Gaven is now. Congratulations!

It is also about supply, supply, supply. The former Labor government was content with Queenslanders being renters for life. They lacked imagination and the belief in everyday Queenslanders to own their own home. They dismissed the Australian dream and, in doing so, subjected Queenslanders to a litany of failures, including higher taxes and more red tape. Who could forget that former treasurer Cameron Dick introduced a renter's tax in the middle of a housing crisis. Then Anastacia Palaszczuk had to overrule it from COAG in Canberra and he came out and said, 'Just for now.' He wants to bring it back. They enabled the CFMEU tax, BPIC, to drive up rents by seven per cent and prevent 22,000 extra homes coming to market. The former Labor minister gave fake approvals for affordable housing projects that could not be lawfully built—one in my own electorate, I might add—leading community housing providers astray.

The Leader of the Opposition declared the failed Woolloongabba PDA. He said, 'It's so great. Look at all the glossy brochures.' As I said in this place, a Queenslanders cannot move into a glossy brochure. Labor Party policy was to hold a glossy brochure above your head. That is not a roof; that is not a house—but that was what they said was a house for Queenslanders. We do not believe that. They do not understand that you cannot move into a brochure. You cannot move into a roundtable. That is all they did.

In round 1 of the RAF funding, as the Premier said, we have unlocked over 98,000 homes. I was pleased to be in North Queensland this morning announcing more projects: in the electorate of Townsville, 1,600 homes with a \$14.7 million commitment from the Residential Activation Fund. The developer said to me this morning that, without that fund, without that intersection upgrade, those 1,600 homes would not be proceeding. Then I was in Hinchinbrook, where incidentally there are thousands of new homes for the Svensson Road upgrade—a \$29 million commitment from this government for a \$42 million project, unlocking thousands of homes. As the Premier said, we are delivering for all of Queensland, particularly regional and rural Queensland.

We are serious about delivering cultural change for a fresh start and we back regional Queensland. That is why I can announce today that we are resetting the planning partnership with councils and putting council decision makers back in charge. As part of this commitment, I am pleased to announce to the House that the next tranche of funding from the \$12.5 million Scheme Supply Fund has been awarded to nine local governments across Queensland. Balonne Shire Council, Goondiwindi Regional Council, Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council, Paroo Shire Council, Cassowary Coast Regional Council, Livingstone Shire Council, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, Mareeba Shire Council and Somerset Regional Council will share \$1.4 million to further enhance their local planning schemes because this Crisafulli government has reset the planning partnership with local councils. We are getting on with the job. We are releasing land so more Queenslanders can find a place to call home in this great state.

State Finances

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (2.16 pm): The Crisafulli government is restoring respect for Queenslanders' money after a decade of decline under Labor. Our budget in June laid the foundation for a fresh start. Our first budget funded services that would have ceased, jobs that would have ended, and saved infrastructure and projects that would have never been built under Labor.

Today I table the audited Report on State Finances for the 2024-25 financial year, the year of the last budget handed down by the former Labor government.

Tabled paper: Queensland Government: 2024-25 Report on State Finances of the Queensland Government—30 June 2025 [1667].

It was a budget that baked in significant underfunding of critical service delivery areas like health, housing and child safety and had no funding to make permanent 50-cent fares in Queensland. In these circumstances, the final budget outcome was always going to be very different from the story told by the member for Woodridge last year and perpetuated by the member for Waterford ever since.

In June the estimated operating deficit for 2024-25 had increased to \$5.38 billion; however, I can today report an improvement of \$948 million, with the final budget outcome being a reduced deficit of \$4.43 billion. This is due to lower than forecast expenses partially offset by revenue, though this was also lower than forecast in June. State government revenue has now fallen year on year for the second time in a row and it compounds the cruel blow of Canberra's \$2.3 billion cut to our GST funding this year.

Again, I note that those opposite have been deathly quiet—conspicuously quiet, 'crickets' quiet—about that disastrous decision. They would rather pander to their mates in Canberra than stand up for people in Queensland. On this side of the House, we will always fight for Queensland's fair share. Those opposite squandered revenue rivers of gold, with community safety, health and housing outcomes going backwards on their watch.

Labor's fiscal vandalism has made a credit rating downgrade highly likely, even inevitable. Their debt, deficit and deception legacy will take time to fix—this term and the next. We will continue to calmly and methodically restore respect for taxpayer money, making investments in a stronger, more productive economy to build a better lifestyle for all Queenslanders.

Year 12 External Exams



Hon. JH LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Minister for Education and the Arts) (2.19 pm): On Monday this week we became aware of an unfortunate situation that has affected a portion of our year 12 students across nine schools. The senior external exam for ancient history as set by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority occurs today. Previously, the exam topic was based on the historical Roman figure Augustus; however, some schools had failed to note the content change to Julius Caesar. As you can imagine, this has brought much angst to the students affected, not to mention teachers and families. All of us here have been students and can sympathise with the impact, distress and confusion this has caused. To put it simply, this incident is unacceptable.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, 28 October 2025, QCAA contacted all 172 schools offering ancient history to ensure no other schools were impacted. I am advised that all 172 schools have responded and nine schools are affected. I am also advised that no other year 12 external exam has experienced this same issue. There have not been topic changes in any other subject such as that which has occurred for ancient history. Once this matter was brought to my attention I acted quickly, directing my director-general to undertake a full investigation with the QCAA which will include reviewing their communications, procedures and verification processes to ensure that schools are confirming awareness of topic changes for any curriculum. We must prevent this ever happening again.

Furthermore, to amend the current circumstances for students and ensure they are not disadvantaged, we have instructed the relevant schools to apply for illness and misadventure exemption. QCAA have advised there is leniency for students to sit the test out. Students have already completed 75 per cent of their assessments in this subject, and their overall grade will now be scaled to make sure no-one is disadvantaged by this unacceptable error.

As education minister I am very concerned about this situation and my thoughts are with each of the affected students. I will ensure they are not disadvantaged and I encourage them to continue working hard throughout the exam period. I say to them: if you are stressed, do not be afraid to seek help from your educators, family and friends who are there for you. I do not take these matters lightly, nor the responsibility to ensure schools are delivering the best quality of education for Queensland students. I also thank the students of Queensland for their best efforts and wish them all the best in their final semester.

Trade



Hon. RM BATES (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training) (2.22 pm): After a decade of Labor decline, under the Crisafulli LNP government Queensland is open for business once again and we are making sure the world knows it. In our first 10 months we delivered Queensland's first ever global business brand—something those opposite could not manage in a decade. Queensland of Opportunity showcases Queensland as Australia's premier destination to invest, trade, study and work. It delivers a clear, unified message about Queensland's economic strengths, our skilled workforce, our strategic location, our opportunities for study and research, and our ambitious growth agenda.

Already, the Premier and I have directly delivered the Queensland of Opportunity brand to markets in India, Japan and Indonesia, across Europe and in the UAE. We are not stopping there. My next trade mission will build on the Crisafulli LNP government's strategic approach to restoring Queensland's reputation on the world stage, delivering real commercial outcomes for Queensland exporters while attracting investment by reaffirming this is a Queensland of Opportunity that is open for business.

I will be delivering our global business brand directly to the largest trade show on earth—the China International Import Expo—alongside Queensland's largest ever delegation to the expo. The Queensland of Opportunity pavilion, which I will officially launch at the expo, will showcase new trade opportunities on a global stage for Queensland exporters. This builds on our success earlier this year at Hofex, where I led a delegation of 15 Queensland businesses to generate \$3.99 million in export outcomes, securing close to 200 new trade leads.

Our trade missions are already creating new local jobs so that Queenslanders can get on with building the lifestyle they deserve. Just the other week, the Crisafulli LNP government's efforts to restore Queensland's global reputation and attract international investment in Queensland saw Graphinex secure US backing for its graphite project in North Queensland. The project, which is expected to create more than 200 jobs, has been fast-tracked by our government and is another example of the Crisafulli LNP government delivering exceptional outcomes for Queensland and a fresh start for our international partnerships. Credit goes to Minister Last for his excellent involvement in this outcome for Queensland.

Also just last week we announced that under a Crisafulli LNP government 180 new jobs will be delivered in Far North Queensland. The Crisafulli government, via QIC, has made a \$30 million investment into the Mourilyan Silica Sands Project. This will support the export of more high-quality silica, positioning the Cassowary Coast as another Queensland player in global critical mineral supply chains. It is just one of the many ways the Crisafulli government is delivering for Queensland by restoring the state's reputation on the world stage after a decade of decline and missed opportunities under Labor.

By working tirelessly to repair the trading relationships that those opposite damaged, we will ensure the world knows that under the Crisafulli LNP government Queensland is open for business. In fact, in this financial year to date, thanks to the Crisafulli LNP government's ambitious international engagement program, Trade and Investment Queensland has already facilitated investment outcomes valued at \$272 million, which is expected to create 143 Queensland jobs. Throughout Labor's decade of decline exports were transactional, relationships were an afterthought, Queensland's export potential sat idle and investment opportunities were missed. Just 12 months in I am pleased to report that, under the Crisafulli LNP government, we are delivering a Queensland of Opportunity—a Queensland that is open for business.

Resources Industries

 **Hon. DR LAST** (Burdekin—LNP) (Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development) (2.27 pm): When the people of Queensland put their trust in the Crisafulli government we promised to restore certainty, strengthen confidence and get Queensland's resources sector firing again. Twelve months on, we are delivering. We are backing projects, fast-tracking approvals and getting the fundamentals right to unlock jobs and investment across regional Queensland.

At the centre of that effort is the Resources Cabinet Committee—a key election commitment—now delivering real outcomes. This committee has met regularly with industry, examined longstanding bottlenecks and developed a focused agenda to cut red tape, streamline approvals and provide clarity to investors. It is out with Labor's decade of decline, delays and uncertainty, and in with faster and clearer decisions that create jobs for regional communities. So far I have renewed 16 mineral development licences, 98 exploration permits and 125 coal resource authorities across the exploration, development and production pipeline. These approvals are about putting projects back on track, unlocking private investment and sustaining jobs in the communities that rely on mining and gas. This is what delivery looks like.

This committee is also helping advance the Eva copper project, has secured third-party access to tailings at Mount Isa and is actively supporting new phosphate production by delivering rail access incentives on the Mount Isa line. Just last week Queensland company Graphinex secured \$1.32 billion in US backing from the Export-Import Bank of the United States, or Exim, for its Esmeralda Graphite Project. This is a project that has been fast-tracked by the Crisafulli government which delivers 200 new jobs in the north and North-West Queensland, with a mine near Croydon and a processing plant in Townsville. They now join EQ Resources advancing the Mount Carbine tungsten project in Far North Queensland and RZ Resources developing a mineral separation plant at Pinkenba in securing major US backing through Exim.

Earlier this year I engaged directly with Exim to help secure this investment because we know that international partnerships matter. This announcement was not buried in a trade journal; it was made by President Trump himself as part of the critical minerals framework signed between the United States and Australia. When the President of the United States stands up at the White House backing Queensland's resources, it sends a pretty clear message that, after a decade of decline under Labor, Queensland is back on the world stage. We are sending investors around the world a clear message from the Crisafulli government: Queensland is open for business. We are working with industry, not against it. This is what delivery looks like. That is the record of the Crisafulli government.

Health System

 **Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (2.30 pm): Yesterday those opposite asked about our Easier Access to Health Services Plan to reduce ambulance ramping and stabilise the elective surgery waitlist. Today I would like to take this opportunity to talk about 12 months of delivery of that plan.

Firstly, there is workforce. We know that demand for health care is rising, and we have a growing and aging population and it is critical that our front line is supported to meet this demand. That is why we committed to delivering and growing the health workforce by 46,000 additional staff, and we are already seeing positive outcomes. Since commencing our term in office the Queensland health workforce, including the Queensland Ambulance Service, has grown by over 5,400 additional full-time equivalents. That is doctors, nurses and paramedics out on the streets working hard in our hospitals, delivering the services that Queenslanders wanted.

Mr Crisafulli: That's a little different to what we heard before the election, isn't it?

Mr NICHOLLS: Exactly. I take that interjection from the Premier. That is despite what those over there disgracefully promoted before the election, a stark contrast to Labor's false claims that we would dismiss 12,000 health workers, a claim that has already been proven to be nothing more than a dirty scare campaign.

We listened to the tens of thousands of Queenslanders languishing on Labor's record high elective surgery waitlist, which almost doubled from 35,000 in 2015 to more than 60,000 in 2024. That is why we invested \$100 million in our Surgery Connect Surge, delivering 12,300 additional elective surgeries at the start of the year. That investment generated such a value to the system that after 10 years of decline under Labor we have invested a further \$1.75 billion for more elective surgeries over the next four years, and our investments are working.

We have done what those opposite failed to do for a decade. Do honourable members remember they said we would cut it? We have built it and made it better and are delivering more. The latest data confirms that under the Crisafulli LNP government there has been a five per cent reduction in the elective surgery waitlist in less than 12 months, with more than 143,000 patients being treated under our funding.

Real-time data—they said it could not be done. They went the other way; they wound back transparency and openness. That is another commitment we made to the people of Queensland and we have delivered after 10 years of Labor excuses that it was too hard. Queenslanders voted for a change last year; they voted at the booths and they continue to have their say with their clicks. We launched Open Hospitals in just 93 days, and to date there have been over half a million visits to the Open Hospitals website. I repeat: over 500,000 visits, something Labor could not deliver in a decade. It demonstrates a return to openness and transparency that was lost under those opposite. They did everything to cover it up and delivered nothing.

These achievements are among the many other stepping stones along the way to delivering better access to health services: \$80 million for new and expanded transit lounges, \$276 million for nine new CT and six new MRI machines and renaming satellite hospitals—as they properly should be—satellite health centres after consulting more than 1,500 clinicians, all in 11 months. We are delivering after a decade of Labor decline.

Social Housing

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (2.34 pm): After a decade of decline, underinvestment, poor planning and general chaos under Labor, we are delivering on our promise of a place to call home. Our first budget locked in a record \$5.6 billion investment in social and community housing to grow the construction pipeline and prioritise the actual delivery of new social and community homes. More than 5,600 social and affordable homes are currently under contract or construction in every corner of Queensland. Even just our current pipeline—not the new ones we are going to be adding—will grow our state's social housing portfolio by nearly six per cent. That is the same amount Labor grew social housing by over the entirety of the last decade.

We are funding infrastructure projects that have been holding back housing supply for years through our \$2 billion Residential Activation Fund so developers and councils can move at pace to unlock land. Our Queensland Community Housing Investment Pipeline, or Q-CHIP, is a nation-leading procurement model giving community housing providers the certainty they need to plan, partner and build homes at scale. Backed by our ongoing baseline funding of at least \$500 million a year with no end date, Q-CHIP replaces Labor's stop-start funding rounds with a continuous, always-on pipeline of opportunities. Since launching in September we have already received more than 30 pre-submission proposals from community housing providers across Queensland, each with the potential to deliver new homes and help meet our target of 53,500 social and community homes by 2044.

For those experiencing housing insecurity we have expanded the support available. A 20 per cent uplift in funding for specialist homelessness services, new domestic and family violence shelters and an expanded youth foyer program will deliver four times as many youth foyers as the former government delivered in a decade in just our first term. That is because a safe place to live is the foundation for everything else we want in our state.

Our government is delivering. We are more responsive, more connected and more compassionate. We are building more homes, reforming the system and giving hope to those who need it most. Under our government property owners will no longer be living in social housing and there will be consequences for those who make life hell for their neighbours.

We are delivering a modern, customer focused approach to housing and building, one that is smarter, simpler and more transparent. That includes reforming the Queensland Building and Construction Commission through the new leadership we have delivered and our Building Reg Reno program of reforms. The Crisafulli government is doing the work to turn around the housing crisis we inherited by delivering more places to call home across Queensland.

Local Government; Telecommunications Outage



Hon. A LEAHY (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (2.37 pm): Last week I was pleased to attend the entirety of the LGAQ conference at the Gold Coast where I caught up with many of our mayors and councillors. The overwhelming feedback I received from our partners in local government was how they love having a government that listens to them. Compare that to the decade of decline under Labor where councils were kept in the dark.

When we came to government we promised to deliver a fresh start for councils. We have a new Partners in Government Agreement and we have launched and concluded the red-tape reduction taskforce. We have launched an depreciation taskforce for local government to help reduce costs for ratepayers. We have made Works for Queensland a permanent program and we have improved councils' access to quarry materials, and we are only just getting started. Soon we will be introducing our empowering councils bill. This will make changes that mayors and councillors have been requesting for years. We are delivering for Queensland's local governments, freeing them from unnecessary red tape and bureaucratic burdens.

I also wish to give a quick update to the House with regard to the Optus network outage today. We are advised by our agencies, including the Queensland Police Service, that there has been no impact on triple-0 services in Queensland.

Primary Industries



Hon. AJ PERRETT (Gympie—LNP) (Minister for Primary Industries) (2.39 pm): In the past year the Crisafulli government has been delivering the fresh start our primary industries desperately needed. We are cleaning up after a decade of neglect and decline and laying the foundations for future success. We have increased biosecurity support and are on track to have 35 additional officers in place by Christmas. We have invested an additional \$24 million into the Fire Ant Suppression Taskforce. This brings the total funding of Queensland's FAST to \$61 million. Our commitment is in addition to the national cost-shared program.

I wrote to the federal government to match our additional commitment. The Invasive Species Council, the Local Government Association of Queensland and the South-East Queensland Council of Mayors have written demanding additional funding for fire ant suppression work. There has been nothing. I travelled to Canberra to speak with federal minister Julie Collins, again asking for support. The federal government refuses to match our additional commitment. The additional funding is for aerial treatment of heavily infested areas within the Logan, Ipswich, Scenic Rim, Brisbane, Gold Coast and Redland local government areas.

We have launched a specialist project team to tackle the pests. Two weeks ago I was with the member for Coomera and the Invasive Species Council Advocacy Manager, Reece Pianta, on a northern Gold Coast cane farm to inspect the aerial treatment. Reece applauded our fresh start on suppression, calling it essential.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr PERRETT: I notice that the member for Pine Rivers is 100 per cent behind what we are doing. Through the largest ever stakeholder—

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr PERRETT: She is absolutely behind it. I am sure that is why Reece is so supportive of the work we are doing—absolutely 100 per cent supportive. Well done, member for Pine Rivers, for coming on board and backing the work we are doing.

Through the largest ever stakeholder collaboration we have developed a blueprint, Primary Industries Prosper 2050, to help reach \$30 billion in primary production output by 2030. We can only reach the target by driving future investment, creating jobs and seeking and unlocking opportunities. That is why last week I led a trade mission to Indonesia. Its priority is food security. The mission has delivered important outcomes for Queensland's producers and exporters, including our live cattle trade. We are delivering.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Housing



Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.41 pm): I give notice that I will move—

That this House condemns the Crisafulli LNP government for their failure to deliver housing solutions for Queenslanders which is resulting in skyrocketing rents, axing of affordable homes and making it harder for Queenslanders experiencing homelessness to get crisis accommodation.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr SPEAKER: Question time will conclude at 3.42 pm.

Regional Queensland, Birthing Services



Mr MILES (2.42 pm): My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister guarantee that birthing services at Biloela, Cooktown and Chinchilla will be at least level 3 standard, with obstetric and anaesthetic cover?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. These are questions that I note the Leader of the Opposition and the shadow minister for health did not ask me during estimates—not once. Not one question was I asked by those opposite during estimates—not a single one. It strikes me as passing strange that, some four months after estimates, those opposite are asking questions that they could have been asking at estimates—that they should have been asking at estimates—and it has got me thinking: why are they doing it now? What has happened now? Has something come into their possession, that they have suddenly found, that sort of enthused them to ask questions? Have they maybe got a copy of some leaked documents, for example, that they think are going to trick us up or take us down that pathway? Have they got those? I wonder if that is what is happening. Unable to think up their own questions, those opposite are using documents that they think we do not know about in order to ask me questions. What a facile question from the people who closed down birthing services at Cooktown, at Biloela and at Gladstone and offered to resign—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My point of order is clearly on relevance.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, the question was about plans for the birthing services.

Mr NICHOLLS: Yes, absolutely—birthing services at Biloela, birthing services at Cooktown. As I indicated yesterday in answer to the member for Cairns, the work is on track. It is being progressed. We are fixing and delivering on the birthing suite at Biloela Hospital. The member for Callide and I inspected the hospital. I am not sure the member for Murrumba in his travels—because he is a bit lazy; you have to get up early—has been to look at Biloela Hospital. They are being delivered. We know that the member for Cairns finds it difficult to find Cooktown—unlike the member for Cook, who has actually been there and taken up the fight. Those opposite closed 37 birthing units since 1998. That is the record of the Labor Party.

(Time expired)

Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

Mr DICK: My question is to the Minister for Health. The minister previously called for those under Crime and Corruption Commission investigation to stand down. It is reported today that the CCC is now formally investigating the failed Chief Health Officer appointment. Will the minister stand down during this investigation?

Mr NICHOLLS: I am more than happy to answer that question.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I would just ask the member for Woodridge to authenticate the elements of the question as asked.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr McCallum interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Bundamba, you are warned. The question was around the investigation. I do not think it identified anybody specifically who was under investigation; it was around the investigation, as I heard it, around the appointment of the CHO.

Mr NICHOLLS: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I remember the events of 2017 pretty well and I remember why we called for them. I remember the specific events because there was a mangocube affair. I remember it very clearly. We had a very foolish member who was specifically identified—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr NICHOLLS: They do not like it, Mr Speaker. They can give it, but they cannot take it. I remember them all. I remember the litany of reports to the CCC in relation to the Labor Party, starting with a premier of this state who was found by the Ethics Committee to have acted improperly following an investigation by the CCC, which could not come to a determination in relation to the withdrawal of benefits for the Katter party. I remember that occurring.

Then I remember the links between the member for Miller and his mates in the ETU and the messages about, 'Comrade, we need to appoint these people to the board.' I remember the *Australian* lodging an RTI application and on the day they lodged the RTI application, what did the Mango Cube do? He started deleting his emails. There was a specific allegation against a specific member who only escaped prosecution because they could recover the emails—not because he wanted to or had any intent otherwise. That is the ground upon which I rightly called for the member for Miller to step aside. Here is the question: did the member for Miller step aside because I called for it, or because the political pressure got too great? Exactly! The member for Miller, like the member for South Brisbane—

Mr Power interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Logan, you are now warned. Minister, you have 55 seconds left.

Mr NICHOLLS: The member for Miller—

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Hold on a second. Who was that?

An honourable member interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Miller you are also warned.

Mr NICHOLLS: The member for Miller cannot help himself. You just wind him in. It is a bit like his texting. It is a bit like his trolling. It is a bit like his loitering around the halls of the PA Hospital trying to film himself late at night—that is what he is trying to do.

None of them have made an allegation. We have a complaint made by a political opposition to the CCC. The CCC are undertaking whatever it is they do. I have no knowledge of it, and nor do they.

(Time expired)

Child Protection

Mr HUNT: My question is to the Premier and Minister for Veterans. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering safety across Queensland, particularly for Queensland kids, and is the Premier aware of any approaches that have failed to keep Queensland kids safe?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the member for Nicklin for the question. I am going to immediately begin talking about Bruce and Denise Morcombe and what we rolled out today in schools but, first, I do have to say to the member for Nicklin: thanks for your support of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation over a long period of time, not only in your capacity in this place but also with the Queensland Police Service. I do want to acknowledge that, and thank you very much.

Today, alongside the Minister for Education and the Minister for Child Safety, I was able to go to Milton State School with Bruce and Denise and talk about Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson, and it is an important one. For the benefit of the House, this Friday 50,000 kids across the country will go

online and get that message of child safety. We believe there will be over half a million across the country who will get that lesson. It puts the power in their hands to make sure they feel safe and they can stay safe.

There are things we can do as a government as well and we must do. It is our first and most important responsibility to keep our most precious asset—our children—safe. Tomorrow this parliament will hopefully pass one of the most significant pieces of legislation to keep kids safe. It has been a long time in the making and it has been called for for a long time, but I want to talk about the other elements the government is doing to make sure we put the rights of parents and kids first. Everything we do is about protecting them.

There were a number of things that we discovered upon coming to office, and I want to highlight programs that were not funded—quite deliberately and quite maliciously—in the former government's final budget. There is one I look at repeatedly and it always makes me shake my head about how anyone could be that callous, manipulative and irresponsible in the protection of children. The former government did not fund 19 Early Childhood Regulatory Authority positions. How on earth? Can you imagine a situation where the kids who go to care would not have an authority that is properly resourced? They did it, and they never told Queenslanders. They did it for their books, rather than for kids. We have restored that—

Mr Dick: Complete rot.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will take the interjection from the person who did it. There are other things we are doing. A commission of inquiry—

Mr Dick: You are an absolute disgrace. How dare you use the Morcombes like this! How dare you!

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will take that interjection as well, from the person who did not fund it—a commission of inquiry, a blue card review, the national childhood early education register and the Early Childhood Regulatory Authority that was not funded by the member for Woodridge. On this side of the House we will properly fund and we will keep kids safe, and the member for Woodridge knows it.

Toowoomba Hospital, Maternity Services

Mr BAILEY: My question is to the Minister for Health. Will the minister order a part 9 investigation into the allegations of toxic behaviour and obstetric violence at the Toowoomba Hospital maternity unit?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for Miller for his question because he does, surprisingly, but thankfully, raise a serious issue in relation to what is occurring at the Toowoomba Hospital. Concerns were raised about the workplace culture within the maternity unit at Toowoomba Hospital and Toowoomba Hospital commissioned an independent workplace culture review which has already commenced. Work is currently underway in respect of what is occurring at Toowoomba. At this stage of proceedings, all shifts are being filled and there are no gaps in the care that is being offered. Interim leadership positions and arrangements are in place and all leadership positions have been filled, including for nurse unit managers and midwifery unit managers.

I think it is critically important that I reassure the women and families of the Darling Downs that they will receive appropriate, complete and satisfactory maternity care and that none of the issues that have been raised relate to clinical safety or service delivery. Maternity services continue uninterrupted at Toowoomba Hospital. I particularly want to thank the staff, the nurses and the QNMU, who have been most responsible in raising this matter internally with the executive of the Toowoomba Hospital in relation to this matter. I want to thank the administration of the Toowoomba Hospital who have taken immediate steps to ensure those cultural issues are being resolved and do not affect the delivery of maternity services.

Obviously, I am not able to disclose individual employment matters as they pertain to people and individuals, but those services can continue and are underway and have been since I was alerted to those matters about a week or so ago. I particularly want to acknowledge, of course, the necessity for our service to provide those services up there given the recent closure of birthing services by the private facilities. The Toowoomba and Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service are aware of it. They have taken immediate action after commissioning the appropriate reviews and respecting the rights and their obligations as an employer to the various parties involved. I reiterate: these go to cultural issues in relation to the operation of the birthing unit and in no way have they resulted in lessening of or any diminution of the care that is provided to mothers and families presenting at the Toowoomba Hospital. This is also a good opportunity to indicate that is why we need a new Toowoomba Hospital to cope with the increase in patients.

Workplaces, Integrity

Mr JAMES: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations. Can the Deputy Premier advise the House about the importance of maintaining integrity in the workplace, and is he aware of any instances where integrity has not been upheld?

Mr BLEIJIE: I thank the member for the question—a member with the utmost integrity, a former serving councillor and mayor of the great city of Cairns and now serving the great people of Mulgrave in this parliament. Well done and congratulations again for delivering for the people, including a Mount Peter PDA—something the Labor Party could not declare for 10 years. We did it within a year. The member has achieved more than the former member for Mulgrave—who, in fact, was the treasurer—did in his time in this place. Well done to the member for Mulgrave and the Far North members.

The member asks about integrity in the workplace; it is important as industrial relations minister. I am not going to talk about the CFMEU today, but I am going to talk about the Labor Party. They are one and the same, really. It is the same thing, right? The CFMEU and Labor are interchangeable: red, green, watermelon—exactly the same.

I want to talk about concerns I have with revelations today with respect to the by-election in Hinchinbrook and a lack of leadership. I can advise honourable members that Labor's Katter candidate has been a member of the Labor Party since 2017. The Labor Party say they have expressions of interest out for a candidate. We know that the opposition leader does not have the courage—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The standing orders indicate that questions are to be put to ministers around public affairs to which they are officially connected or administration for which they are officially responsible. I submit to you that whatever in the question the minister is referring to in respect of political parties other than his own he is neither officially connected to nor responsible for the administration of.

Mr SPEAKER: I will take advice. Minister, the question was around integrity in the workplace, if you can focus on that.

Mr BLEIJIE: Indeed, Mr Speaker. This individual, Mark Molachino, is wanting to be in this workplace and as industrial relations minister I am concerned about what happens in this workplace. I am industrial relations minister for all Queenslanders, even the ones subjected to attacks by the Labor Party. I am the defender of the worker. I will defend the workers and I will defend integrity in the workplace.

The member wants more information, so I table ECQ documentation showing Mr Molachino has been a member of the Labor Party since 2017.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Electoral Commission Queensland: Nomination for Mayor or Councillor' [\[1668\]](#).

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Electoral Commission Queensland: Nomination for Mayor or Councillor' [\[1669\]](#).

The Labor Party has its candidate in the Hinchinbrook by-election. He is there already. He is faking to be a Katter candidate but he will come in here, if he gets elected as a Katter candidate, do a deal with Labor left and join Steven Miles's team. That is the risk. If Mr Molachino thinks he is going to be doing a deal with Steven Miles, he should think again. Steven Miles will not last until Christmas.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! I will caution you, member for Waterford.

Mr BLEIJIE: If Mr Molachino wants to do a deal with the Labor leader, he ought not look to the member for Murrumba; he ought to look somewhere else. They are leaking like a sieve. Despite people's belief, a lot of Labor Party MPs actually love me and talk to me and they tell me he is a goner by Christmas.

Mr MARTIN: Mr Speaker—

Mr SPEAKER: Time has expired.

Mr BLEIJIE: Just read the paper every week—goneski!

Mr SPEAKER: Time has expired. When the clock strikes zero, time has expired.

Hospitals, Ramping

Mr MARTIN: My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister advise when Queenslanders will see the yearly ambulance ramping reduction KPIs promised by the Premier?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for Stretton for his first question. Those opposite asking about ramping is like Dracula turning up at the blood bank. That is the height of hypocrisy from those opposite, because any brief reflection on the record will reveal the three strikes from those over there. Let us have a look at the three strikes when it comes to ambulance ramping, because those members are still there. We still have Murrumba, Woodridge and Waterford. There are the three strikes—each of them presided over an increase in ambulance ramping, with no plan to deal with it. What were those figures? They went from 15 to 45 per cent under those opposite. Specialist outpatients went from 193,000 to 295,000 under those opposite, an increase of more than 60 per cent. Elective surgery went up to over 66,000 under those opposite. That is another three strikes. The member for Waterford promised to reduce ambulance ramping to 28 per cent within 12 months. Where did it end up? At 45 per cent. She promised to reduce elective surgery to 56,000. Where did it end up? At over 66,000. She promised to reduce the outpatient list to 248,000. Where did it end up? At 290,000. That is the record of those on that side after a decade of decline. What have they said in their year in opposition? What has been their plan?

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. The question was about when the KPIs promised by the Premier would be revealed.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, that was the question, if you could address that in the time you have left.

Mr NICHOLLS: Absolutely. As they mentioned ramping, I thought a history on why ramping got to where it was was entirely relevant to the question. You cannot have the answer without knowing the facts behind it. Those facts on ramping are the facts that the Labor Party has denied.

What are the milestones? I went through it in my ministerial statement, I said it yesterday and I will say it again today. What are we doing? We have increased the Queensland Health workforce by over 5½ thousand. Do you think that might help ramping? I think it might. There will be more doctors, more nurses, more paramedics. Do you think we should also legislate to put local clinicians on boards so they can respond to local issues in their area? We did it; they opposed it. They voted against it. They do not like the idea of local clinicians. We stopped Labor's patients tax, meaning more people being able to go and see their GP rather than turning up at emergency departments.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr NICHOLLS: We are investing an additional \$5 billion that they failed to fund in our Hospital Rescue Plan—more beds sooner. We are delivering where they failed.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Waterford, I have cautioned you many times today. You are now warned.

Community Safety

Mr FIELD: My question is to the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services. How is the Crisafulli LNP government restoring community safety across Queensland, and is the minister aware of any approaches that saw the number of victims of crime skyrocket due to a decade of decline?

Mrs GERBER: I thank the member for Capalaba for his question. No-one in this House has felt the effects of Labor's youth crime crisis more than the member for Capalaba and no-one has fought as hard as the member for Capalaba to see fewer victims of crime in this state. We have Adult Crime, Adult Time as a result of the member for Capalaba standing up and fighting for it, despite the immense trauma that he and his family went through. He has turned that devastating loss into change that is now benefiting all Queenslanders. As a result of our strong laws—Adult Crime, Adult Time—as well as more police, we saw a 17 per cent reduction in serious repeat youth offenders in the first six months of the Crisafulli government. We rolled out our early intervention programs and our rehabilitation programs, which are nation-leading and provide every single youth who leaves detention with 12 months of intensive support to ensure we can stop Labor's revolving door of youth crime.

Those on the other side of the chamber watched victim numbers rise year on year. Now we see those on that side watching the rise of something else, that is, the rise of a new leader. We are hearing whispers in the corridors that the Christmas coup is on. That has been leaked to the *Courier-Mail*. We have seen them do it before. There is form here. The Christmas coup happened to Annastacia Palaszczuk two years ago. In fact, it was Blocker himself who installed the current Leader of the Opposition. Where is Gary Bullock now? He is losing support as well. Who is going to do the numbers for the new leader over there now? Will it be the member for Waterford? Will it be the member for Gaven? Will the member for Miller have a conflict-of-interest plan in place?

A government member interjected.

Mrs GERBER: No, I think time is up for the deputy as well. We are hearing from Labor's backbench and their front bench that the Leader of the Opposition's time is up. There will be a Christmas coup. The last caucus is 8 December—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: There are 10 seconds left, Minister.

Mrs GERBER: The last caucus is 8 December and my prediction is that we will not see the Leader of the Opposition in this chamber in 2026.

(Time expired)

Ipswich Hospital

Ms HOWARD: My question is of the Minister for Health. Can the minister confirm that an investigation has been ordered by the Premier into repeated failures at the Ipswich Hospital, including the tragic death of Christine White?

Mr NICHOLLS: Again, there were very tragic circumstances surrounding the recent passing of Ms White. I understand that the family continues to seek answers to that.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The minister is being responsive to the question.

Mr NICHOLLS: The West Moreton Hospital and Health Service continues to liaise with the White family. My understanding is that there have now been more than 70 pieces of correspondence passing between various members of the White family and the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service and they are all being treated appropriately by the customer officers at West Moreton Hospital and Health Service.

There have been some additional matters raised by the White family. There was the initial complaint to the OHO. Some two weeks ago, a response from the OHO was provided to the White family. That was the subject of a motion debated in this place. I respect the wishes of the White family in respect of those matters. They have subsequently made, I think, another three referrals to the OHO and, as is appropriate, the OHO is conducting its investigations into those matters. It is appropriate that the OHO, as the investigating body, is free to do so and does so free of anything that I may say or do statutorily, free of anything that the Premier may want to do and free of anything that the Leader of the Opposition or, indeed, the member herself may want to do. That is an appropriate course of action and that is the course of action that is occurring.

Separately, we are investing in building more hospital beds to deal with the decade of decline that was left by Labor at Ipswich. There is a significant problem at Ipswich Hospital, which is a lack of capacity and insufficient beds in the emergency department as well as the flow problems there. That is why we are investing in excess of \$80 million on transit lounges and other flow initiatives, including seven-day discharge, mapping and the provision of additional medical services to GPs to prevent people turning up there.

Today I can advise that Ipswich Hospital is not on tier 3. That is a great result and a great testament to the dedication of the hardworking staff. Work is progressing apace on the next stage of the expansion of the Ipswich Hospital. We have funded the new Springfield Hospital, which was left unfunded to the tune of \$640 million by those opposite, so that it can open next year and provide more services to the Ipswich community. That is the answer. That is what we are delivering.

(Time expired)

Redcliffe Hospital

Ms DOOLEY: My question is to the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services. Can the minister provide an update on the Crisafulli LNP government's delivery of the Redcliffe Hospital expansion, and is he aware of any alternative plans under the former failed capacity expansion program?

Mr NICHOLLS: Surprisingly, I can answer that question from the member for Redcliffe as it is something that the member for Redcliffe raises constantly with me because she is such a fierce and determined advocate for the people of Redcliffe. The member for Redcliffe is a nurse. She has spent a large portion of her working life at the Redcliffe Hospital as have many members of her family. I have visited the Redcliffe Hospital on four occasions, I think, and every time the member for Redcliffe was greeted with open arms by those she knows who work there and by patients who were walking in the front entrance. It is quite remarkable the affinity that the people of Redcliffe have with the member for Redcliffe, which is as it should be after all these years.

I am asked about the failures. The failures started under the member for Murrumba. As we have heard, the member for Murrumba is about to be going through the turkey dance at Christmastime. The only real question we have left is not whether the knives are going to come out and the head will be chopped off, but how they will dress the turkey. That is the only question yet to come. Who is going to be doing the dressing? They are lining up to dress the turkey and send him on his way with the gravy, the potatoes and the breadcrumbs. That is what it is all about.

There is a laundry list of failures under those opposite. There was a \$1 billion cost blowout. The project was delayed for two years due to planning failures. There was inadequate planning that failed to address more than 1,000 clinician comments. They did not plan for a paediatric outpatients' unit. Imagine a hospital with no mortuary or education and training facilities. They failed to address safety concerns for staff around entry and exit after hours and, of course, they failed to resolve the cultural heritage issues raised by the Gabi Gabi people in relation to a scar tree which cost \$54,000 a day.

We are now fully funding the Hospital Rescue Plan, which includes the Redcliffe Hospital. We have called for expressions of interest in relation to the three decks to be added to the car park. Shortly we will be calling for tenders for the construction of the Redcliffe Hospital expansion. We will be delivering additional beds, more than those promised, faster than those promised and fully funded under our Hospital Rescue Plan, which is putting \$18½ billion into delivering 2,600 beds from Coomera in the south to Cairns in the north and out to Toowoomba and I have mentioned the Toowoomba Hospital. We are getting on with the job in the way we said we would, that is, calmly and methodically.

(Time expired)

Children, Hormone Therapy

Mr MILES: My question is to the Minister for Health. Will the minister release the interim review of stage 1 and stage 2 hormone therapies in public hospitals that was provided to government in September?

Mr NICHOLLS: There is no such interim review. I do not know what the member for Murrumba is dreaming up. There is no such interim review. There is no piece of paper. He is making it up. I do not know what desperate, last gasp this is from the member for Murrumba to try to hang onto his job, to hang onto his role. He pretends he has some secret source in relation to this. The only secret source is the sauce that will be on the turkey over there who is going to be cooked at Christmas time—the member for Murrumba—as the hungry hoards circle around him waiting to go for the top job. That is what they are trying to do.

Mr Bleijie: Leave him there.

Mr NICHOLLS: Exactly. The government has not received a draft review or anything else, for that matter. Professor Ruth Vine is undertaking a proper review, as requested, according to the terms of reference. As I have explained on many occasions, it is appropriate, given the changing nature of evidence in relation to the prescription of stage 1 and stage 2 hormone therapy, that this occur.

Queensland is not alone in this. In fact, Minister Butler, the federal health minister, has commissioned the National Health and Medical Research Council to undertake two reviews. One is into the use and efficacy of hormone therapy. The second is into the whole critical care pathway known as gender affirmation care developed out of Melbourne. Both reviews are being done by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

That is the story. That is the reality of what is occurring at the federal level. I know that because Minister Butler rang me. I do not usually divulge these things, but I think it is important. It is not a great secret. Minister Butler rang me and said, 'I've noticed that you are commissioning a review. It is entirely up to the Queensland government what it does'—correct. He said, 'I have been concerned following the decision by the Labour health secretary in the United Kingdom in relation to the use of hormone therapy and gender-affirming care. I think I will refer the matter to the National Health and Medical Research Council.' I said, 'Yes. That is perfectly adequate.' He had nothing to say about our review other than that it is our decision.

I am doing this. We are proceeding calmly, methodically and appropriately with Professor Ruth Vine. When she provides her report, which we are not rushing her to do—she has the time to do it—we will consider it in a proper way, as any proper cabinet would. In the meantime, the member for Murrumbidgee should stop grasping at straws.

(Time expired)

Environmental Protection

Mr BOOTHMAN: My question is to the Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation. How is the Crisafulli government protecting Queensland's pristine environment for future generations, and is the minister aware of any approaches that neglect our environment?

Mr POWELL: I thank the member for Theodore for his question. I know that he is one of the members in this House who loves getting out in his local environment alongside community groups like the Coomera River Catchment Association and doing his bit to ensure our pristine environment continues to be protected.

The member for Theodore's question allows me an opportunity to provide a clear comparison between the Crisafulli government's 12 months of delivering in the environment space and the decade of decline of those opposite. As to the architects of that environmental decline over the last decade, we do not need to look any further than the frontbench opposite. We had the member for Gaven, the member for Algeester, the member for Nudgee and, of course, the individual who baked in the decline from the very start, the member for Murrumbidgee. They all served as environment ministers during previous Labor governments.

As I said yesterday, after Labor's decade of decline there has been a situation where more waste is going to landfill than ever before. What concerns me is that, even in opposition, the members for Waterford and Woodridge will soon add to that waste total when they send the Leader of the Opposition to the scrap heap. I will come back to that in a moment.

Labor left Queensland with one of the lowest recycling rates in the nation and a container refund scheme plagued by allegations of corruption, cronyism and standover tactics. That is why the Crisafulli government is fixing Labor's mess with a landmark new draft waste strategy and the \$130 million Resource Recovery Boost Fund. To be fair, I kind of understand Labor's aversion to recycling. We saw that after the losing the election last year they recycled their leader, and look how that has worked out for them. As the environment minister, I should caution those opposite to be wary of fast fashion. Whilst the Temu former treasurer may seem convenient, cheap alternatives never seem to last either.

The member for Murrumbidgee talked a big game when it came to protected areas. He promised 17 per cent and delivered only one per cent. We will deliver more than those opposite did in three terms in just one term. While I am keen to deliver a lot of things, there is one thing I am not going to be able to deliver. No matter what I do, there is one place I cannot prevent the poaching of endangered species, and that is in the Labor party room. I can send in my wildlife officers to work out who is doing the poaching, but we do not need to; we just need to read the *Courier-Mail*. They are sitting opposite. The poachers are opposite. The biggest question is: who is going to benefit from the poaching?

(Time expired)

Savannahlander

Mr KNUTH: My question without notice is to the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. Brisbane's Cross River Rail is 10 kilometres long while the total length of the Savannahlander, regarded as one of the top 24 train journeys in the world, is 224 kilometres from Cairns to Forsyth. Can the minister explain the \$20 billion spent on Cross River Rail while refusing to commit to fixing the entire Savannahlander journey, for a fraction of the cost, which would drive economic income and tourism benefits to the region?

Mr MICKELBERG: I acknowledge the member's advocacy in relation to the Savannahlander. As the member is aware, we are doing a considerable amount of work to address a number of key bridges that have been impacted as a consequence of natural disasters that occurred under the former government. I am not suggesting that the former government was responsible for those natural disasters. That work was not done and we are getting on with the job of addressing some of that work. It is a considerable amount of work.

As the member is aware, the estimated cost to rectify the deficiencies to get the Savannahlander up and running for the entirety of the journey to Forsyth is in excess of \$300 million. That is the advice I have received from Queensland Rail. In fact, I was in Einasleigh probably four or six weeks ago and the bridge in Einasleigh, as I know the member for Hill and the member for Traeger are aware, is considerably impacted. It is a piece of spaghetti, effectively. It has a big dogleg halfway down because it is washed out and it will require a considerable amount of work to rectify it. Nonetheless, we recognise the importance of the Savannahlander and we will continue to chip away at trying to address the considerable damage that exists on that line.

The member asks why the cost of Cross River Rail has blown out under those opposite. There is a multitude of reasons I could talk to. A couple of those sit opposite me. What we saw with the Cross River Rail project is a litany of failures presided over by people like the member for Miller—the 'overrun overlord'—who sold his soul to the CFMEU, and Queenslanders paid the price.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Correct titles, required under the standing orders, are not being adhered to by the member.

Mr SPEAKER: I would ask that you use correct titles, Minister.

Mr MICKELBERG: Which title would he like me to use?

Government members interjected.

Mr MICKELBERG: I will not take the interjections of all of my colleagues, of which there are many. What we saw from those opposite is a litany of failures when it came to major projects right across the state, whether it was Cross River Rail or a multitude of other projects they failed to deliver. Logan and Gold Coast Faster Rail is a project that they championed, but they could not get on with the job of building it. We are building Logan and Gold Coast Faster Rail because they could not.

On Cross River Rail those opposite have failed at every point. Their budgets were not even a work of fiction. They picked a number and would then double it and still miss it. We are getting on with the job of delivering the generational infrastructure that Queenslanders deserve in a calm, considered and methodical manner. Whether that is infrastructure in the Hill electorate or Cross River Rail, we will continue to work in a calm, considered and methodical manner to deliver the infrastructure that Queenslanders deserve.

(Time expired)

Timber Industry

Mr BENNETT: My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. How will the Crisafulli LNP government's Future Timber Plan deliver jobs across regional Queensland and stability for the industry, and is the minister aware of any alternative approaches during a decade of decline?

Mr PERRETT: I thank the member for Burnett for his question. As a builder and a good friend of the industry, he supports a thriving, sustainable and homegrown forestry and timber industry to help deliver the one million homes that Queenslanders need.

Last election, we committed to delivering an action plan within 12 months. We have worked with the timber industry and consulted Queenslanders. Last week, we delivered the Queensland Future Timber Plan. It will be officially launched in Maryborough. The landmark plan will expand and transform our forestry and timber industry, securing jobs for regional Queenslanders. We are delivering for the industry, workers, families and communities that they support—communities like mine in Gympie and that of the member for Maryborough, communities the former government ignored.

The decline started in 1999 under Peter Beattie. He promised 5,000 hectares of hardwood plantations and 10 million trees. Labor cannot get its facts and figures right. Who could forget, in 2010, in an asset sale, the former Bligh-Fraser Labor government sold off our state forest plantations, purportedly for less than half their value? In 2018 Palaszczuk's Labor government admitted Labor had failed to deliver Beattie's promise.

In mid-2019, I attended a rally in Maryborough with hundreds of timberworkers, their families and supporters. They were protesting Labor's failures. Their anger was palpable. They had had enough. Late that year, then premier Palaszczuk flew into Maryborough for a manufactured media event. She disingenuously promised a timber plan and a study into future timber supply options within two years. The former premier never delivered the plan; she never delivered the study. They were hollow promises. Like dry rot in timber, Labor let the industry decay.

Last year, in the shadow of the state election, former premier Steven Miles and his then treasurer rushed to Maryborough to announce yet another plan. They promised \$200 million for it to be delivered over decades.

The former treasurer appears incapable of getting his figures right. This week, in a social media post, he wrongly claimed there were only 10,000 people in Gympie. I am happy to correct the record for the former treasurer. Those days are long gone. There are almost 60,000 people in the Gympie local government area, the majority of them in Gympie. The only time Gympie was on Labor's radar was when it tried to build the failed Traveston Crossing Dam.

Labor is full of dead and rotting wood. Like wood borers and white ants, they are gnawing away at the opposition leader.

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Members to my right, it is the minister—one of your colleagues—whom I am trying to hear. I could not hear him for that din. Minister, you do not have long left—eight seconds.

Mr PERRETT: It appears the opposition leader is only one good summer storm from getting blown away.

Emerald Hospital, Dialysis Services

Mr KING: My question is of the Minister for Health. It is understood the Crisafulli LNP government cannot deliver renal dialysis beds at Emerald Hospital because they do not fit. Will the minister break his promise to deliver three renal dialysis beds in Emerald?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for Kurwongbah for the question. I have to say, member for Kurwongbah, you have been set up, mate. You have been set up.

Mr SPEAKER: Before you go on, Minister, direct your comments through the chair, please.

Mr NICHOLLS: The member for Kurwongbah is a man who loves a Ford GTHO, if I recall correctly, plays a mean game of pool and, notwithstanding a lengthy membership of the ETU, is someone I think most in this House have a moment for and are happy to have a chat with.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr NICHOLLS: That is it, exactly. Member for Kurwongbah, if you run we will vote for you. There you go! I reckon your rating will go up with the public as well because you will have a decent person out there and it will be a success. That is by the by.

As I said, those opposites think they have some great state secret. They think they have been delivered some information that is going to trip us up or call us out. We made a commitment to supply three dialysis chairs at the Emerald Hospital; that is correct. It is a commitment that the member for Gregory is very keen to see delivered. In fact, when we had community cabinet out at Emerald only 12 weeks ago the member and I visited Emerald Hospital. We visited Emerald Hospital with a view to finding out where those chairs could be placed, because the HHS came to us and—

Mr Mellish interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Aspley!

Mr NICHOLLS: We take the delivery—

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, you are not helping.

Mr NICHOLLS: We take the delivery of health services in rural Queensland as exceptionally important, whether we are restoring birthing services to the bush or whether we are delivering renal dialysis in Emerald. The director-general, the member for Gregory and I visited there. We said to the HHS there that the process and the speed of progress was not satisfactory. We physically investigated a number of sites. That work and the scoping of those sites is currently underway. We expect to have a plan for those sites for renal dialysis chairs at Emerald Hospital within two weeks.

Our commitment was to deliver by 2028. That work is underway. We will be delivering. We will be delivering it because we have funded the things those opposite were unable to fund—including Sustaining Capital, which they overdrew and used for everything except sustaining capital. We have put more than \$2 billion into it—thank you, Treasurer—and we will deliver that for the people of Emerald because they deserve it.

(Time expired)

State Finances

Mr STEVENS: My question is of the Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership. Will the Treasurer update the House on the actions taken as part of the Crisafulli LNP government's first budget to lay the foundations for budget repair after a decade of decline, and is the Treasurer aware of any threats to this approach?

Mr JANETZKI: I thank the honourable member for the question. He has been in the House for many budgets—too many of those under those opposite, no doubt, member for Mermaid Beach. I want to mention that the mighty former member for Ipswich West is tucked up in the gallery, too. It is great to see you here, Darren.

For our first budget, we set a number of tests, and what it delivered on was important for the people of Queensland. We said we would deliver targeted, timely, recurrent and responsible cost-of-living relief for those who need it most, firstly. We said we would save the jobs, services, projects and infrastructure that would otherwise never have been saved, never would have been delivered under those opposite. We said that we would lay the foundation for budget repair. We said that we would do those things, and that is what our first budget delivered.

The honourable member asked me if there are any threats. The threats to the budget come down to the fact of the lack of truthfulness on the numbers from those opposite. It is not a habit I make, but I actually went back and had a look at the last budget of those opposite because we are subjected regularly to them saying that the cost-of-living relief has ended.

However, what we see in this last budget is that Labor ended cost-of-living relief funding in Queensland. How do we know they ended cost-of-living relief in the budget? We go to the energy rebates. How much was in the budget this year from those opposite? Zero dollars. Turning next to the 50-cent fares, how much was in the budget this year and their last budget? Zero dollars. We have saved—we have fully funded and permanently funded 50-cent fares. How much was in the budget from those opposite for Play On! vouchers? Zero dollars. They ended cost-of-living relief in Queensland.

Even yesterday the member for Waterford and the member for Woodridge quoted figures—fudged figures—that suggested the independent ABS should not be relied upon when it comes to employment numbers. Perhaps we should not be surprised that they do not care too much about the figures, because there is only one set of numbers those opposite care about: the numbers in their caucus. They are the only numbers they care about. We know that the member for Waterford fell short in December a couple of years ago, but she is working on the numbers. We know that the Deputy Leader of the Opposition will never have the numbers. They are distracted by the wrong numbers. We know that they only ever care about the numbers in their caucus room, not the numbers that matter to the people of Queensland.

(Time expired)

Dental Services

Mr FURNER: My question is to the Minister for Health. There are 13,192 extra Queenslanders on the waitlist for dental care. Has the minister prioritised his election commitment, while the waitlists for specialist and dental appointments blow out?

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, you have two minutes to respond.

Mr NICHOLLS: I have prioritised the health, wellbeing and care of Queenslanders turning up at our hospitals no matter where they are—from Currumbin to Cape York and from Brisbane to Bedourie and beyond. I have prioritised dealing with the elective surgery waitlist that we were bequeathed by those opposite, despite their and the member for Waterford's multiple promises to reduce that waitlist.

I have prioritised delivering more hip, knee and cataract surgery. I have prioritised more scopes being provided, whether that is colonoscopies or endoscopies. I have prioritised making sure we have enough clinicians and doctors in our hospitals. I have prioritised funding the Women and Girls' Health

Strategy to the tune of \$157 million, which those opposite left unfunded. I opened the new Wellspring women and girls clinic—another LNP promise delivered—following the opening of the Jalbu clinic in Cairns by the member for Barron River, who is paying a lot of attention.

I have also been addressing the failures that we uncovered under the Hospital Rescue Plan that would have seen the hospital plan undeliverable and out of budget. I have prioritised funding the Sustaining Capital program and the timely investment into the infrastructure maintenance program to make sure the lifts, air conditioners and sterilising units work.

I have prioritised the delivery of better health services to Queenslanders across the state, no matter where they are. Whether it is dentistry, optometry or breast screening, everyone across the state is getting more and better services as a result of a record \$33.1 billion going into the budget this year—a 10 per cent increase on that which was left by those opposite last year. We are delivering after a decade of decline under Labor.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: The time for question time has expired.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND PUBLIC CHILD SEX OFFENDER REGISTER (DANIEL'S LAW) BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from 28 October (see p. 3377), on motion of Mr Purdie—

That the bill be now read a second time.



Dr O'SHEA (South Brisbane—ALP) (3.43 pm), continuing: As I was saying yesterday, the register will be administered by the Queensland police and will allow for the release of personal details of certain reportable offenders in three distinct tiers. Tier 1 information will be available on a public website and will provide details of reportable offenders who have gone missing. This will include their photographs as well as the details of any vehicles associated with them. Tier 2 allows Queensland residents to apply to temporarily view photographs of certain reportable offenders who reside in their local area. Tier 3 enables parents or guardians to inquire about whether a specified person is a reportable offender if the specified person has had or will have any unsupervised contact with their child.

The committee heard from numerous stakeholders during their inquiry into this bill. Bruce and Denise Morcombe consider that Daniel's Law strikes the right balance between the rights of children and the rights of offenders, stating they felt it was measured in its approach, provided parents with the tools to improve the safety of their children and acted as a deterrent to future offending. The Principal Commissioner of the Queensland Family and Child Commission, Mr Luke Twyford, was also supportive of the bill, stating—

... the protection of children from harm must be the paramount consideration in all decision-making. While adult privacy and reputational rights are important, they cannot outweigh the obligation to ensure that children are safe. The harms caused to a child by sexual abuse can be lifelong, irreversible and often intergenerational.

During the committee process, some stakeholders raised issues with certain aspects of the bill. The Queensland Council for Civil Liberties, the Sexual Violence Research and Prevention Unit, Legal Aid Queensland and the Queensland Law Society raised concerns that the public register may create a false sense of security for carers. Many other organisations echoed this concern and highlighted the need for community awareness in relation to the limitations of the register. The importance of raising this awareness was underlined by the advice provided by police during the committee process that less than 25 per cent of reportable child sex offenders would be included in the local area search under tier 2.

Stakeholders also called for community education about the nature of child sex offending, that most child sex abuse offenders are people known to the child and not necessarily known to authorities and will not be captured under the public register. It must be stressed that the register is just one part of what has to be a holistic approach to keeping children safe. Other issues raised related to: ensuring the Queensland Police Service was adequately resourced to administer the register; the uncertainty about when the system will be built and when it will be operational; and the fact that any automation of processes should be carefully set up and monitored to avoid mistakes.

Concerns were also raised that the scheme will not be reviewed until after five years of operation, with the Crime and Corruption Commission recommending a 12-month interim evaluation. The opposition asks the government to consider additional, earlier and ongoing reviews to ensure the system is operating as intended and to address any unintended consequences, particularly in relation to the impact on victims.

I note that during the committee hearing Denise Morcombe expressed her hope that the register will one day operate nationally, and the committee commented that it strongly supports the introduction of a consistent national framework. I ask the government to work with other premiers and police ministers, as well as the federal government, to develop a national register to keep children safe.

To finish, I would like to mention the Daniel Morcombe Foundation's documentary *Don't Waste It*. It is a very moving tribute to Daniel and an important educational resource to help our young teenagers stay safe. The documentary shows that what the Morcombe family have managed to achieve in the past 20 years is really remarkable, turning a devastating, life-changing tragedy into something positive by fighting to keep kids safe in Australia and around the world. As was stated in *Don't Waste It*, the astounding work of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation in keeping children safe is Daniel's legacy.

 **Hon. AJ PERRETT** (Gympie—LNP) (Minister for Primary Industries) (3.48 pm): I rise to speak on the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025. According to the explanatory notes, the objectives of this bill are to increase community awareness by giving parents and carers access to information to help protect children. It will also guard against misuse of offender information such as inciting others to intimidate or harass someone they suspect is an unidentified offender. It will also guard against unauthorised sharing of information gained through the register.

The public register is the next phase of the Making Queensland Safer Laws and is the first of its kind here in Queensland. It marks one of the most significant reforms to child safety laws in Queensland's history. It is also about transparency, accountability and ensuring that the worst repeat offenders cannot hide in the shadows. A statutory review of the public register will be required to be carried out by an independent and appropriately qualified person.

Known as Daniel's Law, this bill follows two decades of fearless advocacy by Bruce and Denise Morcombe for greater protection for the most vulnerable in our state. It acknowledges the wonderful work of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation to keep kids safe, to provide educational resources and to ensure that communities are equipped with the relevant tools and strategies they need to feel empowered.

The offenders we are talking about have not committed minor crimes or misdemeanours. A reportable offence includes violations like the grooming of a child under 16, the indecent treatment of a child and the making or distributing of child exploitation material. An offender is liable to the longest reporting obligation periods in Australia of 10 years, 20 years or life. This depends on the offender's age at the time of the offence and whether they have any repeat prior convictions.

Queensland's public register is mostly modelled on a scheme that has operated in Western Australia for the last 13 years. In their submission to the committee, Bruce and Denise Morcombe said that Western Australia's public register has worked well. They said—

Our observations and feedback of that is that it has done and continues to work well in that State.

We believe it offers little or no negative issues, yet it provides the disclosure of historic information that will protect the safety of children.

This bill creates a three-tier disclosure scheme and establishes three new offences to protect against vigilantes or the misuse of information. The three tiers deal with missing offenders, locality searches and disclosures about contact.

Tier 1 is the missing or noncompliant offender website. It establishes a publicly available website for reportable offenders who have failed to comply with their obligations and their whereabouts are unknown to police. Under tier 1, the offender's full name, photograph and year of birth will be accessible by members of the public, but they must agree not to misuse the information. Where necessary, the Police Commissioner may decide to publish additional details about the offender, such as descriptions of visible distinctive tattoos.

Tier 2 is the locality search function. It establishes an online application for Queensland residents to view photographs of reportable offenders living in their local area. It is limited to those who are repeat offenders, lifelong reportable offenders and those who are subject to a supervision order under the

Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003. Importantly, it allows the Police Commissioner to take further measures when police identify or receive information that a reportable offender poses a serious risk to the lives of, or sexual safety of, a child or children generally. In this case the Police Commissioner can include their photograph in a tier 2 request. Our model expands on that in Western Australia which is limited to offenders involving physical contact with a child. Queensland's model captures both contact and non-contact offences such as possessing child exploitation material.

Tier 3 is about the parent or guardian disclosure scheme. This also expands on the Western Australian model, which is limited to a parent or a guardian of a child. Our register ensures a broader range of primary caregivers can apply by extending this to include any person with parental responsibility. Tier 3 establishes an online application for parents and guardians to confirm whether a particular person who has had, or will have, unsupervised contact with their child is a reportable offender. The bill defines unsupervised contact and includes physical contact and contact that includes electronic communication without the presence of another adult.

As we know, Brett Peter Cowan—a twice convicted child sex offender—was found guilty of murdering Daniel Morcombe. His parents, Bruce and Denise, observed—

Under this Bill, Brett Peter Cowan would have been exposed in Tier 2 and Tier 3. This clearly demonstrates the measurable benefits of it when as we believe in December 2003, Cowan who was a father and husband; yet his wife, the mother of his children was completely unaware of the serious nature and his violent history of offending against children.

This bill delivers a key election promise of the Crisafulli government—that is, that Daniel's Law is to be law before the end of the year. As Queenslanders were promised, it is about restoring safety where you live. Most Queenslanders recognise our responsibility to protect children from serious sexual violence and harm. For 10 years the previous government failed to heed the calls to deliver a public sex offenders register. For a decade they did nothing. We promised we would establish a register, and that is what we are doing.

The Crisafulli government is giving parents, carers and communities the information and tools they need to help them make decisions about the safety and wellbeing of their children. Significantly, there are no fees for access to the public register. As the Premier has said—

For too long, convicted predators have been allowed to hide right under the noses of Queensland families.

...

While no system will ever be perfect, we want to give parents the best possible chance to protect their children.

Across the state communities have been calling out for the rights of parents and victims to be put ahead of the rights of offenders. We are doing just that. The Crisafulli government is putting the rights of victims and parents ahead of the rights of offenders. Bruce and Denise Morcombe submitted that the bill is—

... measured in its approach yet provides the tools necessary for parents and carers to improve the safety of children in their care. It also assists the community to ultimately feel safer, and we believe it significantly acts as a deterrent against future offending.

First and foremost, the Bill puts the protection of children ahead of the right of offenders.

Claims from advocates that offenders' rights are being trampled and that we are unleashing vigilantes are unfounded. This bill establishes safeguards and oversight into the use of the information. It excludes certain offenders from the public register. This includes child offenders who are in a witness protection program or where a court had prohibited the disclosure of their personal information. It also gives the Police Commissioner discretionary powers about publishing, providing or removing information about reportable offenders who are caught up in tier 1 or tier 2.

As I mentioned earlier, the bill establishes three new offences prohibiting the misuse of information. This includes anyone who intended to harass someone they believe is an offender or incites someone to harass or intimidate the suspected or identified offender. It will be punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment. Even if done unintentionally but still likely to intimidate or harass, a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment will be applied. The distribution, display or publishing of any identifying information from the public register without the permission of the Police Commissioner will also incur a three-year penalty.

This bill is about empowering families to make informed decisions about who their children interact with. It empowers communities. It re-establishes public confidence in the justice system. It promotes transparency and accountability by making information more accessible. This bill reaffirms the Crisafulli government's commitment to restoring safety in communities and keeping children safe from sexual harm. I commend the bill to the House.



Mrs YOUNG (Redlands—LNP) (3.58 pm): In the Redlands, our community has always looked out for one another. We are a community built on trust—where families, schools and neighbours share the belief that every child deserves to grow up safe, supported and protected. That is why this bill, the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025, matters. It gives parents and carers the right to make informed decisions about whom they allow around their children. It puts the rights of families ahead of the rights of predators. It ensures that the advocacy and legacy of the Morcombe family continue to protect generations of Queensland children. For more than two decades, Bruce and Denise Morcombe have turned unimaginable loss into a movement that has educated millions of children about personal safety and empowered families to speak up. Daniel's Law is the next step in that mission, turning awareness into action and advocacy into law.

This bill delivers on our government's commitment to strengthen Queensland's sex offender laws. It creates Queensland's first public child sex offender register, a three-tier system that gives families the right to know and the tools to protect their children. Under the current system, offenders must report their details to police but the public has no access to that information. Parents cannot know if someone around their child poses a risk. This bill changes that. Tier 1 will publish the photos and details of offenders who have breached their reporting obligations and whose whereabouts are unknown. Tier 2 allows residents to request, in a secure and controlled way, to see the photos of reportable offenders living in their local area. Tier 3 gives parents, guardians and those with parental responsibility the right to ask police whether a particular person—someone who has or will have unsupervised contact with their child—is a registered offender.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge and thank the Attorney-General, the Minister for Police and the Minister for Child Safety for the work they have done to bring this important bill before the House. Their collaboration and commitment have ensured this legislation is practical, effective and firmly focused on keeping children safe. This is about restoring confidence, strengthening awareness and giving parents the information they deserve to protect their children. Importantly, this law is built on balance. It safeguards against misuse with strict penalties of up to 10 years imprisonment for anyone who intimidates, harasses or unlawfully shares information about offenders. Daniel's Law is not about revenge; it is about protection. It empowers families while maintaining fairness, privacy and public safety.

I want to share a story from my own community that shows why this legislation matters. After this bill was introduced, a Redlands mum came to see me. Her story will stay with me forever. Her daughter, then in year 6, had participated in a Daniel Morcombe Foundation child safety program at school. That afternoon she got into the car and quietly told her mum that an uncle had made her feel uncomfortable. That brave conversation led to a heartbreaking truth: both of her daughters had been victims of abuse for a very long time. Without that school visit, without the Morcombe family's advocacy, that mother may have never known what her children were going through. Because of that education, those girls found their voice and their mother found the truth. That Redlands family wanted me to use this speech to thank Bruce and Denise Morcombe: through your determination to turn pain into purpose you have changed their lives. This is the real-world impact of awareness, education and empowerment, and it is exactly why Daniel's Law is so important.

Daniel's Law is the first of its kind in Queensland. It draws on lessons from other jurisdictions such as Western Australia and South Australia, but it goes further and is designed specifically for Queensland's needs. Here the process is clearer, access is broader and oversight is stronger. Queensland's register will capture a wider range of serious offenders including those convicted of possessing child exploitation material. It will allow any person with ongoing parental responsibility, including grandparents, foster carers and guardians, to apply for information, and it will exclude juvenile offenders and those under court ordered non-disclosure. The Police Commissioner retains discretion over what is published or removed, ensuring sensitive cases are handled responsibly. After five years an independent review will ensure the system remains effective, balanced and fair.

Community safety is a shared responsibility. It takes a village to raise a child, but that village must first be safe. As a mother, I know there is no greater fear than the thought of your child being harmed by someone you trust. That fear is what drives this government's commitment to put the safety of Queenslanders first—not politics, not excuses, but protection. In the Redlands I see every day how seriously our community takes this responsibility. Schools, police and community groups work hand in hand to promote the Recognise React Report message. Volunteers, teachers and parents all play their part. This Friday I will join students and families from Victoria Point State School for their annual walk

for Daniel—a walk that unites our community in bright red to say, 'We will protect our children, we will stay aware and we will never forget.' Each year that walk reminds us that education saves lives and that the Morcombe family's message continues to reach every corner of Queensland, including ours.

The Crisafulli government has made community safety a top priority. We made Jack's Law permanent to keep knives off our streets. We delivered Adult Crime, Adult Time laws to ensure serious repeat offenders face real consequences. Now through Daniel's Law we are empowering parents with the truth and restoring trust in the communities where our children grow up. This bill honours Daniel Morcombe's life and his family's extraordinary advocacy. Bruce and Denise have taken the darkest of tragedies and turned it into a legacy of life, one that will now be enshrined in Queensland law. Their strength has changed lives and now their legacy will change law.

Daniel's Law is a promise to every parent, every teacher and every child across Queensland that their safety matters. If even one child is protected, if even one parent is empowered, if even one predator is stopped before causing harm, then this law will have done what it set out to do. That is how we honour Daniel Morcombe—not just with words but with action that will save lives.

 **Mr KNUTH** (Hill—KAP) (4.06 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025. This bill is about restoring the most fundamental responsibility of government, which is to keep our community safe and ensure that the most vulnerable in our society are shielded from harm. Every parent has the right to know if a convicted child sex offender is living in their street, near their school or close to places where their children play. Right now that information is hidden behind closed doors and bureaucracy while the risk falls squarely onto mums, dads, carers and the broader community.

I can see the government has gone to great lengths to ensure this bill is about transparency, awareness and preventive protection. I also note that other jurisdictions, including some states internationally, have similar public registers that have proven effective in reducing reoffending and improving community confidence. Queensland families deserve the same level of protection.

Daniel's Law honours the memory of a young life lost in devastating circumstances and reflects the determination of parents who turned unimaginable heartbreak into a mission to protect others. It stands for the principle that children must come first—not offenders, not systems and not bureaucracy. I believe this bill provides clear safeguards and strict controls on how information is accessed. It also includes strong penalties for misuse. Communities across regional Queensland have been vocal and unwavering in their call for stronger protection against repeat child sex offenders. They want action and transparency, not secrecy. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Hon. RM BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training) (4.08 pm): I rise today to fulfil a promise. It has been clear for many years that a public child sex offender register was needed in this state. In 2017, as the then shadow minister for child safety, I promised Bruce and Denise Morcombe that I would do everything I could to see Daniel's Law passed. Today I am proud of an LNP government that is delivering on that promise.

For more than 20 years, Bruce and Denise Morcombe have been fighting tirelessly to improve child safety in this country following the tragic loss of their son Daniel. This legislation is a testament to their strength, their courage and their resolve to protect vulnerable young Australians. Thanks to the Morcombe's advocacy, this bill named in Daniel Morcombe's honour will establish a new three-tier Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register to protect Queensland children. Just like we said we would do, we are delivering this legislation to put the rights of parents and families ahead of the rights of sexual predators.

This register is the first of its kind in Queensland, giving Queenslanders access to information about child sex offenders in their community to ensure parents can make informed decisions about who has, or will have, contact with their children. This bill, in short, gives parents and guardians another tool in their toolkit to safeguard the children in their care. It is reflective of this government's belief that parents have the right to know if sexual predators are in their community, full stop. It is a reform that, unfortunately, was ignored for too many years under the former Labor government. In stark contrast, the Crisafulli LNP government is delivering on our commitment to see this legislation become a reality—because, under this government, keeping kids safe will always come before protecting sexual predators.

Given this bill is named in Daniel's honour, it is only fitting to commence the substance of my contribution to this debate with the words of Daniel's parents. Bruce and Denise Morcombe made the very first submission to the committee examining the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025, stating—

The proposed Bill known as Daniel's Law and named in honour of our son is a wonderful gesture that is supported by the Morcombe family.

Daniel's legacy is about keeping kids safe. We believe Daniel's Law will return the balance and provide additional tools for the community to do that.

It of course is not the complete answer. As we all realise offenders of child sexual abuse who do not have a criminal record will remain in the shadows.

But absolutely we know that Daniel's Law is going to help to keep children safer.

Turning to the substance of the legislation, I note previous speakers to this bill have spoken to the specifics in some detail so I will be brief. The public register will ensure families can make informed decisions about the people in their children's lives, whilst also being designed to protect against the potential misuse of information, including from potential vigilante violence. The register will operate as a three-tier system facilitated by the Queensland Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register website and administered by the QPS. I note that tier 1 is the missing noncompliant offender website, tier 2 is the locality search function and tier 3 is the parent/guardian disclosure scheme.

As part of tier 1, the website will display photographs and personal details of reportable offenders who have breached their reporting obligations or contravened the conditions of a supervision order under the Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003 and who cannot be located by police. Tier 2 sees Queensland residents able to temporarily view facial images of particular offenders residing in their locality in a secure way designed to be accessible only by the individual who has requested the information. This information is limited to reportable offenders who are repeat reportable offenders, lifelong reportable offenders or reportable offenders subject to a supervision order under the Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act.

Tier 3 of the public register concerns a parent or guardian disclosure scheme. Those with the ongoing parental responsibility for a child will be able to apply for confirmation as to whether someone who has had, or will have, unsupervised contact with their child or children is a reportable offender under the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004. This will ensure parents and guardians can make informed choices about those who spend time with their children, improving child safety and broader community safety.

We have heard comments during this debate in relation to comparable schemes. Our scheme includes a legislated application process, in contrast to the Western Australian scheme, and has a broader scope of reportable offenders than other schemes, with Queensland's scheme capturing all offences in schedule 1 of the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act, including contact and non-contact offences, given the harm to victims of all offence types. Further, unlike in South Australia, there will be no fees to access our public register in Queensland. Parents and carers should have access to this information without having to worry about cost. We have also considered the need to protect this information from misuse. The bill provides the Police Commissioner with discretion regarding publishing information for tier 1 and tier 2 offenders. It contains offences for the misuse of information obtained through the register, including those who distribute or publish information from the register without the approval of the Police Commissioner.

Finally, the bill provides provisions to undertake a five-year statutory review of the public register, with the report to be tabled in parliament. Those on this side of the House believe unequivocally that the safety of children should be prioritised over the rights of child sex offenders. It was encouraging to see many supportive submissions received by the committee from a wide variety of community organisations that support this initiative. Australian child protection organisation Bravehearts noted—

Bravehearts supports the proposed Daniel's Law in Queensland, which we believe would allow for controlled public disclosure of information about convicted child sex offenders.

Bravehearts also noted—

Community support for such schemes has remained high across jurisdictions, reflecting a broader public expectation that child protection policies be proactive and transparent.

The Queensland Family and Child Commission submitted—

No child should suffer child sexual abuse because the adults around them did not share information about the threat.

...

The protection of children from harm must be the paramount consideration in all decision-making. While adult privacy and reputational rights are important, they cannot outweigh the obligation to ensure that children are safe. The harms caused to a child by sexual abuse can be lifelong, irreversible and often intergenerational.

Voice for Victims noted—

Daniel's Law is a vital reform that will enhance child safety and community protection in Queensland.

Voice for Victims strongly support its passage and look forward to seeing how it may one day build with other jurisdictions to a Federally legislated tiered system to assist in the protection of children.

This bill is yet another example of the Crisafulli LNP government doing what we said we would do. This bill works to safeguard our most vulnerable Queenslanders, empowering parents and guardians to make informed decisions to protect their children. This public register is well overdue and well supported by the Queensland community. I am proud that we have been able to deliver this important initiative for Queenslanders, thanks in no small part to the strong advocacy of the Morcombes, who have been tireless advocates for greater public access to information in relation to child sex offenders in the community.

I have had the privilege of meeting with Denise and Bruce Morcombe on many occasions. As a mother, their bravery astounds me as they have gone about making sure they can help protect other people's children here in Queensland after what happened to their son. I would also like to thank my niece who has been working for many years in the child protection unit here in Queensland and has put some of these people behind bars where they belong. I am very proud of her and the work that the Queensland Police Service do in that regard. I am very proud to commend this bill to the House.

 **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) (4.17 pm): On 7 December 2003, 13-year-old Daniel Morcombe disappeared while waiting for a bus on the Sunshine Coast. He was on his way to undertake some Christmas shopping for his family. Few people would not know this story. While it is a public story, it is a personal tragedy for any family to have their child abducted and subsequently murdered. The circumstances absolutely ripped through our community on the Sunshine Coast and reverberated right throughout Australia.

Daniel's parents, Denise and Bruce, have led the fight for justice and from their grief and loss they have turned this unimaginable tragedy into a movement to create a powerful legacy of advocacy to educate all children on how to stay safe. The Daniel Morcombe Foundation is advocating for stronger laws around the country. In Queensland, before this parliament, we are seeing the fruit of that incredible fight that they have undertaken. We are seeing stronger laws so some of these horrendous offenders can no longer hide in the shadows when they have a record and so parents in the community can gain access to information if it is reasonable for that information to be in the public domain.

This legislation, Daniel's Law, which the Crisafulli government has introduced, is not only in honour of the late Daniel Morcombe and the fight of Bruce and Denise Morcombe; it is for all parents, all families, all Queenslanders. It is an incredible legacy that we wish was not necessary but it is. It will mean there will be a publicly available child sex offender register which will consist of three tiers. Queensland will be made safer by reportable sex offenders being on this register. Daniel's Law delivers on a key election commitment and is the next stage of the Making Queensland Safer Laws.

It is a multilayer approach to child protection. It includes a publicly available website with photographs and personal details of reportable offenders who have failed to comply with their reporting obligations and whose whereabouts are unknown. The next part of the tiered approach is a locality search application providing photographs to identify certain reportable offenders living in the local area. Then there is a parent/guardian application whereby parents, carers and guardians will be able to apply to police to ascertain whether an adult who has regular unsupervised contact with their child is a current reportable offender. Other MPs have outlined in greater detail how these tiers will operate. I also thank the committee for the work they did and the submissions received as part of the legislation review before the House.

Daniel's Law is in recognition of Daniel Morcombe, whose life was lost through this tragedy, and the incredible advocacy of his parents and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. It is about putting the rights of children and parents before the rights of high-risk perpetrators who have known offences behind them. Safeguards will be in place to prevent the misuse of information while unlocking information for parents and carers to help bolster child protection.

The Queensland Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register will be administered by the Queensland Police Service. They are already responsible for monitoring reportable offenders. This will mean that Daniel's Law will complement the strongest child protection system in the nation. It is being delivered by the LNP government in Queensland. It is an election commitment but I note there is strong support across the community. It also includes a reportable conduct system which has been brought forward to start in July 2026 for the childcare sector.

The Crisafulli government has also launched the Child Safety Commission of Inquiry and the blue card child protection review is currently underway. We wish these measures were not necessary but they are because, unfortunately, those who have offended against children hide in the shadows. As has been alluded to, there will be people who have not yet been caught. It is incumbent on everyone to be vigilant, to support parents and to ensure they have every tool available to keep their children safe. This is also why we are bringing forward the reportable conduct scheme that was announced only a few weeks ago. It is necessary that the child safety system is subject to a commission of inquiry. A blue card child protection review is also currently underway.

I thank Bruce, Denise and their whole family for their tireless advocacy. Their courage is beyond anything I have ever known. We thank them for all they have done. This legacy is truly one that will be welcomed by parents and by the community as we all work together and fight to keep children safer in our community.

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (4.25 pm): It is an honour to speak in the House on this important legislation—an election commitment we gave the Morcombes some time ago. It is certainly an honour for me to contribute to this debate. At the outset I want to place on record my sincere admiration for Bruce and Denise Morcombe and their family for the wonderful legacy they are creating for Daniel.

The character of a person can often be judged by the way they perform not during times of triumph but during times of adversity. I am sure there have been many times when Bruce and Denise have been absolutely crippled with fear and anger over what happened. Of course, at the start there were many years of not knowing—an empty space for the Morcombes because of the disappearance of Daniel.

I want to put into context my personal appreciation of what happened, because 7 December is my son Sam's birthday. On 7 December 2003 he was 12. Every year we would celebrate Sam's birthday with a great deal of happiness. As I stand here today I cannot help but think of the contrast between what was going on in the Morcombe household when Daniel went missing at the same time we were celebrating my son's birthday. With that personal reflection, I want to say that I humbly have tried to understand the sense of loss they have felt. As the truth of what happened to Daniel during those terrible events back in December 2003 at the hands of an absolute vicious monster became clear, I knew there would not be closure for the Morcombes but at least there might be an understanding and some level of acceptance of what transpired, albeit in the most horrific of circumstances. The day 7 December will continue to be a day that we all remember. I will continue to celebrate my son's birthday, but we will always share time during that day when Bruce and Denise will be remembering Daniel.

Today is about the legacy for which they have fought for so many years. I am proud to associate myself with the police minister and the Attorney-General and all those who have worked on this legislation. I am sitting here beside my colleagues who are ambassadors for the Morcombe foundation. I really appreciate the work they have done right across the state to ensure his legacy lives on. I note the importance of what is happening on Friday with regard to the Biggest Child Safety Lesson across the nation. It really is a wonderful legacy that, despite the enormous loss they faced from losing Daniel, they have been able to rationalise it into keeping other kids safe. In my professional role as a police officer I have witnessed some of the most terrible events and have supported people—while in nowhere near as horrific a situation as this, I have certainly supported people—who have survived sexual assaults and their families through that journey.

It is in that context that I am very pleased to support Daniel's Law and see this sex offender register as one part of a suite of measures in our system of keeping children safe. Nobody walks away from the importance of parental care and the important role that parents play at the centre of keeping kids safe, but as a government we must ensure there are systems that help every level of the child safety system, and this is another important part of that system.

We have learned from the Western Australian and the South Australian examples that made this into law, but I believe that we have a better system with the three-tier system that we are putting in place. It is an important balance to ensure noncompliant offenders can be identified as well as having a local search functionality so that if parents and guardians have concerns about people in their

community they can conduct a search and apply to understand if those people should be a concern to them. As I often say to parents or guardians, if they are talking to us about concerns they should always listen to their senses because if something does not feel right there must be something—

Mrs Poole: That instinct.

Mr McDONALD: That instinct is vitally important for them to listen to because often where there is smoke there is fire.

This bill that we are debating was an election commitment that we made some time ago. I remember being in opposition and moving motions calling on the former government to put in place a sex offender registry. Unfortunately that did not happen, but again this is another example of the Crisafulli government doing what we said we would do. It gives a lot of certainty to Queenslanders to know that they can trust a calm and conservative government to do the things that we said that we would do, as we did with Adult Crime, Adult Time. That is targeting some of the worst youth offenders, but this sex offender registry is targeting some of the worst and most vile perpetrators in our communities. As I have said, this is another suite of protections. It is not the only thing that will prevent people from doing this, but it is a suite in the system that will empower parents while also giving another tool for police and protection service agencies to keep track of those offenders and to make sure that they are held to account.

It is very important to get this balance right and that there are controls in place to ensure that the register is not abused. I believe the work we have done in that regard in consultation with the Morcombes and through the police minister and informed by the committee process achieves this balance. I want to place on record my thanks to the committee for the inquiry that it did. It held a very fulsome inquiry and discovered many sides to the argument, but I believe that the bill before the House is very well considered. I also recognise the member for Nicklin, the chair of that committee, who was a long-time serving police officer and friend of the Morcombes. It was personal for him to ensure that Daniel's Law was brought in and will be passed.

Congratulations again to Bruce and Denise for the wonderful and tireless efforts that they have made through the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. It is so hard to make sense of such a terrible loss and I do not think we could ever answer truly the question why—why somebody like Daniel, a young, innocent boy, was taken and why a terrible, horrific sex offender murdered him and treated him the way that he did. We cannot ever understand why, but I hope for the sake of Bruce and Denise's and for the sake of their whole family and all of their supporters that this legacy fills some part of that gap so that they are able to say that they have done what they can for Daniel to keep other kids safe and to continue child safety training so that more kids are kept safe. It is through their legacy that they will be keeping more kids safe. I commend them enormously for their efforts. It is an amazing story.

 **Miss DOOLAN** (Pumicestone—LNP) (4.35 pm): I rise to speak in strong support of the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025. This bill is in honour of Daniel Morcombe—a forever-13-year-old boy who was tragically taken and murdered on the Sunshine Coast. As a child I remember seeing the investigation unfold on the news and asking my parents what had happened. It was one of those moments when I first realised that the world can be a cruel place at times. Terrible things happen to innocent people unfortunately. It was also when I learnt about stranger danger and the importance of personal safety.

Amidst that tragedy, I also learnt something far greater—that hope can emerge from heartbreak and that one person's legacy can change the lives of countless others. That is exactly what Denise and Bruce Morcombe have done for so many young Australians. When I was at Glasshouse Christian College I vividly remember the day the Morcombes visited our school to teach students and teachers about personal safety. Their compassion and courage left a lasting impression on all of us. We will never truly know how many lives have been saved because of the work of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, but we also do not know how many children might have been lost without it. However, we know there is more that needs to be done.

This bill delivers on a clear election commitment from the Crisafulli government to strengthen child safety in Queensland by providing parents and communities with the tools they need to make informed decisions to keep children safe. It amends the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004 to include provisions for public disclosure of information about certain reportable offenders in specific, tightly controlled circumstances. Daniel's Law is a trailblazing piece of legislation. It is the first of its kind in Queensland. Its uniqueness lies in its balance of empowering parents and communities with information while protecting victims, families and the integrity of our justice system.

The bill establishes a new public register within the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004, providing a clear and consistent framework for how certain offender information may be disclosed to the public. Until now, Queensland police have maintained a non-public register of reportable offenders. Those offenders must keep police informed of their whereabouts and personal details for periods of 10 years, 20 years or life, depending on their offence. Police may already disclose some information where it is necessary to protect a child, but this is limited and case by case. This bill strengthens that framework. It introduces a transparent legislative process that allows a community in appropriate circumstances to access information that could help prevent harm to children.

This bill does not create a free-for-all database. It is a measured, responsible and safeguarded approach. It builds on proven models from Western Australia and South Australia, adapted to Queensland's policing and community landscape. It is underpinned by safeguards to prevent vigilantism, protect victim identity and ensure proportionality. At the same time it sends a clear and powerful message—child predators are not welcome in our communities and Queensland will always stand with victims and survivors.

The register operates through a three-tier framework, allowing access to information based on the seriousness of offending and the purpose of disclosure. The first is tier 1 with regard to missing or noncompliant offenders. This tier includes offenders who have breached their reporting obligations and whose whereabouts are unknown. Their photographs and certain personal details will be displayed on a public website, helping Queenslanders assist police in locating them.

Tier 2 allows Queensland residents to make a secure request to view photographs of particular offenders living in their locality. It applies to repeat or lifelong reportable offenders or those subject to supervision orders under the Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003. Access is carefully controlled—available for inspection only by the person who made the request—ensuring privacy while maintaining community safety.

Tier 3 is a parent and guardian disclosure scheme. This tier empowers parents, guardians and caregivers to apply for information about whether a person who has or will have unsupervised contact with their child is a reportable offender. Unsupervised contact includes both physical contact and communication via electronic means. This gives parents the right to ask the right questions before trusting someone with their child's safety. The model draws from Western Australia's and South Australia's frameworks but improves on them. In Western Australia, only parents or guardians can apply for tier 3 information. Queensland's approach extends eligibility to anyone with parental responsibility including step-parents, foster carers and kinship carers. Unlike South Australia, Queensland's register will be free to access because protecting a child should never depend on a parent's ability to pay for it. Where South Australia requires a pattern of contact before disclosure, Queensland's law includes both current and planned interactions, ensuring early intervention before harm can occur.

Daniel's Law is firm on transparency, but it is equally strong on protection and accountability. The bill excludes certain offenders from the public register; for example, those who committed offences as a child, those in witness protection programs or those in cases where a court has prohibited disclosure for safety or victim protection reasons. The Police Commissioner retains discretionary powers to determine whether information should be published, withheld or removed, guided by considerations such as the potential impact on victims, whether disclosure could prejudice an ongoing investigation or prosecution and whether publication serves the public interest and aligns with the purpose of the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004.

This bill also makes it absolutely clear that misuse of the register will not be tolerated. It introduces three new offences to prevent vigilantism and unauthorised use of information: a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment for anyone who harasses, intimidates or incites others to harm an identified offender; a penalty of up to three years imprisonment for unapproved publication of identifying information; and specific provisions ensuring any misuse of the register is treated as a serious offence. These penalties strike the right balance, giving the public access to information while ensuring it is only used for protection, never for revenge.

The community benefits of this bill are clear. It empowers families to make informed choices about who their children interact with; it builds public confidence in the justice system by promoting transparency and accountability; and it strengthens community vigilance, giving parents, schools, childcare centres and sporting clubs another layer of protection when it comes to child safety and supervision.

In Pumicestone, as in every Queensland community, parents want their children to grow up safe, to walk to school or play sport without fear. This bill gives them one more tool to ensure that happens. It reinforces our shared responsibility to create safe environments, from classrooms to playgrounds and from clubs to community groups. To ensure this system remains fair, effective and transparent, the bill legislates a five-year independent statutory review. An appropriately qualified person will assess how the register is operating and the report will be tabled in the Legislative Assembly. This will ensure ongoing accountability and continuous improvement.

This bill is about empowering Queensland families, protecting children and restoring confidence in our justice system. It is evidence based, balanced and backed by clear safeguards. It shows that we can be tough on offenders while still being fair, transparent and responsible. The Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025 draws a firm line, one that says to every Queenslanders: we will protect your children, we will uphold justice and we will stand up for victims. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr KRAUSE** (Scenic Rim—LNP) (4.42 pm): As legislators and members of the parliament in Queensland, we have a great duty to protect those who are vulnerable in our community, especially children. From listening to the contributions on this bill by members of parliament of all persuasions, it is clear that the bill has wide support and the concepts embodied by this bill are agreed upon—that implementing this register through Daniel's Law will improve safety for the most vulnerable in our community. It has been a priority of our government to bring this bill forward in a timely manner, within the first year of a new government. That reflects our strong priorities to not only put victims of crime first but also take steps to protect the most vulnerable in our community.

I rise to give my strong support for this bill, which will be known as Daniel's Law, and to commend Bruce and Denise Morcombe for their long period of advocacy that has brought us to this moment. I also reflect on the fact that throughout the previous term of government this bill was not brought forward, despite that long advocacy. I am so glad to be part of a government that has made it a priority for the first year in office. That reflects the way we think about protecting Queenslanders and victims of crime.

This legislation, modelled on the Western Australian scheme that has been in effect since 2012, is a significant and welcome step in the protection of our most vulnerable people, our children. It establishes, as other members have noted, a three-tier public child sex offender register in Queensland. The first tier will enable a publicly accessible webpage for reportable offenders who have failed to comply with their reporting obligations. It will have photographs and other details about those people. It will be available to all members of the public. That will enable more information to be shared about people who have already been identified as child sex offenders but who are not complying with their obligations to report and any other obligations that were imposed as a result of them being declared a child sex offender. Tier 2 has application-based mechanisms for parents or guardians to view images, but not full identifying details, of high-risk offenders living in their suburb, locality or adjoining areas, depending on where it is. In rural and regional Queensland it might be more than one locality or a larger district, reflecting the different make-up of those communities. The third tier is a disclosure scheme allowing parents or guardians to inquire if a person who has or will have unsupervised contact with their children is a reportable offender.

The purpose of this bill, for which we have heard broadscale support from across the chamber and the community, is to equip parents, carers and communities with more information and thereby improve protections around children. As the Premier said, this is about putting the rights of victims and parents ahead of the rights of offenders. In a state with a growing population and a society that is growing in complexity, we are faced with the terrible reality of child sexual exploitation. This is a very meaningful reform in that context.

I note that some people raised concerns about the civil liberties of offenders and their rights, but the sad reality of our society is that we do see sexual abuse against children. It can be committed by people living right next door to us. It can be committed by people who are across the street or who are involved in our local clubs and communities. I have heard in the debate and in other committee hearings over the years that often it is committed by those who are most close to the victims—family and close relations—but we also need to guard against those people who are in the community at large, and the provision of information through this bill will help with regard to that.

This bill bears the name 'Daniel's Law' in honour of 13-year-old Daniel Morcombe, who was tragically abducted and murdered in 2003. His kidnapping and his murder shook our nation, but from that tragedy arose purpose for Bruce and Denise Morcombe, who clearly transformed their grief into a resolute public mission for the reform of laws. For more than 20 years they have led advocacy through

the Daniel Morcombe Foundation—not just advocacy but also education for our young people about the dangers that face them in the community and in their daily lives. They have also supported victims and relentlessly pressed government to do better. As we heard from the member for Mudgeeraba, that was one of the things that led our team in parliament to make a commitment to implementing this law not only before the last election but also before the 2020 election, when the member for Mudgeeraba was in a different role as a shadow minister.

We need to acknowledge the strong work that the Morcombes have undertaken. They pushed on. They had the courage to keep speaking publicly, despite the unimaginable personal loss they had endured. They did not accept any complacency—they still do not—in our child protection systems. They had a focus on ensuring other children are safer because of what they had gone through and the terrible tragedy that occurred to Daniel. I say to Bruce and Denise: thank you. Your advocacy stands as a tremendous example of how persistence can shape policy for the betterment of all society.

No law can eliminate all risk when it comes to the danger posed by child sex offenders and potential child sex offenders, but this bill does have several practical improvements, which we have touched on. It is about people being more informed. It also has the concept of more accountability being placed on offenders who are already subject to reporting obligations because there will be a system set up to expose to the public when they are not complying with those obligations.

The tiered structure enables disclosure to be made in an appropriate fashion for appropriate circumstances—not just a blanket system but a calibrated approach. There are also safeguards built into the legislation in terms of how people use the information when they obtain it and penalties apply for the misuse of it. With any major reforms there are concerns, but those safeguards that have been put in place by the parliament through this bill address them in a straightforward manner.

As I said, no system is perfect. This register is a tool, not a guarantee. As Bruce Morcombe himself said, no system will ever be perfect, but at least it is a level of security that people can access for information when they choose to do so. The task for us as legislators and as a government will be to make sure that the system is well resourced and robust and evolves with time, and if changes need to be made to the mechanism of the register in the future to better serve the purposes for which it was set up then those changes are made. We must support this bill wholeheartedly and simultaneously work to ensure its proper functioning in practice both now and into the future. By passing Daniel's Law we affirm for Queenslanders that we will not allow predators to lurk unprotected. In doing so we honour the memory of Daniel Morcombe and the tireless work of Denise and Bruce Morcombe. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr LISTER** (Southern Downs—LNP) (4.51 pm): I rise to make a contribution on the bill before us, the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill. I am aware that this particular bill is very important to Queenslanders generally. It would not surprise me if this bill, among a few others, would be attracting the attention of my constituents. If you are watching online or are watching a video of this, I am talking to you. This bill is not a large one—it is only 19 pages long, even with all of the extra pages that we see in these publications—but it has very definite implications for the safety of children in Queensland. Like every member who has come before me, and no doubt everyone who will come after me in this debate, I want to acknowledge Bruce and Denise Morcombe and their indefatigable advocacy for education for kids and for law reform to protect them from the dangers that unfortunately pervade our society. The introduction of a public child sex offender register in Queensland is something that they can take enormous satisfaction and pride in.

I was interested to hear my honourable friend, the member for Pumicestone—who spoke very well, as she always does—say that she remembers the lessons from this tragedy, even at the very tender age that she was at the time that the Daniel Morcombe tragedy was prominent in the news, more prominent than it is now, I would say. I do not think any of us would not remember where we were. I recall being a young flying officer in the Royal Australian Air Force posted to Victoria when the story broke that Daniel had disappeared. I have fixed in my mind's eye, as many of us would, the location under the bridge where Daniel went missing never to be seen alive again when he was merely going to go shopping to buy Christmas presents for his family. I am sure that resonated with all Australians. In postings subsequently throughout Australia I remember seeing the story develop and being immensely aware of the tragedy that the Morcombe family had suffered and the dignity with which they went about trying to make something constructive out of the tragedy they faced.

This bill was an election commitment of the LNP at the November 2024 state election. The Liberal National Party had advocated for it in opposition but did not see it come to fruition. Now that we are in government we have, as my honourable friend the member for Scenic Rim said, in a very busy first-year legislative program prioritised this piece of legislation.

There are three tiers to this child sex offender register. I think it is important that people understand that it is not a free-for-all. It is a tiered system that provides a balance of access to information about reportable child sex offenders who may have access to your children, but also preventing widescale vigilantism, which we do not want to see. The three tiers depend on the circumstances that parents face in trying to identify if those who do or might have access to their children are reportable child sex offenders.

Reading from the explanatory notes, tier 1 is a missing noncompliant offender website. That is a public website displaying facial images and particular personal details of reportable offenders who have breached their obligations and whose whereabouts are unknown to police. If there is a child sex offender who should have been reporting to police, for instance, or who has moved from a place that they were lawfully obliged to remain at and we do not know where they are, parents can see their images to know whether or not they need to look out for those people in their community and ensure their children have no contact with them.

The second tier is a local area search allowing Queensland residents to apply temporarily to view facial images of particular reportable offenders, including reportable offenders who the Police Commissioner considers pose a serious risk to the lives or sexual safety of a child or children residing in their general locality. You can narrow down the search to see if these monsters are in your vicinity so that you can better identify them and be on the lookout for them to ensure that your children are not exposed to them. I know that being able to access that will be of great comfort to parents.

The third tier, which is perhaps the most restrictive but necessarily so, is a parent/guardian disclosure scheme, an application-based scheme enabling parents or people with ongoing parental responsibility for a child to apply for confirmation about whether a particular person, who has had or will have unsupervised contact with their child, is a reportable offender. I take this as being a situation in which a person may be thinking of employing a governess or someone in their home, or somebody has joined the family—maybe a new relationship with a parent—and the applicant wants to make sure that that person will not pose a risk to their children. I think that is very admirable and necessary.

Before I sit down I would like to respond to some of the contributions of opposition members in the course of this debate. There has been, as there rightly should be in relation to legislation coming before this House, criticism of some aspects of this bill. I point out that the opposition—the Labor Party—had the last decade in power to legislate for a public child sex offender register. I recall being in this House in about March 2019 and debating whether something like this should be instituted and having that proposition rejected by the Labor government of the day with the use of their superior numbers. They had the opportunity to introduce this much needed legislative reform while they were in power.

Mr McDonald: To support the Morcombes!

Mr LISTER: I take that interjection from my honourable friend, the member for Lockyer. I think it is disingenuous to be too harsh and to criticise this necessary legislation which we took to the electorate at the last election with a promise that if elected we would legislate for.

There was also the criticism, which does have some basis, that this is not a panacea that will prevent the accessing of innocent children by paedophiles. That is correct because, as has been said in the House, a reportable child sex offender is somebody who has been convicted and, in our system, those who are not convicted are considered to be not guilty. Say you were to seek a criminal history check on someone you want to employ. If they have done the wrong thing in the past and have gone before the courts and been found not guilty or have not been prosecuted then that will not appear on the information provided to you. So what is new? Obviously parents will understand that this child sex offender register can only point out the existence of reportable child sex offenders who have been convicted in the past.

My wife and I are the parents of four children: an 11-month-old baby, a three-year-old girl and 11- and 14-year-old boys. We feel this, too. It is important for all of us to bear in mind that around us are people who intend ill to our children. That is just a fact. While society decries it and does all it can to prosecute, punish and restrain those who are guilty of that, there will always be those who have not yet been caught and who may never be caught. Being such a complex sociological phenomenon, there are many cases of people who have gotten away with this because of the stigma borne and felt by the victims of these terrible crimes. We must all be vigilant and make sure we look out for our children and are inquiring of and incredulous about the bona fides of those who will have access to our children.

I commend the bill to the House. I say to the people I serve as the member for Southern Downs that this is good legislation. It is a step in the right direction. I look forward to seeing it implemented once voted upon.



Hon. BA MICKELBERG (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (5.01 pm): Today I rise to make a contribution in strong support of the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025, to be known as Daniel's Law. I say at the outset that the bill and these proposed laws are some of the most important and among those that I am most proud to support. Queenslanders rightly expect that the rights of victims and the rights of children are placed above the rights of offenders and predators. That is why Queenslanders, especially Queensland parents, should know that this government will fight tooth and nail to protect children and young people in our community from harm at the hands of monsters, and this is just the next step in our plan to do so.

Since taking the reins one year ago, our government has put in place swift and meaningful actions that are starting to turn the tide on the crime crisis. Our Adult Crime, Adult Time laws got tough on youth offenders and were followed by Jack's Law, named in honour of brave young man from the Gold Coast. Daniel's Law is another step forward in our fight to restore safety in our communities. These proposed laws will provide a responsive and protective tool in the form of a public child sex offender register so that parents and the broader community can have awareness of the presence of convicted sex offenders and can take necessary steps to protect their children.

As we have heard, the proposed approach to the register is modelled on the framework established in Western Australia, which was the first Australian jurisdiction to establish a three-tier scheme such as is proposed in the bill. Under tier 1, facial photographs and certain details of a reportable offender will be publishable by the Police Commissioner if the offender has failed to comply with their reporting obligations and the police become unaware of the whereabouts of the offender. This information will be available to the broader public to ensure awareness so that parents can take any necessary additional precautions to ensure the safety of their children.

Tier 2 of the register allows a Queensland resident to request facial images of certain reportable offenders residing within their suburb or locality. This covers offenders with significant reporting obligations or those who have offended repeatedly against children. The commissioner may also authorise the publication of information relating to a reportable offender under this tier in circumstances where there is a known serious risk of harm to a child.

Lastly, tier 3 allows a parent, a guardian or a similarly relevant person who is responsible for the child to apply for information about a specific person who is or will be in unsupervised contact with their children. For instance, if a child is going for a sleepover at the house of a friend from school where they will be supervised by other parents, the parent can request information through the register about whether a person living in that house is a reportable offender. If that specific person is a reportable offender then that information will be provided to the requester and further details may also be provided, as deemed necessary, at the discretion of the Police Commissioner to ensure the safety of the child.

However, it is important to note that the register will not publish photographs or personal details or release any information of an offender who is under the age of 18 or was under the age of 18 at the time they committed a child sex offence as long as—and this is important—they have not reoffended as an adult. In addition, the register will not publish that information for those in a witness protection program or those where a court has prohibited such a publication. There are appropriate safeguards in place within the bill. While I strongly support these laws, I stress that this is not an opportunity to encourage vigilantism. The need for parents to be fully informed about who their child comes into contact with is paramount. However, information that is obtained or accessed must be treated appropriately and confidentially and cannot be shared with others.

As we heard from the member for Southern Downs, under a decade of the former Labor government only one party sought to establish a sex offender register such as this and it was the then LNP opposition. In 2019 we moved a motion to establish a Queensland child sex offender register and the government at that time voted it down. In my view, they sided with offenders over the community.

In August 2023 I spoke in this place about how important it was that we implement any measures that would stop sex offenders from committing their heinous acts. At that time I spoke about my support for the establishment of a publicly accessible sex offender register. In my contribution to the parliament I spoke about the fact that in my own community there was a sex offender who had been convicted of multiple instances of storing and distributing exploitation material of children as young as three years old. That offender was subject to a sex offender reporting order but he was still able to access a state school because his child was a student at that school in my electorate. Under this legislation, that same offender would have their details accessible under tier 3 of the proposed register. If they were a repeat offender then they would also fall into tier 2. Being able to access details such as those is a significant step forward. I am so pleased to be part of a government that is pushing to make this law in Queensland.

Of course, none of this would have happened without two very special parents, and I take a moment to acknowledge both Bruce and Denise. Bruce and Denise Morcombe are Sunshine Coast locals. I have known them since before I was a member of parliament. I see them at the shops. I run into Bruce at Bunnings and at school events. Every year I am always proud to walk for Daniel alongside them. They are an institution not only in our community on the Sunshine Coast but for all Queenslanders and, indeed, all Australians. I know that my Sunshine Coast LNP colleagues, both state and federal, will continue to work with them in their endeavours to make children safer, as we have always done.

Daniel went to school at Sienna Catholic College in the Buderim electorate, although I think it was the Kawana electorate back then. While I know that news of Daniel's abduction and murder shocked every Australian, it shocked Sunshine Coast residents to the core. My own family are from Palmwoods, where Daniel would have walked home to. That is where we walk for Daniel each year. It is incredibly inspiring to see the way that Bruce and Denise have managed to turn their despair and anguish into a positive legacy. It is a legacy of a safer Queensland where young kids learn how to recognise, react and report. It is a strong legacy and an unforgettable legacy that has ensured that, after this debate, the laws that seek to protect every Queensland child from harm will bear Daniel's name.

I commend Bruce and Denise's advocacy, bravery and unwavering determination to see this change in Queensland in honour of Daniel. Their work in our schools is incredibly important. I have four young children—the eldest is 10 and the youngest is four—and I am very aware of the concerns of parents and the dangers that every young child faces on a day-to-day basis. I will do whatever I have to do to protect the welfare of my children, as I will any child in Queensland. I think that is what all parents expect and want.

I recognise that these laws are only one component of a more comprehensive solution. Just as parents will come to rely on information set out in this register, they will also continue to rely on a strong and active police presence. I pay tribute to our police and former police—many of whom sit in this parliament; I will not name them all—who work or have worked to ensure the monitoring of convicted sex offenders and/or the prosecution of those who offend against children. The work of those who now serve in this place, all Queensland police officers and all AFP officers who seek to prosecute the grubs who commit these crimes is incredibly difficult. I pay testament to their work, as I am sure all Queenslanders would do.

We need more education. I frequently have a discussion with my young kids when we drive under the overpass at Palmwoods where Daniel was last seen. The work that Bruce and Denise have done to drive better education and to open a conversation about these issues is incredibly important.

I support these laws and I urge everyone in this parliament to do so. This is about honouring Daniel's legacy but it is also for all Queenslanders who will be safer as a consequence. On Friday, I will again join with Bruce and Denise and our community—school communities, mums and dads and grandparents right across the Sunny Coast—for the Walk for Daniel and to remember Daniel, but to perhaps, even more importantly, remind my community and all Queenslanders of the importance of keeping Queensland's children safe. I acknowledge the work of the police minister. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr BENNETT** (Burnett—LNP) (5.11 pm): I rise, as my colleagues and many in this House have, to speak in support of the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025. This bill is about one thing above all else—that is, keeping our children safe. It is about ensuring parents, carers and communities have access to the information they need to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

This bill delivers on the government's election commitment to further strengthen sex offender laws with the establishment of the new three-tier Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register to protect Queensland children and put the rights of parents and families ahead of sexual predators. We on this side of the House recognise the deep and lasting impact that sexual crimes have on victim-survivors and their families.

I acknowledge the Queensland Police Service. I think it is important to highlight, as the member for Buderim did in his contribution, those heroes who are out there day in and day out providing this service. Sometimes that has been missed in this debate. I think it is timely to highlight that. I thank the Queensland Police Service for the briefing yesterday and the minister's office for setting that up. That provided a great insight. To see the passion of the officers in that room, the work that they do and their confidence in this legislation was very reassuring.

The police are committed to protecting the lives and sexual safety of children and are supported by the toughest laws in the nation to target child sex offenders. We all remember the heartbreaking story of Daniel Morcombe—a young boy whose life was taken in the most horrific circumstances. Daniel's parents, Bruce and Denise Morcombe, have showed extraordinary courage in turning their personal tragedy into a national campaign for child safety. Their advocacy has already saved lives through the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. This bill continues that legacy by putting the safety of children front and centre of public policy. We are restoring trust and transparency through these reforms.

For too long parents have been left in the dark about who is living in their communities. This bill introduces the public child sex offender register. It is designed with careful safeguards and a clear purpose: to provide families with the right to know without compromising legitimate law enforcement processes. Under Daniel's Law, serious and repeat child sex offenders will no longer be able to hide with anonymity, and the community deserves transparency. We cannot protect what we cannot see. Members of the community cannot access information if it is stored on a non-public register. This reform ensures that parents can make informed decisions about who their children interact with and where they feel safe. It is not about vengeance; it is about prevention and protection.

As we know, there are three tiers. Under all tiers, it is up to the Police Commissioner to decide whether to publish or disclose information. This is because there could be circumstances, other than exclusions, where it is appropriate to do so. To determine an offender's eligibility to have their details published or released under tier 1 or 2, the Police Commissioner may take into account matters considered relevant. That could include: potential impacts on victims where known, including the likelihood of identification and trauma; the risk of interference with an offender's compliance with orders and obligations and management; whether publication is in the best public interest in line with the intention of the disclosure system. In all circumstances, the Police Commissioner will decide whether or not to release information to a person via tiers 2 and 3.

This is about putting community safety first. We know that knowledge is power. Community awareness and vigilance are among the most effective tools in preventing future harm. The bill ensures that this information is handled responsibly, with penalties for misuse and oversight to prevent vigilantism. It is about balance: protecting the rights of individuals and putting the rights and safety of children first. Every child deserves to grow up free of fear and harm. Every parent deserves the reassurance that the government is doing everything it can to safeguard their family. This legislation delivers on that fundamental promise. This bill is supporting police and families.

This bill also assists police in allowing the public to provide valuable intelligence and report suspicious behaviour more effectively. It enhances the partnership between community and law enforcement—a partnership that is built on trust and transparency. It also complements our ongoing investment in education programs, victim support and early intervention. Together these measures form a comprehensive approach to community safety—one that prioritises protection, prevention and rehabilitation where appropriate.

In conclusion, I highlight that the Community Protection and Public Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill is not a political issue; it is a moral one. It is about standing for families, standing with survivors and standing for a safer Queensland. By supporting this bill, we honour Daniel's memory and reaffirm our collective commitment to the safety of every child in our state. Let this parliament send a clear message that we will not tolerate secrecy or silence when it comes to the protection of our children. I commend the bill to the House.



Mr HEAD (Callide—LNP) (5.16 pm): Safety where you live is the key pillar that we took to the election and it is something we continue to strive for today. Safety goes well beyond the voter. Every child, even more so, deserves to be safe where they live. Every parent has a right to know that the people who are caring for or interacting with their kids are not going to be detrimental to their kids' safety.

The Morcombe family have been champions for child safety measures since the tragic disappearance and murder of their son Daniel on 7 December 2003. They have turned tragedy into championing a very valuable cause for the benefit of not only Queensland but also Australia at large. This change has been fought for for many years and those opposite had 10 years to introduce this.

What did they do when they had a chance to bring this forward in 2019? They voted against it. Now we are getting all the platitudes, but do not forget that those opposite had every opportunity to do this during the last 10 years but they could not bring themselves to do it. This makes me wonder if they truly believe in this legislation. Nonetheless, let us celebrate the fact that they have been relegated to opposition so the Crisafulli government can do this in our first year.

This bill recognises the advocacy of the Morcombe family and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation who have championed for greater public access to information about child sex offenders. In honour of Daniel Morcombe, this bill is named Daniel's Law. On Friday this week, 31 October, Queenslanders will don red shirts, fundraise and take part in the Day for Daniel, which is now Australia's largest child safety, education and awareness day. Schools, early learning centres, businesses and individuals will help spread this crucial message and empower young children with personal safety education.

This bill delivers on an election commitment to further strengthen sex offender laws in Queensland to protect children, prioritise community safety and put the rights of parents and families ahead of sexual predators. As stated in the submission from Bruce and Denise Morcombe—

Daniel's legacy is about keeping kids safe. We believe Daniel's Law will return the balance and provide additional tools for the community to do that.

Any harm to a child is unacceptable and we must do more to prevent it and to safeguard our children.

Through this bill, the Crisafulli government introduces a new framework for the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act which includes a three-tier public register for child sex offenders, the first of its kind in Queensland. This register is broadly modelled on Western Australia's public notification scheme and South Australia's laws released in 2024.

Tier 1 includes a public website notifying of missing, noncompliant offenders who have breached their obligations and whose whereabouts are unknown to police. This webpage will include facial images and particular personal details of missing offenders, and an offender's details must be removed as soon as practically possible once the offender is located by police. This tier is for the worst of the worst of people who may walk amongst us. Tier 2 includes a local area search function, allowing a Queensland resident, on application to the Police Commissioner, to temporarily view facial images of reportable offenders within their general locality. Tier 3 is a parent and guardian disclosure system allowing people to apply for confirmation about whether a particular person who has or will have unsupervised contact with their child is a reportable offender. Unsupervised contact is defined as including physical contact, time spent in close proximity or any form of communication in person or electronically without another adult present. Under all three tiers, the Police Commissioner will have the final say on whether to publish or disclose information.

The public register will not publish any information on an offender who is under 18 years of age or who is a person in a witness protection program or where the court has prohibited the publication or release of information. This new framework builds on the existing non-public register and existing information-sharing mechanisms to provide families with additional information to allow them to take action to keep their children safe. As every parent or carer should be able to send a child to school or child care or have them partake in sport and community activities and return home safely, everything must be done to safeguard children against risks to their safety or life. It is important to also note that any information received from the public register must be treated as confidential by the recipient and cannot be shared with others.

This bill has also been designed to guard against the misuse of offender information by introducing offences to target misconduct, such as sharing information unlawfully. Three new offences have been added to include a penalty of 10 years imprisonment for a person who engages in or incites another person to intimidate or harass another person they believe is an identified offender, a penalty of a maximum of three years imprisonment for intimidation or harassment of an offender that is not intentional, and a penalty of three years imprisonment for a person who displays, distributes or publishes any identifying information obtained from the public register without the approval of the Police Commissioner. We do not support people taking the law into their own hands, and that is why these important safeguards are in place, along with this legislation. Importantly, a five-year statutory review of the public register is to be carried out by an independent and appropriately qualified person.

As the member for Scenic Rim said earlier, this is a tool, not a guarantee. It only captures those who are known child sex offenders in the system. Nonetheless, it is an important tool and something that will help parents ensure their kids are kept safe. The Crisafulli government prioritises community safety. By introducing Daniel's Law, we are empowering families to make informed decisions and be proactive to protect their children. I thank all of our hardworking men and women in blue in the Queensland Police Service who put their lives on the line every day to keep our communities and our kids safe. We support victims and we are a government that is tough on crime. Importantly, we support measures that will help keep our kids safe. I commend the bill to the House.



Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (5.23 pm): After a decade of neglect, Queenslanders have seen 12 months of delivery under the Crisafulli government. Today, that delivery takes on a profoundly personal meaning. The history of this matters. I know it has been said in this House before, but I want to start at the beginning.

On Sunday, 7 December 2003, a bright 13-year-old boy, Daniel Morcombe, waited at a bus stop on the Sunshine Coast on his way to buy Christmas presents for his family. Tragically, Daniel never came home. Daniel was last seen wearing a red T-shirt, waiting for his bus. He was abducted and murdered and, after years of searching and an intense undercover police investigation, Daniel was finally found in 2011. Daniel was a son, a grandson, a brother, a twin, a boy who loved his family, and he had his whole life ahead of him. He was taken from this world by a repeat child sex offender who never should have had the chance to harm another child.

Bruce and Denise Morcombe turned this heartbreaking story, their heartbreaking experience, into purpose. They created the Daniel Morcombe Foundation to give back to the community who supported them from the day Daniel was taken, and I know that many members of that community are in this chamber today to see this law be passed.

Bruce and Denise are committed to building a future where all children are safe from harm and abuse and where they have the opportunity to thrive. That is their mission. Bruce and Denise have spent two decades educating children, parents and communities about child sexual abuse and how to stay safe. They have turned their tragedy into a powerful program of advocacy for children right across the country, and now, because of their tireless advocacy, Queensland families have another vital tool to keep their children safe. Daniel's Law honours their son's life and continues their mission to make sure no other family has to endure the horrific loss they endured.

Daniel's Law is far from a new idea. The Morcombes have been fighting for it for over a decade, and when the LNP was in opposition we brought this very proposal to parliament. In March 2019 the LNP moved a motion calling for a public child sex offender register to empower parents and protect children. What happened in 2019? Labor voted against it. The then minister for child safety, the member for Bulimba, stood in this chamber and said, 'We are opposed to this motion because it will not work,' and that 'sex offence registers can be clouded by emotions'. Those were her words, the words of a Labor government minister who chose not to create a public child sex offender register. Instead, they prioritised secrecy for child predators over child safety. In fact, the then Labor government rejected the very idea that parents deserved to know if a predator was living next door. They dismissed it as unnecessary. During the debate, the member for Morayfield said it was a 'thought bubble policy' and 'ill-conceived policy based on the shaky foundations of political populism'. The member for Nudgee called it 'little more than populist policy', and the member for Macalister said it was 'populist policy on the run'.

Labor's position in 2019 was clear: they did not support Daniel's Law, and the record shows it. Labor members voted against our calls for a public child sex offender register in 2019, and those very same members come into this chamber today and try to take credit for Daniel's Law, to say, 'We were on this journey all along.' They had 10 years to make it law. They had 10 years to hear the pleas of the Morcombes and create a public child sex offender register. They failed to do it, and the *Hansard* of this chamber reflects that they were never going to do it. They voted against it. Under Labor, parents were left powerless, victims unseen and communities without confidence that their children were safe. Daniel's Law changes that.

At the heart of Daniel's Law is a new three-tier register designed with one clear goal: to put the rights of families, the rights of children, before the rights of predators, and it has taken the LNP Crisafulli government to do this. Each tier has a distinct purpose and forms part of a comprehensive community protection framework that makes Queensland safer.

I want to acknowledge that the Morcombes have fought for this for a very long time and that this is a legacy of the Morcombes. This brings to fruition what they have been calling for for over a decade. It is a tribute to Daniel. More than that, it will ensure parents and children have the protections they need. It provides in law the ability for a three-tier system so that parents can make applications. Daniel's story has transformed child safety in Australia through the determination of his parents, who have inspired us, inspired Queenslanders and, in fact, inspired a whole nation. In fact, last year on Day for Daniel more than two million people participated in the walk itself.

We made a promise to the Morcombes before the election that we would legislate Daniel's Law. Today delivers on that promise for them. It delivers the law we promised. It gives parents access to the information they need to protect their children. We promised to put the rights of victims and families

ahead of the rights of offenders. We promised to restore confidence in the justice system—a system that has a responsibility to protect Queensland children and not conceal that information from families, a responsibility to allow parents to have the information they need rather than protect the rights of predators, as happened under the Labor government.

Debate, on motion of Mrs Gerber, adjourned.

MOTION

Housing



Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (5.30 pm): I move—

That this House condemns the Crisafulli LNP government for their failure to deliver housing solutions for Queenslanders which is resulting in skyrocketing rents, axing of affordable homes and making it harder for Queenslanders experiencing homelessness to get crisis accommodation.

Good governments deliver the services that people need, that people rely on, but when I look at those opposite I do not see a good government. I see a health minister embattled, as failure after failure is splashed across the front page of the paper. I see a child safety minister who has overseen the rollout of an IT system that she herself has said puts vulnerable kids at risk. I see an education minister who cannot even say at a press conference how many kids will or will not be sitting an exam after they were taught the wrong subject. It is a shambles.

The biggest con is that this LNP government claims it is making housing more affordable and accessible. The housing minister is happy to stand in front of housing projects built by Labor, smiling for the cameras. Behind closed doors, they are cutting social and affordable housing. Can you believe it? They are taking credit for what we delivered while tearing down the plan that would help the next generation put a roof over their heads. Pretty much every social and affordable home announced by the Crisafulli government is thanks to Labor's planning and Labor's investment.

Since coming to office, the LNP have cut around 10,000 social and affordable homes. Not a single home has been built by their Residential Activation Fund, and there is no word on when a single Queenslanders will move in to one. They have cancelled projects in communities that need them, even in the housing minister's own backyard. By walking back affordable housing targets, this government is sending a signal to young people looking to get into the market that they have no hope—no hope of living near where they work and no hope of living near where they grew up.

The LNP talks about construction, feeding the market and delivering supply. While they talk about construction, the facts tell a vastly different story. Dwelling starts—that is, the number of homes starting construction—under this government are down 4.4 per cent. That is compared to the decade average. They are not my figures; they are from CommSec's State of the States report, printed in black and white. As I said yesterday, that reality is slapping aspiring home owners in the face.

Those people who might be saving for a home today are likely further away from being able to afford to buy than when they started. At the same time, they are grappling with rising rent costs, rising rego costs and rising grocery costs. Today's CPI data shows electricity costs in Brisbane are up 1,694 per cent. Everything is up, and for working families it all adds up.

On the Gold Coast, where the housing minister lives, rents are up nine per cent in just a year—nine per cent! It is a nearly 10 per cent increase. Imagine someone who is already struggling and who is working all of the extra hours that they can get and their rent goes up by nearly 10 per cent. So many Queenslanders tell me that because costs keep going up they cannot ever get ahead. It is not good enough that housing stress and the cost of living are crippling Queensland families. Instead of lending a helping hand, the LNP is closing the door.

It is harder to get into social housing or crisis accommodation, which means that those doing it tough have ended up in their car, in a tent or on the street. That is a visible sign that the LNP's so-called housing plan is failing, and Queenslanders are paying the price. Dwelling starts are down, rents are up and more Queenslanders are homeless and cannot access emergency accommodation. Every social and affordable home under construction is thanks to Labor's investment, planning and values. The LNP are not builders; they are blockers, and Queenslanders deserve much better.

Mr SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Bonney, I should remind those who are on a warning. They are the members for Bundamba, Logan, Miller and Waterford.



Hon. ST O'CONNOR (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (5.35 pm): I move the following amendment—

That all words after 'That this House' be omitted and the following paragraphs inserted:

- '1. notes the Crisafulli government's extensive housing plan that:
 - (a) will drive new housing supply for homebuyers, renters and vulnerable Queenslanders;
 - (b) will deliver one million new homes by 2044, including 53,500 social and community homes;
 - (c) includes the landmark \$2 billion Residential Activation Fund;
 - (d) abolished stamp duty for first home buyers on new homes;
 - (e) introduced the Boost to Buy scheme to reduce the deposit gap for first home buyers;
 - (f) removed restrictions on first home buyers renting out a room;
 - (g) will lift the rate of home ownership from last to first in the nation;
 - (h) funded a 20 per cent uplift for specialist homelessness services across the next four years;
 - (i) will deliver emergency accommodation for vulnerable women and children with 10 new and replaced domestic and family violence shelters;
 - (j) will deliver eight new youth foyers;
2. condemns the former Palaszczuk-Miles government's failed housing solutions for renters, the homeless and homebuyers, including:
 - (a) the member for Gaven for failing to deliver a single new home under the \$2 billion Housing Investment Fund;
 - (b) the member for Murrumba's botched Griffith University crisis accommodation project that saw only false hope and no homes delivered;
 - (c) the member for Woodridge's farcical proposal to make Queenslanders pay a "renters tax";
 - (d) the failure to deliver any ongoing funding for a 20 per cent uplift for specialist homelessness services;
 - (e) the introduction of BPICs, otherwise known as the "CFMEU tax", which impacted supply.'

Tonight we will see a clear contrast between the people responsible for the housing crisis opposite us here and a united LNP team, which is coming together along with the Assistant Minister for Housing, our committee chair—the member for Lockyer—and our Cabinet Housing Ministerial Taskforce. The Labor Party have some gall in moving this motion. They are the party who oversaw an 80 per cent increase in the social housing waitlist. They saw a 36 per cent reduction in new home approvals. The re-established Productivity Commission, which they abolished, has found that 77,000 fewer homes have been built in this state because of the way they were managing our building and construction sector, let alone the \$2 billion Housing Investment Fund, that was up and running for over three years under those opposite.

How many new-build homes from the Housing Investment Fund were opened by the Labor Party? Does anyone want to guess how many?

Mr McDonald: Zero.

Mr O'CONNOR: You have the answer already—it was zero. Not a single new-build home from the Housing Investment Fund was opened by the Labor Party.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr O'CONNOR: I do hear their interjections. Every single new home that has been funded by the Housing Investment Fund has been opened in the term of the Crisafulli government. There is nothing I enjoy more than going along to those housing projects. The member for Everton went along to many different construction sites.

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr O'CONNOR: I will take that interjection. He pushed for these projects to happen, and I am very proud to be going there with our members to open them up. We hear these ridiculous claims from the Labor Party about homes being cut. They were so passionate about these housing projects that they did not put one dollar towards them! Their interest in these projects stopped at actually funding them. We are getting on with the job.

Since the election, since 1 November, we have contracted 2,990 additional social and affordable homes across Queensland. They are not hypothetical houses. They are not houses that existed as Mike Kaiser thought bubbles or in brochures that the Deputy Premier referred to earlier today. They are real houses that are being built. We are very proud to get that pipeline up to the level that it always should have been.

I love to see the Labor Party claiming credit for some of these projects. I love to see them claiming credit every time I am at an empty site. They have sat on some sites for years and years. I love to hear them say that that is their work—that that is their legacy. If they are so proud of it, why is it empty? We are getting things done.

We have a \$5.6 billion investment in new social and community homes. We are the only jurisdiction in the nation that has an always open procurement process for community housing. We are the only jurisdiction in the nation that has perpetual funding beyond the budget cycle as a baseline. After a decade of decline, the Crisafulli government is delivering a place to call home. It is long overdue. We are building more homes than Labor could ever dream of. We are going to hear that clear contrast tonight from our united LNP team.

(Time expired)



Mr SMITH (Bundaberg—ALP) (5.41 pm): Today the government was congratulating the member for Gaven for being a home owner, but it is clear that she still lives rent-free in the head of the member for Bonney! Why would you move, member for Gaven? Why would you move?

This LNP government said they would fix housing. They said they would be there for the vulnerable, they would deliver more for the aspirational and they would deliver for Queenslanders experiencing housing vulnerability. But they are not builders; they are blockers. As the Leader of the Opposition outlined, they have cut around 10,000 social and affordable homes and put thousands more in their sights. They have failed to deliver a single new home through their Residential Activation Fund and they have cancelled plans for affordable housing in communities like Arundel, Birtinya, Tewantin and Redland Bay. In fact, the Deputy Premier has axed affordable housing targets on major builds including at Woolloongabba and Kurilpa. That is 800 affordable homes at the Visy site, 3,200 at Woolloongabba and 4,800 at Kurilpa. That is not building; that is going backwards. If those social and affordable housing projects are not delivered it means there are Queenslanders and their families who cannot move into homes.

While the LNP talk a big game about construction, the facts tell a very different story. We know that the number of houses for which construction was started under this government is down 4.4 per cent compared to the decade average. What does that mean for the average Queenslanders? Let's have a look in the Wide Bay region when it comes to housing, homelessness and housing vulnerability. There was a lot of criticism by those opposite when they were in opposition that we were not providing for housing vulnerability when we were in government. In the 2024 quarter 3 and quarter 4 data, there was an increase of 19 people on the social housing register in the Bundaberg Regional Council. Between 2024 quarter 4 and 2025 quarter 1, there was a further increase of 13. We want to work hard to make sure those people are housed.

Under the first and second quarter of the LNP's term in government, there was an increase on the social housing register of 121 people—an increase of 121 people on the social housing register! I note that the minister does not want to come to Bundaberg. He does not want to meet the people who come through my electorate office and say they are desperate for housing, they need emergency accommodation and they and their kids are living in a car. We get them to sign the authority-to-disclose form. We send them down to the community housing provider, and the community housing provider sends them back to my office and says that they do not have the funding to have more case managers, which means that that mum and two kids are still living in a car. They are still living in a car because of this LNP minister.

That is just one example. What about another constituent—one adult with two infants, a two-year-old and a 10-month-old, living in a car in Bundaberg because of the eligibility criteria that this bad LNP minister has put in place? What about two adults with an 18-month-old infant who came to my office and got rejected by the community provider because of the rules that this minister put in place? What about a father with two children, a four-year-old and a seven-year-old, who again was rejected by the community housing provider?

How outraged was I when I went in good faith to meet with the community housing provider, and we spoke about the eligibility requirements that this minister put on them and how it is driving more homelessness—121 additional people on the social housing register—and I was told, 'Isn't it good that the community spirit of couch surfing has returned to Bundaberg?' I want the minister to stand up here today and say whether he supports those claims put forward by the community housing provider—that there is a 'community spirit of couch surfing' that we should fondly reflect upon in Bundaberg. That is outrageous.

What about the young mum with a 14-year-old teenager? Why won't he ensure those people are getting houses? When we were in government we had the authority to disclose. If the department said they could not find anywhere, I called the member for Gaven and we ensured they got housing that very night. I walked into the parks in Bundaberg to make sure that anyone who was homeless could have temporary accommodation. Now they are being rejected because of the rules this fake progressive LNP minister has put in place. Hang your head in shame and get these people in a house!

(Time expired)

 **Hon. A LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (5.46 pm): I rise to support the amendment. That was a disgraceful display by the member for Bundaberg attacking community housing—absolutely disgraceful.

Local governments are key to addressing the housing issues across Queensland, but under Labor's decade of decline they were left in the dark.

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Pine Rivers!

Ms LEAHY: Councils are key to addressing critical housing supply but they were treated like second-class citizens by the members opposite.

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Pine Rivers, you are now warned.

Ms LEAHY: We on this side of the House know that the delivery of the right plan for Queensland's future, to solving Labor's housing crisis, is dependent on local governments being treated as genuine and equal partners.

Labor did not have a minister for local government. They had a housing and local government minister who was against local government all the way. Labor had a minister who used her special powers to call in the Arundel development, overruling the local council decision. Council's plans were for the redevelopment of the site for homes, but the member for Gaven proved she was the minister against even her own local council. It was the LNP when it came to government that had to step in so the council could get on with the job of housing for the Arundel community. It was also their minister against local government who waited 200 days to do anything about the former mayor of Townsville, yet in 22 days the LNP had the former mayor out of the Townsville City Council chamber.

It might help some of the Labor members opposite to reflect on what their former Labor colleagues did back in 2008 when they abolished the Smaller Communities Assistance Program, known as SCAP. They have taken billions of dollars away from councils—funding that councils used to extend water and sewerage assets to support housing in their communities. The LNP are assisting councils with our Residential Activation Fund. We are helping councils to bring more lots on to the market for housing. I will give a really good example of this. In Dalby there are fewer than 10 lots to purchase if you wish to build a home. The Residential Activation Fund—and I thank the Deputy Premier for the work he has done in relation to the Residential Activation Fund—working with council and local developers, will help unlock over 90 new lots in that community.

That is a massive boost for housing supply in Dalby and something that is desperately needed in this growing community. That story is repeated over and over again as you go to rural and regional councils right across the state, be it Charleville, Thargomindah, Roma or Saint George.

As we heard from the minister earlier, one of the things we have done in government is abolish stamp duty for first home buyers on new homes. It is not very often you hear of a government abolishing a tax, but that is what we have done to help young first home buyers into the market.

We also introduced the Boost to Buy scheme, which will reduce the deposit gap for first home buyers. That is something that is really needed because we know there is often postcode discrimination in rural and regional areas. We removed the restriction on first home buyers renting out a room. People have come to me in relation to that restriction and we removed it. We also dealt with the member for Woodridge's farcical proposal to make Queenslanders pay a renter's tax. Can you believe that, in a housing crisis, Labor wanted young people to pay a renter's tax? It was just bizarre. The member for Gaven failed to deliver a single home under that \$2 billion housing investment.

I commend the housing minister for the work he is doing with our Indigenous councils, particularly the rent-to-buy model through the Palm Island Home Ownership Scheme. It is the first time Indigenous people will be able to own their own home—

(Time expired)

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (5.50 pm): I am just absolutely delighted to be following the member for Warrego in this debate. I have not seen such a vigorous contribution to public debate in Queensland since the video Minister Leahy and Minister Simpson did together. Didn't that set the world on fire—perhaps in ways that were not anticipated.

I am very pleased to speak on this debate tonight and support the motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition and oppose the nonsense moved by the LNP. Wow, hasn't the Minister for Transport gone off. We have not seen that for a while. He has been trying to control himself for 12 months. He has been trying to keep it in, but now he has let it go.

Honourable members will recall that before the election the Premier said, 'When I say something, it means something.' What he meant was, 'When I say something, it means something else.' That is what he really meant. Queenslanders know that because that is the lived experience of every Queenslander in the 12 months since the election of the Crisafulli government, like when the Premier said he was going to 'fix the housing crisis'—or was it 'heal the housing crisis'? Either way, it was made up—the slippery, slick slogan of someone who belongs in a used car yard and not in the Premier's seat in this parliament. You cannot fix the LNP's crisis in housing by cutting affordable housing, and that is exactly what this mob on the other side of the chamber has done. There are some disastrous milestones piling up under this government. Worst of all are the thousands of affordable homes that have been cut by this government.

Mr O'Connor: Ten years!

Mr DICK: I will take that interjection. What about that 'decade of decline' nonsense from the LNP and all of those made-up slogans by those members opposite. The homes that we delivered, the hospitals that we built, the roads that we built—there were billions of dollars spent on Queensland. They had hollow slogans in opposition and all they have now is hollow slogans in government.

When the cost of housing in this state goes up 13.2 per cent in a year what does the LNP do? What does the planning minister do? In his arrogance and on bended knee to the property sector, he cuts thousands of affordable homes in Queensland. That is how out of touch they are. For example, 20 per cent of the Kurilpa TLPI homes were going to be social and affordable homes, and overnight, without consultation, without talking to anyone, they axed it. They axed thousands of affordable homes. What did that say to all of those people the LNP pretends to represent, all of those police officers, nurses and teachers who want to work on the south side of Brisbane? They slammed the door shut in their faces. They said, 'You can't live in the community that you want to work in and serve because you cannot get an affordable home.' I say to the LNP, 'Shame on every single one of you,' including the Minister for Home Ownership.

They like standing there at sites with a golden shovel, don't they? But they do not like delivering. Worst of all is the arrogant Deputy Premier and planning minister. What about his *I've Been Everywhere* performance in that puerile, juvenile, adolescent ministerial statement. Well, to be fair, he has made many juvenile, puerile and adolescent ministerial statements. I will try to narrow it down. It was the one where he said, 'I've been everywhere.' He has been everywhere except construction sites to deliver affordable homes for Queenslanders. What an absolute disgrace. Then he has the hide today to announce \$12.5 million for the Scheme Supply Fund. Guess whose fund that was? Labor's! That is our fund. I table a page from Homes for Queensland, the \$12.5 million fund that we funded and he is delivering.

Tabled paper: Extract from document, undated, titled 'Homes for Queenslanders' [1670].

I say to the Deputy Premier: how is the decade of decline going when you are using \$12.5 million that we put in to deliver housing for Queenslanders? I know he is flattered by my work and the work of the former housing minister, but that is absolutely shameless. Let's face it: they say one thing in opposition, they promise the world and they deliver nothing for Queenslanders.

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (5.55 pm): It is a pleasure to stand and talk about the Crisafulli government's solutions for the housing crisis. I have been sitting here listening to the contributions of those opposite. I must say that, when people recognise they have caused a problem, one of the ways in which they try and defend themselves is go on the attack. I have seen it over and over again. I can tell those opposite that yelling and using fake rage does not hide Labor's housing crisis. Yelling and fake rage does not build more homes. Yelling and fake rage does not cover up Labor's failures. Only the LNP government will see solutions put in place because we do not yell at each other. We work together—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr McDONALD: As I was saying as I was trying to make my point over the top of many voices next door, we do not yell at each other: we work together. I am very pleased to be part of a government that has established a ministerial housing taskforce. Would you not think how amazing it is to have a Minister for Housing, a Minister for Local Government and a minister for planning—of course, he is our Deputy Premier and looks after state development and infrastructure as well—being able to come together with a Minister for Home Ownership, who happens to be the Treasurer, working together, not shouting or yelling at each other, and coming up with real solutions.

I will use the example the housing minister gave before about the Housing Investment Fund. I have spoken about that in this House many times before because my community was badly affected by that Housing Investment Fund. The former government purchased many houses in our community that already existed. I say to those opposite that, when you buy a house that exists and you kick the tenants out, they have to find another place to live. They were causing more pressure on our housing supply in the Lockyer Valley, which is limited as it is.

I am very pleased to be here supporting the Deputy Premier and the Residential Activation Fund because this is all about supply—supply, supply, supply—or, in the words of the Deputy Premier, ‘Supply, baby, supply.’ We will work with local government to come up with genuine solutions—

Mr Stevens: Build, baby, build.

Mr McDONALD: After the supply it will be, ‘Build, baby, build.’ We are going to deliver that \$2 billion Residential Activation Fund to make sure we have supply. I welcome the first \$1 billion going out there, half of which is across the regions. It is making sure there is supply right across the regions.

Those opposite do not understand that when you are not adding into the supply you are actually causing the problem. Back in 2001, when the SEQ Regional Plan was put in place, there might have been some good intentions, but over time, through many Labor governments, we have seen that SEQ Regional Plan being used as a regulatory control to stifle local governments. I can say that local governments have never been so pleased because they are now able to talk with and work with our government and have a true partnership with someone who listens and activates supply. I welcome the Deputy Premier’s commitment of \$31.1 million for 13 regional plan reviews that we will do in about three months, as opposed to an average of two years.

Mrs Frecklington: Including Somerset.

Mr McDONALD: I take that interjection from my colleague the member for Nanango. It does include the Somerset Regional Council and the Lockyer Valley Regional Council, both of which are in our electorates.

This motion moved by the member for Murrumba condemning this government is an absolute joke. It is actually probably misleading the House. I am pleased to welcome the amendment moved by the housing minister because this is a government that will deliver true supply to the people of Queensland through real partnerships with local governments and build, baby, build.

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (6.01 pm): It is a pleasure to rise to talk on this motion. What I have heard so far from the LNP is simple boasting—plain and very hollow boasting. As I said yesterday, the only tool they have needed is a pair of golden scissors. They have gone in front of all of these housing projects initiated under Labor wielding the golden scissors and cutting the ribbons. There is a media release today about their so-called achievements in Moreton Bay. They laud the fact that 82 new social and affordable homes have been delivered in Redcliffe and 75 are under construction in Deception Bay. However, these are projects that could only have been initiated under Labor. These are Labor projects. All they are doing in my area is turning up with this pair of golden scissors.

As I said yesterday, the LNP is using scissors to do a whole lot more in the area of housing; they are cutting social and affordable housing projects. Yesterday the Leader of the Opposition said—

This LNP government has already scrapped almost 10,000 social and affordable homes. At Kurilpa, 4,800 affordable homes have been axed. At Woolloongabba, 3,200 affordable homes have been cut. At the Visy site, 800 homes have been scrapped. These were homes in the pipeline and they are gone, and thousands more are likely on the chopping block.

As we just heard, the member for Woodridge said that these places housed teachers, doctors and nurses. Speaking of teachers, I just got a message from one teacher: ‘Tell them the teachers hate them and nearly everyone I know is telling them to stick it’—so do not annoy them anymore by cutting more affordable housing.

The Deputy Premier does not want to talk about these cuts. He wants to say they are delivering for Queensland with the Residential Activation Fund, but the truth is that, as we have heard, this fund has not delivered one single home. It will take years to build this infrastructure and it will take years

after that to build these housing developments, and this will be right in the middle of an Olympic building period. Queenslanders need these homes now. It is no good just doing hollow boasting to show what you have done. All we hear from the Deputy Premier is boasting about funding housing infrastructure projects that would normally be funded by developers as part of their development approval. I would like to see him explain how these gains are going to be shared by or passed on to Queenslanders who need these homes.

As I said, the LNP have the scissors out and are cutting affordable housing projects in their own backyard. We have heard a lot about that. That is because the first bill this LNP government passed was to give the Deputy Premier the ability to scrap or reduce affordable housing projects, and they have used that ability ruthlessly ever since. They have also cut the policy of buying hotels and unused aged-care facilities to help vulnerable Queenslanders. They have cut any requirements for developers to build social and affordable homes.

In delivering social and affordable homes, the LNP are clearly failing. In their response to homelessness, the LNP are really failing. We heard the member for Bundaberg talk briefly on this. What I have seen in my area is that the LNP have pushed people out of parks and hotels and into backyards and the bush. They have made it harder to qualify for social housing and they have made it harder to get crisis accommodation.

The new eligibility criteria brought in by this government are pushing people out of hotels and back into tents and backyards. The criteria states that if a person does not engage with their housing provider, if they breach accommodation rules or behave inappropriately, or if they refuse a reasonable offer, they are out and their emergency assistance can be ended. What does this criteria mean in real life? I have spoken to so many people who have, I believe, been unfairly kicked out under the unfair application of this criteria. Many of these people have complicated lives and have undergone trauma. One person I spoke to had lost her partner through homicide and more have been victims of domestic violence. One returned to her domestic violence situation once she lost her emergency accommodation. If they say, 'I cannot move to the place you offer because there are people there who will feed my addiction,' you can understand that. The criteria that the LNP brought in are heartless and cruel and are making the situation worse.

 **Mrs YOUNG** (Redlands—LNP) (6.06 pm): Labor claim that this government has somehow failed on housing. Honestly, I am new around here but I do have to ask: have they forgotten who created Queensland's housing crisis in the first place? After a decade of decline, Labor left this state in a mess. More than 53,000 Queenslanders were stranded on the social housing waitlist, with families sleeping in cars, young people locked out of the market and communities crying out for planning certainty. That is Labor's legacy—10 years of chaos, inaction and poor planning. Those consequences do not disappear overnight.

In just our first year, the Crisafulli government have rolled up our sleeves and started the hard work to ensure Queenslanders have a place to call home. We have launched the \$2 billion Residential Activation Fund, unlocking almost 100,000 new homes across Queensland, delivering the essential infrastructure needed to get homes built faster. We have invested \$31.1 million to update 13 regional plans, which is something councils, industry and communities have all been crying out for. We have removed stamp duty for first home buyers building a new home; this is real relief for Queenslanders trying to get their foot in the door. We have unlocked church and charity land, and that was done within our first 100 days of government. We have launched Boost to Buy—the most generous shared equity scheme in Australia, helping moderate-income Queenslanders purchase their first home.

We have also developed a landmark master agreement with community housing providers, cut red tape and committed a record \$5.6 billion in our first budget to deliver new social and affordable housing. Already, homes are being delivered—70 in Beerwah, 26 in Sippy Downs and 18 in Maroochydore, with hundreds more underway right across the state. Unlike Labor, we are getting planning back on track.

In my own community of Redlands we are progressing the Southern Thornlands PDA, a project that sat on the former minister's desk for years. It left locals wondering where new homes would be delivered and whether their kids and grandkids would have to leave the community they grew up in to get a house to call their own. We also put a stop to Labor's Broadwater Terrace SFD approval, a development that ignored local planning and council and community expectations. That was not a solution to a housing crisis; it was a part of the problem.

We know that housing is about more than bricks and mortar; it is about people. That is why this government is backing the most vulnerable Queenslanders. We have invested a record \$592 million in new funding to support Queenslanders experiencing homelessness, the largest investment of its kind

in our state's history. We have locked in a 20 per cent uplift in homelessness service funding through to 2029, providing an additional \$209 million in certainty and stability for frontline organisations doing the incredible work on the ground. We have doubled the head-leasing budget, providing immediate housing options for people in need while we bring new supply online; and we are delivering at least eight new youth foyers and 10 new domestic and family violence shelters, giving young people, women and children a safe place to rebuild their lives.

We are restoring fairness to the social housing system with a tenancy management overhaul and a new antisocial behaviour policy because every Queenslanders deserves to feel safe and respected in their community. We have established the Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Council, bringing together housing and homelessness sector leaders with senior government representatives to drive collaboration and real solutions.

The difference is clear: Labor spent a decade creating Queensland's housing crisis; in just one year this government has set a new course building homes, supporting families and restoring confidence in housing delivery. We are not pretending to get the job done; we are getting on with it. While Labor points the finger, we are giving Queenslanders a place to call home.

 **Dr O'SHEA** (South Brisbane—ALP) (6.11 pm): Housing is the cornerstone for a stable life, to hold down a job, raise your children and give them the opportunity that comes from a good education. However, for many in my community of South Brisbane tonight there is a quiet panic: people lying awake doing the sums realising they are just one rent rise away from homelessness. They cannot afford anything in the private market and they earn too much to qualify for social housing. They are trapped working, paying taxes, contributing to this city and are still unable to find a secure place to live.

Brisbane's home values have surged again this year. The median price is now around \$970,000, one of the highest of any Australian capital. Rents are climbing just as fast. Houses now average \$775 a week and units \$615. Vacancy rates are at crisis levels at just one per cent. For thousands of Queenslanders that means impossible choices between paying rent, food and power bills. It means skipping meals so that kids can eat. What do we see in response from this government? While homelessness continues to rise and affordability continues to collapse, this government has chosen to scrap thousands of affordable homes. This decision increases homelessness, impacts our key workers, pushes up rents and removes hope from our families and young people.

In South Brisbane, just across the river from this House, there are so many people now without a home sleeping in tents in Musgrave Park, under the Kurilpa Bridge, along the banks of the river and in shop doorways along Boundary Street in West End. It is not just single people who are homeless; it is families as well. I would like to table a media report from the *Courier-Mail* on 16 October this year, which states that more than 400 Brisbane families are stuck in emergency motel accommodation and most will be forced to wait more than a year for affordable housing.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Courier-Mail* online, dated 16 October 2025, titled 'Brisbane's childhood homelessness up 50% in a year, forcing families into crisis motels' [[1671](#)].

It goes on to report that as of 30 June this year over 700 children were living in crisis motel accommodation across Brisbane. That is up nearly 50 per cent since last year. Crisis accommodation was meant to be just that: a temporary stopgap measure for a few nights or weeks at the most. It was never meant to be long-term accommodation, but our motels and other emergency accommodation are filled with people waiting for a home—but there just are not any.

In the middle of this housing crisis with over 53,000 on the public housing waiting list, motels filled with families, our parks and shopfronts full of people forced to sleep rough, this government has decided to scrap over 8,000 affordable homes just in my community of South Brisbane. That is over 3,000 at Woolloongabba, over 4,000 in the suburb of South Brisbane and now another 800 on the state owned Visy Glass factory site. Axing these affordable homes was done either without any community consultation or, in the case of Woolloongabba, in spite of community feedback. These were homes that could have been used by frontline workers like nurses and police who work in our community and should be able to have access to affordable housing so they can live in the community they serve.

With the ever-increasing rents and house prices in Brisbane we have a whole generation of young people living in rental accommodation and working multiple jobs to try to pay the rent. I used to be able to assure those young people that there was hope, that the Labor government had introduced planning laws for 20 per cent affordable homes in developments in Woolloongabba and South Brisbane. However, the decision by this government to scrap those affordable homes takes away that hope from our young people and for so many in our community who simply need a roof over their head.

I ask the government to stand up for people who need a home and for those young people caught in the ever-escalating rental market, commit to building affordable homes in South Brisbane and across Queensland, and give our families and young people back that hope.

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (6.16 pm): It is appropriate in this motion that we talk about housing in all its forms. There are two names that come to my mind when I think about housing in Queensland and they are John and Lina, Syrian refugees to this country who fled oppression, who fled difficult circumstances in the most difficult environments to seek a new life here in Australia. During the budget process I was fortunate to stand with them. They had gone on the journey of housing in our state: from insecure housing and social housing and renting to home ownership. They stood with the Premier and me, John and Lena, Syrian refugees who had gone all the way—they had sought aspiration in this country, a better life—and they were able to reach out with the first home owner grant and the abolition of stamp duty for first home buyers towards that aspiration at last. When I think of this motion, I think of the pipeline of housing from the most vulnerable—and I am going to come to that in a moment—to that aspiration that lies deep in every single Australian, that aspiration of home ownership, that piece of the great Australian dream. Do honourable members know what this motion misses tonight? It misses that aspiration.

I am delighted to be the Treasurer of a government which invested heavily—there were record investments in the budget this year—into affordable and social housing: \$5.6 billion in our budget and \$365 million into crisis accommodation and support for housing. We invested money, a 20 per cent permanent specialist housing homelessness uplift that those opposite had never funded. We funded that 20 per cent specialist homelessness uplift in our budget. We did that because we know that the most vulnerable Queenslanders are deserving of that support. We did that with that \$5.6 billion investment in the budget this year. By the end of it we are going to have permanent baseline funding of \$500 million—

Mr O'Connor: At least.

Mr JANETZKI: I take the interjection from the housing minister—at least—in that final year in 2028-29 so we can keep that pipeline moving. That is fundamental to what we must achieve. When I look at those opposite and their record of failure—a Housing Investment Fund of \$2 billion with not a single home built, 750 build-to-rent homes that were promised by those opposite but never delivered, a 29 per cent drop in lot approvals and a 36 per cent drop in housing approvals. Those opposite across the board failed in housing.

I heard the interjection from the member for Woodridge about shovels. We on this side of the House are delighted to be opening social housing projects across the board that we are delivering for the people of Queensland. I know that the Deputy Premier is speaking later in this debate and he will have more to say about projects that we are delivering on the ground. There is only one shovel that the member for Woodridge should be worried about: I remember the golden shovel that he used when he was handing out tens of millions of dollars of taxpayer money to billionaires. Who could forget that golden shovel from the member for Woodridge? He can come in here and talk about golden shovels. The only golden shovel the member for Woodridge should be concerned about is that shovel he was using when he was handing over tens of millions of dollars of Queensland taxpayer dollars to billionaires—the Pratts. That is what the member for Woodridge should be concerned about.

We on this side of the House are investing into the social and affordable housing pipeline. We are delivering with the Residential Activation Fund a billion dollars by 30 June next year, with 98,000 lots unlocked already. Home ownership is fundamental to that pipeline of housing—that is what this motion tonight misses—and I am delighted to be the first home ownership minister in Queensland. We have our Boost to Buy program, with over 18,000 expressions of interest. We already have a thousand people who have benefited from abolishing stamp duty for first home buyers purchasing a new build. We have extended the first home owner grant for another 12 months. I want more people like John and Lina—people starting in the most insecure housing environment—to aspire to that very important Australian dream of home ownership, and we on this side of the House will back it in every day.

(Time expired)

 **Hon. MAJ SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (6.20 pm): Didn't that contribution show how much the Treasurer's heart is in this? No wonder those opposite have problems! I want to respond to some of the claims made by the member for Bonney. He said that apparently we did not deliver anything under the Housing Investment Fund, but the member for Lockyer completely contradicted that by saying that in fact we did deliver homes and apparently his constituents have been badly affected because of our

investment in buying and building social and affordable homes. I cannot believe that the member for Lockyer thinks that us stepping in to purchase National Rental Affordability Scheme homes because the Liberal National Party tried to flog them off is a bad thing. It beggars belief. He also went on to say that this was all fake outrage. Well, don't the polls show that that clearly is not the case? The *Brisbane Times* Resolve poll had voters rank the Crisafulli government's performance on housing as the worst of all six areas, with the largest group of voters saying that the government's performance was in a negative rating, declaring its response as 'poor'. There is no wonder why, because we have record rents and increased cost of living and the government is just not building enough affordable homes and in fact is axing affordable homes in its own backyard.

Then came the *Courier-Mail's* Demos poll, which confirmed what we are saying, revealing that the lack of affordable housing is the biggest issue facing Queenslanders. Those opposite have a net approval rating of minus 36 per cent on housing—minus 36 per cent! Rents have exploded, up nine per cent on the Gold Coast, in the housing minister's own electorate—and perhaps even more if the member for Bonney is your landlord. While families are skipping meals to keep a roof over their head, the dream of owning a home is out of reach for so many young Queenslanders.

I will give the Premier credit on one front: he has unlocked one home—by getting rid of his home on the Gold Coast and moving to his mansion in Bulimba, so congratulations! He has unlocked one home on the Gold Coast! While the Premier settles into his new postcode in Bulimba, the social housing waiting list continues to blow out, with an 11 per cent increase in just three months under those opposite. I see the member for Bonney shaking his head. They are your own numbers, mate, so I suggest you have a look. Every one of those numbers represents—

Mr SPEAKER: Use correct titles, please.

Ms SCANLON: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Every one of those numbers represents a Queenslanders sleeping in a car, on a couch or under a tarp, because this government cannot get its act together.

What is the LNP's response in the middle of a housing crisis? It is to axe social and affordable housing homes and targets. I heard the spin from those opposite in that they are now trying to talk about attacking community housing providers. If those opposite want to talk about attacking community housing providers, the Deputy Premier ripped up the approval for one of the largest community housing providers in this state because it was too many houses in his own electorate—thousands of homes gone. What kind of government kills social and affordable housing projects in the middle of a housing crisis? It is a government that governs for donors and developers and not for renters and workers.

Those opposite love to talk a big game about construction—we heard the spin this morning—but the facts tell a very different story. ABS data out today shows that Queensland housing costs have increased by 13.2 per cent over the last year. Remember when the Premier said that the test would be whether people were better off? I do not think the people are better off if costs have increased under the LNP's watch by 13.2 per cent and the number of houses that have started construction under this government is down 4.4 per cent compared to the decade average. Those are not our stats; those are the stats from CommSec. Even the market analysts can see that there is less building, less housing and less hope.

This is the same old LNP—the LNP that sacked QBuild workers. This morning I heard the member for Bonney talking about the great work of the member for Everton—the guy who sent social housing in this state backwards. Now, instead of helping people who are doing it tough, they have changed the rules to make it harder for homeless Queenslanders. When you have people like the member for Mermaid Beach, who made almost an entire speech saying that he thought homeless people should be locked up and that laws against vagrancy should come back, and people like the member for Mackay who are upset that they cannot have fish and chips around homeless people, I think that is pretty indicative of the type of people they are.

(Time expired)

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (6.25 pm): There is nothing I love more than listening to a former failed Labor housing minister admit finally that there is a housing crisis in Queensland. Congratulations, member for Gaven. For 10 years she could not admit that there was a housing crisis but, after a change of government and the now government being in office for only one year, all of a sudden there is a housing crisis. She is a former failed housing minister who saw the record of housing slump in this state and the homelessness rate rise.

If the former housing minister wants to know the difference between the 10-year Labor government and the one-year Crisafulli government, here is a lesson that I am happy to give. Here is Labor's record: 36 per cent reduction in new home approvals; housing lot approvals down 29 per cent; 20,000 Queenslanders sleeping rough; lowest home ownership rate in Australia; introduced a renters tax in a self-inflicted Labor housing crisis; introduced the BPIC CFMEU tax which drove up rents seven per cent and prevented 22,000 new homes being built; a secret tax on infrastructure charges in the Woolloongabba PDA which was an additional 20 per cent on capped infrastructure charges; and Labor left regional plans to languish, with some being 20 years old.

Let us contrast that with one year of the LNP government: 98,000 homes unlocked through our Residential Activation Fund round 1; three new PDAs declared in four months, unlocking 30,200 new homes in Southern Thornlands, Mount Peter and North Harbour; resetting the planning partnership with local government and not steamrolling them with decisions; unlocking church and charity owned land within 100 days of government; \$31.1 million allocated to upgrade all 13 regional plans; record approvals at a refocused EDQ, with over 8,000 in the last financial year alone; a 13.5 per cent increase in average approvals over the October to June period under the LNP compared to the July to September period under Labor; approvals for MIDs halved from an average of 10 months under Labor to just five months under the LNP; approving local council planning schemes, some of which have been sitting on the planning minister's desk since 2022; and abolishing Labor's housing tax. That is the comparison between our one year in office and the Labor Party's 10 years in office.

I turn to a couple of the issues raised. The member for Bancroft talked about the fact that there are no new homes in his electorate. I declared North Harbour a PDA—3,700 new homes proposed. The developers requested the PDA be declared by Jackie Trad in May 2015. It was rejected. They requested it again in December 2018. Cameron Dick rejected it. They requested it again in September 2020. Cameron Dick rejected it again. Ready for this—

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I do not like doing it but proper titles, please.

Mr SPEAKER: Proper titles.

Mr BLEIJIE: He is the former minister of rejection because that is all he did with the North Harbour PDA. Guess what—

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at those words and I ask the honourable Deputy Premier to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. After the Labor Party rejected the North Harbour PDA three times, they requested it to me in April 2025 and I approved it within three months—three months!

Mr Whiting interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Yes, member for Bancroft, we are delivering the housing that your government did not for 10 years. We will continue to deliver in the Labor electorates in a matter of months—something they could not do within 10 years. It has now been declared a PDA. We are also delivering in the member for Gladstone's electorate. I have to say, I am disappointed. They talk about social and affordable housing, well, I got a letter from the member for Gladstone asking me not to approve social and affordable housing in his electorate. He says at the end of his letter—

... I urge you to reconsider the suitability of this location for the proposed social housing development.

Well, Mr Speaker, I approved it last week. We are delivering social and affordable housing in the Labor electorates that they have rejected. I table a copy of that.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 9 April 2025, from the member for Gladstone, Hon. Glenn Butcher MP, to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations, Hon. Jarrod Bleijie, regarding a proposed ministerial infrastructure designation for social housing in Kirkwood [1672].

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection. Approved, baby, approved! No matter where it is across the state we are building homes, we are unlocking land. We are allowing socialists like the member for Gaven to buy properties—something the Labor Party could never do under their policies. We will continue to work for all Queenslanders, even socialists who want to aspire to home ownership like the member for Gaven. Thank you. Thank us for your housing approval and home ownership. We will keep going. There is more to do.

(Time expired)

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

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, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Healy, Howard, J. Kelly, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Power, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Ind, 1—Sullivan.

Resolved in the affirmative.

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

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, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Healy, Howard, J. Kelly, King, Linard, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Nightingale, O'Shea, Pease, Power, Pugh, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Smith, Whiting.

Ind, 1—Sullivan.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Motion, as agreed—

That this House—

1. notes the Crisafulli government's extensive housing plan that:
 - (a) will drive new housing supply for homebuyers, renters and vulnerable Queenslanders;
 - (b) will deliver one million new homes by 2044, including 53,500 social and community homes;
 - (c) includes the landmark \$2 billion Residential Activation Fund;
 - (d) abolished stamp duty for first home buyers on new homes;
 - (e) introduced the Boost to Buy scheme to reduce the deposit gap for first home buyers;
 - (f) removed restrictions on first home buyers renting out a room;
 - (g) will lift the rate of home ownership from last to first in the nation;
 - (h) funded a 20 per cent uplift for specialist homelessness services across the next four years;
 - (i) will deliver emergency accommodation for vulnerable women and children with 10 new and replaced domestic and family violence shelters;
 - (j) will deliver eight new youth foyers;
2. condemns the former Palaszczuk-Miles government's failed housing solutions for renters, the homeless and homebuyers, including:
 - (a) the member for Gaven for failing to deliver a single new home under the \$2 billion Housing Investment Fund;
 - (b) the member for Murrumba's botched Griffith University crisis accommodation project that saw only false hope and no homes delivered;
 - (c) the member for Woodridge's farcical proposal to make Queenslanders pay a 'renters tax';
 - (d) the failure to deliver any ongoing funding for a 20 per cent uplift for specialist homelessness services;
 - (e) the introduction of BPICs, otherwise known as the 'CFMEU tax', which impacted supply.

Sitting suspended from 6.38 pm to 7.40 pm.

**COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND PUBLIC CHILD SEX OFFENDER REGISTER
(DANIEL'S LAW) BILL****Second Reading**

Resumed from p. 3424, on motion of Mr Purdie—

That the bill be now read a second time.

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (7.40 pm), continuing: Before the dinner break I was going through the history of Daniel's Law and reminding this House that back in 2019, when the LNP brought it to the House, the Labor government voted against it. The whips have brought to my attention the members who so far have not contributed to this debate. I want to highlight one of those members—that is, the member for Morayfield. During the 2019 debate, when it was put up that a public child sex offender register should be in law, he said it was a 'thought bubble policy', an 'ill-conceived policy based on the shaky foundations of political populism'. He is yet to contribute to this debate. I would like to know where the member for Morayfield now stands. Another Labor member who is yet to contribute to this debate is the member for Murrumba, the Leader of the Opposition. He is yet to tell us where he stands in relation to Daniel's Law. The member for Woodridge is yet to contribute to this debate and tell us where he stands in relation to Daniel's Law. The member for Waterford—

Mr Head: She is too busy doing the numbers!

Mrs GERBER: She is too busy doing the numbers; I take the interjection from the member for Callide. She is yet to contribute to this debate. Where do these members stand when it comes to laws that protect children and put the rights of families over the rights of predators? There is a whole list of members who are yet to contribute to this debate. The member for Miller is yet to contribute to this debate. The member for Ipswich West is yet to contribute to the debate. Guess who is also on this list? The member for Springwood! I heard the member for Springwood interjecting. There is a spot on the speaking list for him. I look forward to hearing from the member for Springwood considering he voted against Daniel's Law in 2019.

Daniel's Law will create a three-tier register with one clear goal: to put the rights of families and victims before the rights of predators. The first tier targets the most immediate risk: child sex offenders who have failed to report or who have breached their supervision conditions and whose whereabouts are currently unknown. Until now, when an offender disappeared communities were kept in the dark. The privacy of the child sex offender was prioritised over the rights of communities and children. Under Daniel's Law those days are over. Tier 1 establishes a public website displaying the photograph and essential identifying details of every missing noncompliant child sex offender, including their name, year of birth and identification number.

There are another two tiers. The second tier empowers communities to know who is living in their community. Queensland residents can apply to request photographs of certain high-risk reportable offenders living in their area. The third tier allows a parent or guardian or another person with ongoing parental responsibility to apply to police for confirmation as to whether or not an adult who has or will have unsupervised contact with their child is a reportable offender.

Daniel's Law will change lives. For two decades Bruce and Denise Morcombe have carried the weight of their loss and grief and fought for this change. I am so proud to be part of a government that is finally delivering Queenslanders a public child sex offender register. We are making Queensland safer and we are putting the rights of children, victims and Queenslanders first.

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (7.44 pm): Child sexual abuse is something that touches all of us. I doubt that there is a family or a member in this House who has not been impacted by child sexual abuse somewhere in their family, amongst their relatives, their neighbours or their local community. The statistics are that one in three girls under the age of 16 are more than likely going to be sexually abused. One in six boys is the figure that we often hear quoted in respect of child sexual abuse in our nation. It is a great travesty.

Over the last day or two in this House it has been heartening to hear the many personal stories and reflections about how we have all been touched so deeply by the Morcombe family. Indeed, many members here have very personal connections with the Morcombes that go back over the last 10 years or more. I first met the Morcombes when I was introduced to them by Hetty Johnston around the time that Daniel disappeared. There was no Morcombe foundation then; there was just a grieving family looking for support. At that time, Bravehearts stepped up to provide them with some of that support.

Hetty Johnston was a very fierce advocate for them. Since the formation of the Morcombe foundation we have seen this issue of child sexual abuse heightened. Awareness has been increased not only in Queensland but also around the nation. That is something we should be very pleased about because it is an issue that touches everyone.

I want to mention how collaborative the Morcombes have been in more recent years, in particular in advancing this as an issue for education amongst kids across the nation and in the work that has been done by them, alongside Alison Geale from Bravehearts, in creating a collaborative organisation known as e-kidna, working very closely with Act for Kids, for the sole purpose of bringing this issue to the forefront and raising awareness.

I joined the board of Bravehearts 21 years ago after a grandmother came to visit me and shared the story of how 11 girls had been sexually abused by a sporting coach at a gymnastics club. That was an eye-opener for me. It was the first time I really came to understand the impact of this issue. It is a cause that I have continued to work very closely on over many years.

A little bit of history is sometimes good. We have come such a long way in Queensland. Back in the 1960s we did not even have child safety legislation in Queensland. In fact—and I almost do not want to say this—in the late fifties and sixties children who were orphaned and born outside of marriage were still referred to as bastards within legislation. That is why we saw the rise of institutional care and, sadly, a lot of institutional abuse. It was not until the early eighties that we really started to see significant changes around child safety legislation. It was Hetty Johnston, Carol Ronken and others from organisations such as Bravehearts who really championed the need for child safety legislation in every state of Australia. I want to honour each of those people for their work in laying the foundation for where we find ourselves today in adopting some very significant, important laws.

I want to reflect on some of the comments made in the submission by Bravehearts. So much abuse, including sexual abuse, is perpetrated by people known to the family, by family members or by others who will not end up on the register. While the register is an important step forward and absolutely has the support of Bravehearts and other organisations across the state, it is important that we remain vigilant and continue to educate our kids and their kids about the importance of being on guard and protecting our kids. I have certainly had that discussion with my son and daughter-in-law about my granddaughters because there are perpetrators, paedophiles, lurking in places where we least expect to find them. The Bravehearts submission states—

Sex offender disclosure schemes, while intended to enhance public safety by informing communities about known offenders, can inadvertently create a false sense of security among the public. These schemes focus on individuals who have already been convicted and registered, yet the majority of sexual offenses are committed by those not previously identified by the criminal justice system. As a result, disclosure laws may lead people to overestimate their ability to detect and avoid risk ...

It is important to note that.

I note from the Bravehearts submission that they fully support the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register scheme, Daniel's Law as we are calling it. The scheme that we have adopted is based on the Western Australian model, which is considered best practice. The Western Australian tiered model was developed off the back of some reforms in the United Kingdom around Sarah's Law. Bravehearts and other organisations fully endorse this approach. In the past, other models had been discussed and suggested but they were perhaps not best practice and would not necessarily have fulfilled their original objectives. The closing comments of the Bravehearts' submission states—

... we note that notification schemes should only be considered as part of a holistic approach to the protection of children and young people. Offender reporting laws and notification schemes only protect against known, convicted sex offenders. Research indicates that only a small percentage of sexual offence cases make their way into the criminal justice system, and those that do are subjected to various barriers and filtering processes, which ultimately results in few cases resulting in charges, prosecutions, or convictions.

There is still so much more work to be done in respect of child protection. I know that both sides of government have conducted trials where children have been interviewed in very private environments with trained psychologists, federal police, state police and qualified child safety experts. So often in cases of serious child sexual abuse, a child will disclose something and family members will come out to support them, but in the period until those matters come to trial, later down the track, the child is groomed or talked out of their testimony. That is why it is important that we look at modernising some of the processes that we have in place. If I had my way, we would have a child advocacy centre in every major population centre across the state where people could access counselling support and where the child could be discreetly interviewed in the presence of trained professionals, rather than at the local police station, in an environment where people could analyse their testimony and then provide the necessary supports to the family.

This is an important step forward. It is an approach that is endorsed by many. Like everyone else in this House, I pay tribute to the Morcombe family. This law, Daniel's Law, stands as a tribute to them. It honours the extraordinary advocacy of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, which has long championed greater public access to information about child sex offenders.

(Time expired)

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Furner): Member, before you take your seat I ask you to withdraw some unparliamentary language. I know it was not intentional; you were referencing historical terminology that has been used. I will ask you to withdraw that language, thank you.

Mr MOLHOEK: I am happy to withdraw. I am not sure what it was.



Mr BAILLIE (Townsville—LNP) (7.54 pm): Tonight I rise in strong support of the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025. This bill puts the safety of Queensland's children first. At the outset, like many of my parliamentary colleagues, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to two extraordinary Queenslanders, Bruce and Denise Morcombe. In the face of every parent's worst nightmare, they have shown courage, strength and purpose and, in the process, have inspired an entire nation. When they lost their beloved son Daniel, they could have stepped back from the world and hidden away. Instead, they stepped forward. They made a promise that Daniel's story would never be forgotten and that no other family would endure the pain that they have carried. They have kept that promise through tireless advocacy, through education and through sheer determination to make Queensland a safer place for every child.

Through the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, Bruce and Denise have reached thousands of schools and countless children, teaching them to recognise, react and report. Earlier this year it was fantastic to host Bruce and Denise for the Dance for Daniel where we really saw the Townsville community spirit as people got behind their cause. There were over 400 attendees at the Ville and I note that the event sold out in 17 days. In Townsville, support for their cause is well and truly evident.

The Morcombes have worked hand in hand with police, governments and communities. Their efforts have led to real change with better education, more vigilant communities and, with this bill, there will be new laws. They have turned tragedy into hope and heartbreak into a legacy of protection and awareness that will endure for generations. On behalf of the people of Townsville and all Queensland families, I say thank you. Thank you for your strength, thank you for your advocacy and thank you for your love for Daniel. Your tireless efforts over the past 20 years have changed lives and will continue to protect children for many years to come.

The Crisafulli government was elected on a platform to make our communities safer. If people put aside the additional resources for police, such as more boots on the ground and an extra police helicopter in Townsville, and they just look at some of the legislative changes and measures that we have taken over the past year then they will see that we are working hard to deliver on that commitment. We have introduced the Making Queensland Safer Laws and Adult Crime, Adult Time is being applied to 33 offences, restoring consequences for actions and putting the rights of victims ahead of the offenders. We have expanded Jack's Law and made it permanent, removing dangerous weapons from our streets. We have made changes to domestic violence legislation to enable protection for victims sooner. With this bill, we are putting the rights of parents and families ahead of sexual predators.

Topics such as domestic violence and child sex offending are difficult to talk about. They are topics that we often do not want to talk about in the public space. They are things that happen in our society, whether we want them to or not. It is important that we do talk about them in this place and recognise that they do occur and how they occur and take measures to try to prevent them from occurring in the future. As a parent myself, I know—and I think every parent knows—that nothing matters more than keeping your children safe. Whether you are a parent in Townsville, Magnetic Island, Palm Island or anywhere in Queensland, for that matter, the fear of something happening to your child is universal.

Daniel's Law is about making sure that every parent, guardian and caregiver has access to information to make informed decisions about who their children are spending time with and to be informed about the risks that might exist in their neighbourhood. Under Daniel's Law, Queensland will establish a three-tier public child sex offender register. It is the first of its kind in our state. It is not the first of its kind across the nation. It is largely based on the Western Australian model. For our state, that is a big step forward.

It is a practical, commonsense tool. It gives families access to the right information without comprising investigations or putting anyone at unnecessary risk. Tier 1 will publish details of missing noncompliant offenders—those who have breached their obligations and whose whereabouts are

currently unknown. As a result, those offenders represent the highest risk to the community. In addition to a photograph, those offenders may have their name and year of birth published on a website because the community deserves to know if someone dangerous is on the run. Tier 1 information will be available to all members of the public to keep the community informed. An offender's details will be removed from that publication when the reportable offender is located or when the offender reports their current whereabouts to police. As a result, they will be taken off that tier.

Tier 2 will allow residents to conduct a locality search. If a family wants to know if a repeat offender or lifelong offender lives in the area, they can make that request. Facial images of repeat offenders or those with lengthy reporting obligations will be released for a particular suburb or area if the applicant provides valid proof of identification and resides in the same suburb or area within which the request is lodged. If someone wants to buy a new house and they want to do a pre search, that is not allowable. People cannot share information about their suburb with others. It is a safety measure that is in place if people are concerned about the suburb in which they live.

Tier 3 will allow parents or guardians to check a specific person who has or will have unsupervised contact with their child, whether that is through sport, school or family circles. As with tier 2, tier 3 applications will require the applicant to provide personal details of themselves and their children as well as sufficient information to identify the person they are inquiring about. It is important to note that any information accessed or received through the public register must be treated as confidential. I did touch on that earlier. This means that recipients cannot share search results with others. There are clear exclusions. It will be a serious criminal offence to misuse or share this information improperly. For example, anyone who intimidates, harasses or incites violence against someone they believe to be an offender faces up to 10 years in jail. This ensures the register is used responsibly and to protect children.

We know that the reality is that this register will not, in isolation, keep our children safe. It is a shared responsibility held by parents, families, community groups, coaches, churches, neighbours and so many more. This bill provides one more tool to help keep our children safe.

Queenslanders want to know that offenders are being monitored and that the system is working for victims, not the people who hurt them. By making this information available we are demonstrating we trust parents, we trust the community and we will always put children first. Daniel's Law is about protecting the most vulnerable in our community—our children. It is about empowering parents and guardians to make informed choices.

Every Queensland child deserves to grow up safe—safe at home, safe at school, safe online and safe in their community. This bill helps make that a reality. I am very proud to be part of a government that is taking these important steps to keep our community safe and keep our next generation safe. As such, I commend this bill to the House.

 **Mr VORSTER** (Burleigh—LNP) (8.05 pm): I often reflect on lines that I have picked up on my journey, both professionally and in public life. I like to think that politics is the mechanism by which we can not only have a contest of ideas but also translate ideas into action and action into outcomes and, in a meaningful way, change futures for the better. There is a line by a French novelist—I forget their name—that often sits with me. It is—

Now, in every human question, there is something more powerful than strength, than courage, than genius itself: it is the idea whose time has come.

Reflecting on this legislation and this important reform, I have had an opportunity to wonder: at what time did the justification, the need, for this reform arrive? What was that moment? At times I have wondered: did that moment come when a parent received that god-awful phone call or knock at the door? Did that moment for the reform come when that family was afflicted by that news? Did the moment come when a state became captivated by the story of a young boy taken at a bus stop on the Sunshine Coast, wondering where he was and whether it was possible he could be returned safely—clinging on to dear hope that he could be reunited with his family? Did the moment arrive when Queensland was confronted by what had happened to that family? Was it in this parliament, not so many years ago, when the LNP opposition stood up and said, 'Enough is enough. We need now in the state of Queensland a mechanism to prevent further abuse by empowering parents to make decisions, better decisions, for their children about who would be in their orbit, was it that moment?

I did not sit in the parliament in that season, but many of our current members of the 58th Parliament did. I took a moment to reflect on the debate that unfolded in the parliament. What I saw was an LNP opposition that, not for prideful reasons and not for boastful reasons but for constructive reasons, brought into this place a proposal to keep children safe. I would have thought, reading that

debate, that the moment for action had well and truly arrived, but what we had was a callous and dismissive Labor government that was not prepared to contemplate that perhaps circumstances demanded action. They voted against the LNP opposition proposition that it was time to act in the interests of children and to stop further abuse. They questioned whether there was evidence to take action. They demanded evidence. Do you know what? The evidence was laid bare in the horrific story of Daniel Morcombe. That was the evidence, and the former Labor government refused to see it as such.

In the previous parliament we had the member for Nicklin make an incredible contribution—a contribution not only as a champion of the vulnerable, not only as a champion of child victims, but also as somebody who worked hard to find justice and to put lives back together. He made an incredible contribution, as did the member for Toowoomba North and my colleague the member for Southport. I want to draw the House's attention to a comment that was made by the member for Nicklin. He was reflecting on the opposition of the then Labor government to our view that the time had arrived for a public sex offender register. He reflected on how the then member for Maryborough had opposed our suggestion. He said—

Hopefully, the member for Maryborough will get a chance to have a say on this motion, because I understand that he has supported it in the past. However, I fear that the LNP is the only party that will protect our children.

He was right on two accounts. The first account is that only the LNP government will look after our children because it took the election of an LNP government to introduce this bill. The other matter that he was correct on is that the member for Maryborough will sit in this place and make a contribution to secure these changes. I want to thank the chair of the committee for not only an incredible report that will help secure the passage of this legislation but also a fight he has fought in a professional capacity and during an earlier season in this parliament.

I think what is really important—and it has to be made clear to the public—is that it did take a change of government to make this happen because we took to the election a commitment to deliver this. It was not a commitment shared on both sides. It was a commitment provided by the LNP, endorsed by the electorate, who wanted us to stand in this place and effect change. Some of those opposite have made a contribution, trying to get in on the action, as it were, but really their contribution rings hollow because not so many years ago they voted against what we are proposing today, including the member for Gaven. The member for Gaven voted against a public child sex offender register in the state of Queensland, and her party leader, the Leader of the Opposition, has so far refused to stand up, do a mea culpa and back it in this time. They are hopelessly divided on this issue, as they were when we originally brought it into this House.

Not only could the Queensland public not trust them to implement this law, but they could not trust them to look after children in their own care. I really want to pay tribute to Minister Camm, the member for Whitsunday, for the incredible job she has done to help launch a commission of inquiry into Queensland's broken child safety system. For me, this shows the difference between the two sides of the House. While one side of the House, the Labor side of the House, voted against a public child sex offender register, they also presided over a system where, according to a 2024 census, 11 per cent of children in out-of-home care had been sexually abused. Children in the care of the state, under the former Labor government, had been sexually abused. They care not for children at risk of sexual exploitation. They refused to back in these reforms when their time had come. For those children in their care, they turned a blind eye.

I will say this to the House: our commission of inquiry will expose a rotten system, and it will help drive the reform we need, not only to heal people but also to prevent further abuse so that every child in this great state of Queensland—every child—can be whole and reach their potential because only then can the state reach its potential. Our greatest assets are our children. Let's make sure we give them the future they deserve.

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (8.15 pm): I rise in strong support of Daniel's Law. For too long, parents have felt like they were being kept in the dark about the people living in their own communities. Daniel's Law will change that. It will give Queensland families access to information they have never had before. As Minister for Youth, I see every day how much trust we place in our communities to help raise, guide and protect our young people. That trust depends on safety. It depends on having the confidence that the people around children are accountable and that our systems work together to do everything possible to prevent harm before it happens.

Daniel's Law strengthens Queensland's safety net. It means parents, carers and young people themselves will be better protected. It gives families access to vital information about convicted child sex offenders, not to perpetuate fear or enable vengeance but for vigilance and prevention. This legislation represents what we were elected to do: act with common sense, deliver on our promises and give Queenslanders confidence that the system is on their side.

The Crisafulli government made a clear commitment to restore safety in every corner of our state—in the places people live, learn and grow. Whether it is keeping our streets safe, our homes secure or our kids protected, our government is focused on outcomes that make this state a safer place to live. Daniel's Law will do exactly that. It builds on proven models—South Australia and particularly Western Australia's three-tier disclosure system—and adapts them to work in the Queensland context. The three tiers strike the right balance between community protection and individual accountability: a public register for offenders who have breached their obligations and cannot be located; local access for residents to check offenders living in their area; and a parent-specific safeguard allowing families to confirm whether someone with unsupervised contact with their child is a registered offender.

Under all tiers, it is up to the Police Commissioner to ultimately decide whether to publish or disclose information. This is because there could be circumstances, other than the stated exclusions, where it is inappropriate to do so. To determine an offender's eligibility to be published or released under tier 1 and tier 2, the Police Commissioner may consider any matters considered relevant. This could include: potential impacts on the victim where known, including the likelihood of identification and retraumatisation; the risk of interference with the offender's compliance with orders and obligations, or an offender's management generally; or whether publication is in the public interest and in line with the intention of the disclosure scheme. Again, in all instances the Police Commissioner will decide whether to release information to a person via tier 2 or tier 3.

This is a system designed to empower, not to alarm. It gives parents the tools they need to protect their children, while also setting clear boundaries against misuse with strict penalties if this occurs. These strong penalties for anyone who tries to harass or intimidate offenders remind everyone that this is about protection, not punishment. For many families, this law will mean peace of mind. For others, it could mean preventing a tragedy occurring.

None of this would have happened without courage and persistence, and tonight's bill honours the impact of two extraordinary Queenslanders: Bruce and Denise Morcombe. They are two people who would wish with all their hearts that they were not household names. For more than two decades they have turned unthinkable grief into extraordinary advocacy. They have worked tirelessly to make Queensland children safer, to educate young people about their own rights and to help parents and teachers have those difficult but necessary conversations. Daniel's Law is a tribute to their strength, their love and their belief that good can and must come out of tragedy.

I have seen that same strength from a couple whom I represent—that is, Brett and Belinda Beasley. In fact, the Daniel Morcombe Foundation was the tragic inspiration for the Jack Beasley Foundation. Brett looked to it in particular as the model for what they wanted to achieve in the area of knife crime and youth violence prevention. In many ways Brett and Belinda have walked in the footsteps of Bruce and Denise to do all they possibly can to make sure no other family goes through what they have been through. Just as Jack's Law has been expanded and made permanent by this government, so too will Daniel's Law go a long way towards protecting young Queenslanders.

As the Minister for Youth, I want to speak directly to what this will mean for young Queenslanders. Every child deserves to grow up safe. They should be able to walk to school, play sport and take part in their community without living in fear. Safety is the foundation of opportunity. Without it, young people cannot learn, thrive or go anywhere near reaching their potential. That is why the Crisafulli government's focus on community safety goes hand in hand with our work to give young Queenslanders brighter futures through housing, mental health support, jobs, training and education. Protecting young people is not just about responding to danger; it is about building communities where those young people can belong and succeed. Daniel's Law will sit proudly alongside those broader efforts.

To conclude, this bill delivers on our promise to the people of Queensland. It delivers on a commitment to parents, who want to know their children are safe. It delivers on the legacy of a young boy whose tragic loss changed this state forever. I congratulate the police minister for his leadership in bringing this bill to the House and the member for Nicklin not only for his work with the Queensland Police Service and the Morcombe family but also for doing a fine job chairing this committee. Thank you to Bruce and Denise Morcombe for their unwavering strength. I commend this bill to the House, because nothing matters more than keeping Queensland kids safe.



Mr DILLON (Gregory—LNP) (8.22 pm): I rise tonight to also share my contribution to Daniel's Law, with the words of the Minister for Youth ringing loud in our ears. I am not a police officer. I have never served as a police officer, unlike others who have dedicated a large portion of their lives to that admirable trait of keeping Queenslanders safe.

I have been fortunate, as a parent and as a family member, to not have been subjected to the horrific situation of having lost somebody through heinous criminal activity. I am not an expert like those in this place who have served as police officers or like those families who have lost the most precious gift of all—loved ones, one of their children. They are the experts in my mind. They are whom I listen to when forming my opinion about matters like this or legislation generally.

I note the hardworking member for Nicklin's comments in the foreword to the committee report where he said that the inquiry into Daniel's Law 'touched deeply on issues of community safety, public trust, and the protection of children'. As lawmakers, we come into this place hoping that these matters never have to be debated and that we never have to unpack and hear the horrific stories that the Morcombe family and so many others have been forced to endure. We wish for that nirvana, that utopia, that perfect world where criminal acts are not committed against our children or our neighbour's children, but they are.

When I come in here and hear former serving police officers such as the Minister for Police, the committee chair and the members for Mundingburra and Lockyer, and so many others in this place give voice to this as being a necessary step, a necessary activity, to safeguard future generations of children, I couple that with the words of Bruce and Denise Morcombe, who were quoted in the committee report as saying—

... the three-tiered approach outlined in the Bill before the Queensland Parliament is measured in its approach and provides the tools necessary for parents and carers to improve the safety of children in their care. It assists the community to ultimately feel safer, and we believe it significantly acts as a deterrent against future offending.

Ministers and other members in this place have technically outlined with such clarity the tiered approach and the technical aspects of this legislation in their speeches. If I overlay that with the statements from the leaders in family advocacy in this state—irrespective of the issue, irrespective of the crime, irrespective of what matter may bring them to lobby this parliament—notwithstanding the party I represented when elected to this place I would have no choice but to voice my support for and vote in favour of this bill.

I am not only a father; I come from a small country town where almost everybody is known, and some of those people are criminals. Unfortunately, for our kids to receive an education and further their career, they are forced to attend big cities. They are forced to go to boarding schools or reside in residential care. As parents with a country background, we are very loathe to let them go, because we do not know what is around the corner. The boarding schools that struggle meaningfully to look after our children will be aided by the provisions within this legislation. We as parents who have to let go will be aided by this legislation.

We are unashamedly putting the rights of victims first. We do not want them to be victims. We want to ensure people, especially the most vulnerable in our communities, are protected from being preyed upon by people who are refusing to report and are lost to the system and may appear anywhere or by people who may come in contact with our children through either structured or unstructured means around sport and recreation.

It fits within the Crisafulli government's new approach to crime in the state of Queensland. Across the board of this new approach there has been a lot of hard work and shoulders to the wheel. People like the police minister, who has had carriage of this bill; the Attorney-General; the Minister for Youth, who has been a solid contributor; and the Minister for Child Safety have been collaborating to ensure we recalibrate the focus towards preventing victims of crime and protecting them from future repeat offenders.

I said at the outset that many others in their contribution to this debate so far have outlined the technical elements of the bill. To me, the strongest element is that which has been outlined by those people who are advocating for change—the real experts, the people who wished they were never an expert, the people who wished they never had the reason or the need to do this. I have not had the honour of meeting the Morcombe family as many others have, but I have read their story and heard it repeated many times in this debate. The honour is all ours, because there is no honour in having to farewell a son who was—and should never have been—in the presence of an individual who committed the most heinous of crimes.

The work that they have done to tirelessly lead a considered, community-led advocacy approach to this is something that they would give all back. There are no greater advocates and no greater communicators for our children than them—and we see not only across Queensland but across Australia the education piece that they continue to espouse—but we all wish that it had not happened. In their words, the true experts in this field, they believe this legislation is a 'measured approach' and a 'deterrent against future acts'. For former serving police officers to have stood in this place to lend their unqualified support to this legislation, their contributions could not be more strongly underlined.

I thank once again the Minister for Police and the Attorney-General for the terrific work they have done in bringing this legislation before the House. I also thank the committee, and all members of the committee, led by the member for Nicklin. Having been exposed to discussions around child safety and crimes perpetrated by child sex offenders is not easy. For them to have undertaken that inquiry, which touches deeply into corners of our community that we wish were never required to be exposed, I thank them very much for that work. On behalf of the people of Gregory, I stand and give my strong commitment to support this bill.



Hon. TL MANDER (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (8.31 pm): I stand tonight to speak on the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025, otherwise known as Daniel's Law. I firmly believe that a government's No. 1 priority is to ensure the safety of its citizens. That is something that this government has endeavoured to do from the time we were elected. It is what we promised in our election campaign. It is what we are striving to deliver through changing laws, changing regulations and changing policies, to ensure that, firstly, we protect our citizens and that, secondly, we punish those and have deterrents for perpetrators and those who constantly break the law.

Our No. 1 goal is to protect our citizens, but part of that is to ensure that we protect our most vulnerable people. A whole range of people fall into that category. There are those who have mental health issues. There are those who have other disabilities physical and mental. The other cohort of people I put into that category are our children. You do not have to have children to understand and have empathy and support for their protection, but when you do have children—and I have four children who are now in their 30s and I have now gone to the next stage where I have seven grandchildren—and you have those personal experiences your perspective on life changes a lot with regard to how they should be protected and how they should be able to live their lives peacefully.

I do not know about other members but occasionally there will be an article in the paper that talks about some horrific crime against children and I simply cannot read it. I read the first paragraph and think, 'I don't want to read that anymore.' I have empathy for those who work in the sector and experience this every day, whether they are police officers, child protection officers or child protection ministers. These people deal with this every day, and I honestly do not know how they cope with it. It is very important that we do whatever we can to protect our children. That is at the very heart of this bill.

There are evil people in this world—evil people who want to take advantage of our children and who position themselves to get exposure and access to children, whether it is in schools, in churches, in youth groups, in scout groups, in sporting organisations. They do not discriminate against any organisation. If those organisations give them an opportunity to be with children, these people will find themselves there. Again, it is very important that we have policies in place—which this government is endeavouring to do. Whether it is a childcare centre, a sporting organisation, mandatory reporting or whatever it may be, it is important that we have a spectrum of policies that help us provide protection for our most vulnerable people—and that is our children.

The other side of this from our government's perspective is that we are not about the rights of perpetrators; we are about the rights of victims and the people who have suffered the consequences of criminal acts. We have constantly shown that in the way we have brought legislation into this House. This is simply another step in that direction. This child sex offender register is something we have campaigned for for years—years. We brought a motion before the House I think it was in 2019.

Mr Hunt: March, 27th.

Mr MANDER: Is that when it was? Thank you. I will come back to that. The point I want to make is that this is not something we have suddenly caught on to. We have campaigned on this issue for years. That is why it gladdens my heart that we are in a position in government to bring this to fruition.

Of course the Morcombe family have been mentioned many times—the people who have been responsible for this and who have driven this. They are the most beautiful family you could ever come across. They are people who have paid the ultimate price but who want to make sure that their pain and suffering is not for nothing. That is why it is so comforting to know that this particular legislation has been named Daniel's Law, because they deserve that.

I firmly believe that parents have a right to know and to be informed about the location of child sex offenders. People will come out and say that we are infringing on people's human rights. Again, I go back to the principle that has driven us: we are concerned about the human rights of victims. To tell you truth, I don't give a stuff about the rights of people who commit these horrendous crimes. In fact, they deserve to suffer. They have sacrificed their rights that they believe they have and that other do-gooders believe they have as well. If you commit these types of crimes, I am sorry but your rights go out the window—and this is one example of that.

For too long we have dillydallied around these types of issues, but there needs to be consequences for actions. The ultimate consequence in this case is that their names will be made public, their location will be made public and parents will be able to access information about people their kids come into contact with to find out whether it is safe for their children to do so.

This is a well-thought-out scheme. It is an additional tool for parents. It is a three-tier system. I will not go through the process because many of my colleagues, as well as the minister, have already mentioned it. It is based on precedents around the country, with WA and SA having registers. We have built on those models and broadened the remit so that it can be even more effective.

Of course it is important that we have safeguards against vigilantes, and they have been put in place. That is appropriate. We cannot have people taking the law into their own hands. They do not have to if we do this. We are providing a framework for the protection of children. Nobody needs to go and chase these people. It is great to see that there are laws that will prevent that from happening.

The other thing that is very telling about this is that I am pretty confident there will probably be 51 or 52 speakers from this side of the House speaking about this bill. Why is that? Because it is in our DNA. It is in our DNA that the rule of law should apply, that there should be consequences for actions and that our most vulnerable should be protected. For us, this debate in some ways is a great celebration of the campaign that we have gone through for the last six, seven or eight years. That is why every person on this side of the House will speak on it.

I am not sure it is the same on the other side of the House. There are people tonight who will vote for this because they know they have no choice, but I tell you it is not in their DNA. Their DNA is to find some excuse for people who are the scum of the earth and to protect their rights. It is very telling that the leadership of the opposing party—I will take that signal from the member for Nicklin—is zip; there is nothing. Let's not forget the motion we talked about earlier that members of the government of the day voted against. The member for Morayfield said there was an unnecessary risk. Two senior ministers—

Ms Grace: It was a motion.

Mr MANDER: A motion, exactly right, that you voted against. The member for Morayfield, the member for Nudgee—

(Time expired)

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Everton, your time has expired, but before you resume your seat I would ask you to withdraw some of the unparliamentary remarks you made.

Mr MANDER: I withdraw.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not need your assistance, member for McConnel.

 **Mr G KELLY** (Mirani—LNP) (8.41 pm): I rise to speak tonight on the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill 2025. This is a very important bill. It has been a long time coming and the Morcombe family has fought hard for this for over a decade. As a dad I cannot even begin to imagine what the family has been through. What happened to Daniel was every parent's worst nightmare, yet instead of turning away from the world they have spent years standing up for other families and pushing for change so that no-one else has to go through what they did. That takes strength, courage and purpose, and I want to thank them for what they have done. Ten years is a long time to fight for something, but the Morcombes never gave up. Today their hard work and determination have helped bring us to this point where we will finally make a real change.

This bill will establish Queensland's first three-tier Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register, something that will give parents and communities better tools to protect their kids. It is based on models that have worked in places like Western Australia and South Australia, where they have shown it can be done effectively and responsibly, giving the public access to vital information without risking victims or encouraging vigilante behaviour. This is something that matters deeply to people right across my electorate of Mirani. Whether you are a parent in Mount Morgan, the Pioneer Valley or anywhere in between, every mum and dad just wants to know their kids are safe. It is only fair they should be able to find out if someone around them poses a risk.

As a parent, my No. 1 job is to keep my girls safe. Sure, kids learn from little knocks like scraped knees, the odd broken arm, riding too fast on their bikes, riding too fast on their horses, having the odd fall off, but that is part of growing up. No parent should ever have to worry about something truly serious happening to their child because someone dangerous was living nearby and they did not know. This bill is about giving parents the right to know. It is about giving families peace of mind and making our communities safer.

We have all heard the concerns about these kinds of registers, including protecting the identity of victims and making sure the information is not misused. That is why this bill has the right checks and balances in place. Here is how it will work. Tier 1 will be a public webpage showing photos and key details of offenders who have broken the rules and gone missing so the public can help police and keep an eye out. Tier 2 will let Queensland residents request to see the photos of offenders living in their area, but only those who are repeat or serious offenders. Tier 3 will allow parents or guardians to find out if someone who has contact with their child is a known offender. At the same time, the law makes sure that certain information will be protected—for example, information relating to child offenders, witness protection participants, or anyone a court has specifically ordered to remain confidential.

We also have to be realistic about human behaviour. When you are dealing with crimes this serious—crimes against children—emotions run high, and rightly so. People are angry, they are protective and they want justice, but we cannot let them turn to vigilante action. That is why this bill includes penalties of up to 10 years in jail for anyone who harasses or intimidates someone because they are on the register. We have a justice system for a reason. If people serve their time and they are working to turn their lives around, they deserve that chance. This bill give parents information to keep their kids safe, not to encourage mobs or revenge. We are trusting Queenslanders to use this information responsibly, and I believe they will.

There is also a built-in five-year review to make sure the system is doing what it is supposed to do: protect kids and keep communities safe. This register will not stop every crime—nothing will—but it will give parents more knowledge, and knowledge is power when it comes to protecting your children. This bill puts children before offenders. It puts the safety of Queensland families front and centre.

I say again to Bruce and Denise Morcombe: thank you. Your persistence and your courage have made a real difference. This bill is a step towards a safer Queensland, and it is because of people like you who never give up. The Morcombe family is looking out for children just like my children, a 14-year-old daughter and a 12-year-old daughter, whom I am very proud of. This bill will protect them until they become adults and they can look after themselves. I commend this bill to the House.

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (8.48 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Community Protection and Public Child Sex Offender Register (Daniel's Law) Bill, better known as Daniel's Law. I rise to speak in strong support of this bill. In fact, this is long overdue reform that puts the safety of children ahead of the rights of sexual predators. It honours Daniel Morcombe—a son, a twin, a child, who should still be with us today, and it recognises the tireless advocacy of his parents, Bruce and Denise, who have channelled unimaginable grief into national change, education and empowerment. A promise made, a promise delivered.

This bill delivers on a key election commitment to introduce a three-tier public child sex offender register, giving parents and guardians the ability to know when a dangerous or missing offender is unaccounted for, to search their local area for high-risk reportable offenders and to check whether an individual who has unsupervised access to their child is a registered offender. This is practical, real-world protection. It empowers families, it increases vigilance and it helps prevent harm before it occurs.

The real shame here—and it is the Labor Party's shame—is that we could have had this legislation in place for over half a decade. This House debated this issue in 2019. I moved the LNP motion for exactly this public register—based on the same model, the same structure and the same principles that we are debating here today over half a decade later. At that time, those of us advocating

for greater transparency said that parents have the right to know who is living near their children, that knowledge is power in preventing abuse and that protection of children must outweigh the privacy of offenders.

In 2019, when the current opposition were the Labor government of the day, they rejected that proposal outright. They called it 'populism' and a 'thought bubble'. They warned that it would 'give false hope' and 'not protect the community'. One of the former child safety ministers, the member for Bulimba, warned that the proposal may increase reoffending and give families false hope. If we skip forward to this debate, the member's contribution states that this is 'deeply meaningful and significant'. What hollow words when that is put into the context of the previous debate.

The member for Bulimba was also worried about the review time of this legislation in this debate. This legislation could have been in place for over half a decade and it could have been reviewed, but the fact is that the Labor Party had no interest in this bill at all and they now feign belief that it is a good idea. The Labor MPs say one thing and do another, but on our side of the House a promise made is a promise kept.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr WATTS: The members should feel disgrace.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order! Members, it is getting close to the end of the night. We have had a fairly respectful debate so far. The member for Toowoomba North has the call and members will cease their interjections.

Mr WATTS: Back in 2019, another former failed child safety minister, the member for Nudgee, said, 'This policy does not afford our community extra protection.'

Ms Pease interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Lytton will cease her interjections.

Mr WATTS: The member for Nudgee has come into this House during this debate and said, 'Labor will always support laws that make children safer.' They say that now, but the facts show a different history. They come into this place with their hollow words—

Ms Pease interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I warn the member for Lytton under the standing orders. You will not be the last if that behaviour continues.

Mr WATTS: They have come into this place with hollow words now, saying that we should review the legislation sooner than five years when we have spent over half a decade not having this legislation in place in Queensland. Labor had a chance to make our children safer and they did not take it. Only the LNP will genuinely make our community safer. The member for Bancroft said, 'The LNP does not have a plan; it has a press release.' The member for Macalister labelled the proposal as reactionary and populist. The LNP is not listening to them. The LNP is listening to our community and our community expectations.

Ms Pease interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lytton, you have been here longer than I have. I trust that you understand that your interjections were inappropriate considering you had just been warned. I am tempted to name you for that performance. You will withdraw from the chamber for one hour under standing order 235A.

Whereupon the honourable member for Lytton withdrew from the chamber at 8.54 pm.

Mr WATTS: The Crisafulli LNP government will listen to the community and we will act on the community's behalf to make them and their children safer. Our side of the House will not let them down. We made a commitment that we would bring this legislation in, and we will do that and we are.

The community has always known the truth. When the risk is a child's life, knowing is always safer than not knowing. Knowing will make them safer. It is not a perfect solution. There will still be predators out there. There will still be people who do the wrong thing, but at least this gives a parent a fighting chance to know who lives around them, who is looking after their children, who has access to their children and what is their background. Parents deserve to know these things. Western Australia has shown this model can work and South Australia is moving in this direction. Queensland will not be left behind under a Crisafulli LNP government.

This is how the register will work. Tier 1 publishes the details of missing or noncompliant reportable offenders. If they follow the rules that have been set down, their picture will not be published. If they disappear and they do not report and they do not follow the instructions of the court after they

have committed this heinous crime and been found guilty of it, their picture will be published and everybody will know who they are. That is fair enough. Anybody who thinks otherwise has got rocks in their head, and that really explains what is going on over on the other side of this chamber.

Tier 2 allows Queenslanders to see whether a high-risk offender lives in their suburb or adjoining environment. If you are sending your kids to the shop or they are out on their skateboard, riding their BMX or having a good time with their mates, it will be very useful to know if someone is living in and around your suburb or your location so you can take an additional precaution. This is common sense. It was common sense half a decade ago; it is still common sense today. Members on the other side have come in here now and said, 'It's a good idea now.' We do not believe them because they have proved historically that they do not think it is a good idea.

Tier 3 allows parents to check a specific person who has contact with their child. If your kid has a new dance teacher or a new footy coach and they have access to your child, you might think, 'It's better to be safe than sorry so I'll check this out.' It is not perfect. This will only be for a reportable offender. There may be someone out there who is a predator but is not on that list yet. Therefore, parents should still remain cautious but this gives them a much better chance.

Strong penalties are in place for someone who might use this because this is not about vigilantism or not giving offenders a chance to get on with their life after they have committed these heinous crimes. People should be aware that if they use this inappropriately they will face up to 10 years imprisonment. That is a pretty strong safeguard. That is sending a strong message that we trust our parents and the people of Queensland to use this information to protect their children and not take action on their own. That is the job of the courts, the police and the government, and that is what the Labor government should have been doing to protect our children.

In my community in Toowoomba, this matters immensely. As in many communities, word travels informally through Facebook groups, parent chats, sporting clubs and school networks. I have received contact over the years from families raising concerns about who might be living in their community. There might be someone who is completely innocent but there is a whispering campaign going on about them in the background. Think about that poor person who has this whispering campaign against them in their community. In that case, people can go online to check and see, 'No, they're not a reportable offender. Let's move on.' That then ends all of that whispering campaign.

This register will deal in facts, not fear. It is there to help parents protect their children. It recognises that trust must be earned. If someone is a reportable offender and they stop following the instructions of the court, they will be published. Trust must be earned by them after they have wronged the community and been found guilty of it.

Finally, I have to say this will be known as Daniel's Law. I absolutely am in awe of what the Morcombes have achieved to help protect our community. Members of the Labor Party who spoke against this over a half a decade ago should be ashamed.

Debate, on motion of Mr Watts, adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT



Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (8.59 pm): I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Year 12 External Exams



Hon. DE FARMER (Bulimba—ALP) (8.59 pm): This week was one that all year 12 students have been looking towards all their school life. It was the week external exams were about to start, a time when, for many, what was about to happen would heavily influence the choices they were able to make after leaving school—a very stressful and anxious time.

This week we discovered there was a group of students from this cohort who were going to do it extra tough. As we know, they were the year 12 students who were going to do the external exam in ancient history. Students at nine schools found out—at first we thought it was one and then it was nine—that, in fact, they had been studying the wrong topic for the exam. They had been studying Augustus Caesar instead of Julius Caesar. They discovered they would have to cram for two days to sit the exam today and to try to pass and do well at it as well as having other exams to study for. It was a pretty stressful time.

The education minister came out and did some interviews. He said there would be a review and that, because of all the work he had done, it was the best situation they could possibly be in because he set up the whole external exam system to make it easier for kids like this. It was really all about him. In fact, he had very little to do with that system, but it was all about him and this is how it would work and this is how they would do the scores. He was apparently all across it. He had the facts as the department had obviously briefed him on it. There would be a thorough review, which of course there needs to be: that is absolutely required. Then he came under a bit more pressure and he thought he needed to blame someone. They like to blame the public servants, so he blamed the QCAA.

Then the minister did a press conference this morning. What was really clear at that press conference is that there were a couple of things he had not actually thought about such as how those kids were feeling—what they were going to be doing with their day today in the middle of such a stressful time—and about their teachers who had probably been working with a lot of those kids for six years. They would have worked with them to make sure they could do the best they possibly could. They were so invested in those students doing well. The press said to him, 'What's going to happen with those kids today? What are they going to be doing?' The minister had not actually even bothered to find out. He stated, 'To be honest, I will have to get the details of exactly what we are asking students to do today.' He had not asked. He was clueless. He was lazy. He did not even bother to find out what was happening with those students and those teachers who were suffering such a huge impact to their lives. He not only was lazy and clueless; he simply did not care.

This is a minister who never wanted this job, who could never be bothered. We never see him. He never asks any questions. He did not give two hoots about these kids today. We wish them all the best and we are right behind them.

Mental Health

 **Mrs KIRKLAND** (Rockhampton—LNP) (9.02 pm): Year after year, the data surrounding mental health continues to grow not just in volume but in the heartbreaking truths that it reveals. From 1 January to 30 June this year the Queensland Mental Health Commission reported 355 suspected deaths by suicide in our state. On 5 August we lost a dear friend and cherished member of our family to suicide. Mark was a passionate advocate, known for his thoughtful submissions to parliament and local Rockhampton media. He stood firm in his values, always respectful and open to opposing views. Mark lived a full life, outwardly joyful and resilient through life's challenges. The shock of that day, the conversations that followed and the weight of his silent battle will remain etched in my heart forever.

As members of this community, we have the power and the responsibility to set a new standard—one where we intentionally reach out and treat others with care and foster connection. That is why I want to highlight the importance of the awareness events that have coloured our calendars in recent months. These are not just symbolic gestures; they are vital reminders of the support systems available to guide and heal those in need of light on their path.

As Assistant Minister for Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, I have had the privilege of attending numerous events that showcased the incredible work being done in the sector. Thank you to each and every one of you for contributing to this mission and for the great work that you do. From September through November we have honoured key milestones in mental health and suicide prevention—from World Suicide Prevention Day and Mental Health Week to World Mental Health Day and National Mental Health Month. As we move into November we embrace the Movember campaign, championing men's health with a focus on cancer, mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention.

I refuse to let Mark's life be in vain or to accept the lowering of standards that contribute to the very crisis that we seek to heal. That is why I was proud to launch the Queensland Parliamentary Friends of Men's Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing last sitting week. Over 90 stakeholders and colleagues registered to join us at Parliament House for this powerful event. A heartfelt thank you to the Movember team and Health and Wellbeing Queensland for partnering with us.

I believe that uplifting men's health, especially their mental wellbeing, is not just important; it is transformative. When we support men in healing emotionally and mentally, we unlock the potential to mend countless social fractures in our communities. This is where true change begins. Prevention will always be the best cure and prevention begins with connection—to the right help, the right information and the right people. Each one of us can be a facilitator of that connection.

Kurwongbah Electorate, Road Infrastructure



Mr KING (Kurwongbah—ALP) (9.05 pm): This evening I rise to talk about transport matters in my electorate, in particular the level crossing at Mackie Road in Narangba. This level crossing is sandwiched between four council roads—Mackie Road, Mumford Road, Main Street and Burpengary Road. Awkwardly, these intersections also mark the boundaries of two City of Moreton Bay council divisions representing the residents of Narangba—divisions 2 and 11. I also want to congratulate our very newly elected councillor for division 11, Ellie Smith, who was declared the winner of a by-election earlier this month. I know that this crossing is on Ellie's radar, and I hope that means we will see money in council's next budget committed to solving this problem.

It is important to be clear about the responsibilities of different levels of government, and I hope the Minister for Transport is listening or watching because his disgracefully politically charged answer to a question on notice I asked him about this crossing suggests he might not be sure of the different levels and what they do. The state government via Queensland Rail and the Department of Transport and Main Roads has responsibility for the train lines, train stations and level crossings. We could close the level crossing. That is what we could do. In fact, I think that is what we should do, and I think we should do it as soon as possible. Any local road is the responsibility of local council. If a local road needs upgrading or an alternative local road needs to be built, that is the responsibility of council.

Council has been talking about solutions for the Mackie Road crossing traffic problem for at least a decade. It has never approached me as the local member or government to help fund it, in my recollection. A possible Narangba East overpass is costed at \$169 million in council plans for 2031-2036 and upgrading the intersection of Boundary and Narangba roads to traffic lights and the capacity of the bridge there to carry heavy traffic has been costed by council at over \$10 million with the same timeframe—2031 at the earliest.

On the other hand, new residential developments have been approved by council throughout Narangba and surrounds and new shops are planned right next to this dangerous intersection. The developers have not been told to wait until 2031 to build the houses. The people moving there have not been told to wait until 2031 to drive on our roads. Parents have not been told to wait until 2031 to enrol their kids in the school off Mumford Road or the kindy on Mackie Road. It has not been suggested to local seniors that they wait at least until 2031 to move into the local aged-care facility otherwise any family on the other side of the rail line will not have time to visit them.

I am calling on the council to act now. Hurry up and build a way around the level crossing or upgrade Boundary Road. It is too dangerous to wait until 2031. There will be accidents and someone could die. To the transport minister I say once again: I do not want to upgrade this level crossing; I want it closed.

Redland Hospital; North Stradbroke Island, QYAC



Hon. AJ STOKER (Oodgeroo—LNP) (9.08 pm): I rise to thank the almost 3,000 Redlanders who joined my campaign to deliver vital MRI imaging services to our local hospital. I am so delighted to be able to inform my community that the Minister for Health and the Premier listened to our concerns. They, too, were moved by the stories of the discomfort of patients who were being transported from Redland Hospital to other hospitals in order to receive imaging. They listened to our concern about the effect on patient care when nurses were taken off wards to do patient transport duty. An MRI for Redland Hospital means better care for locals in our community when they need it most.

I am so pleased to say that already the design work is advanced and in fact almost complete. That will allow procurement to begin as we seek to drive the best possible bang for buck for Queensland taxpayers' dollars. Then will come the engineering of the specialist space required to house this important piece of equipment. It is all well underway and I am really pleased to see what it will do for our community. I say a huge thank you to the wider Redland community, all of whom participated in delivering this victory. All of your voices helped to make it happen and I am so pleased to be helping to contribute to ever-better services at our local hospital.

On another note, this week in a meeting convened by the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation—the body that holds native title rights on trust for Straddie's traditional owners—QYAC leaders proposed what is, in effect, a Straddie tourist tax. This is coming to me second-hand because I and other local members were not invited to the meeting, but QYAC called it 'the pledge'. When it is a fee they seem to want to charge all businesses and all visitors to the island to be collected by QYAC and spent as they see fit, we should call it what it is: a proposal for a tax. QYAC are not the government and this is not the government's policy. It will never be our policy.

Straddie belongs to everyone and tourism is to be welcomed and encouraged. Tourism businesses are already doing it tough, and a thriving tourism industry is vital to the living standards of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents alike. We have to respect all cultures and the important role they play in our community, but that does not give one group the right to levy taxes on the other. That is a job for governments, because they are held accountable through the democratic process. If you are interested, please get onto my webpage and sign my petition to stop the Straddie tourist tax.

Stretton Electorate, Housing

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (9.11 pm): It has been one year since David Crisafulli and the LNP were elected. In that time, Queenslanders have learned that the Crisafulli government says one thing and does another. The LNP's broken promises, one year on, have had a big impact on the people of Stretton. They promised that cost-of-living relief would be their No. 1 priority, but after 12 months car rego is up and energy bill relief has been cut. They also promised no cuts to health but then did not deliver on this promise.

Perhaps worst of all, let's not forget this government's abysmal record on housing. Queensland is in the grip of the worst housing crisis in living memory. Rents are skyrocketing and the queue for social housing is now stretching past 53,000 households, the result being that more Queenslanders are sleeping on the streets. Further, this government have cut over 1,000 homes from the housing pipeline and, shockingly, they have also cut affordable housing requirements for new developments. They have wound back crisis accommodation and reduced funding to support services helping homeless and vulnerable Queenslanders.

The housing crisis impacts my electorate in two ways: not only are there many people in Stretton effectively cut out of the housing market but also hardworking migrants such as those in my electorate are being blamed by the far right for the housing affordability crisis. In fact, independent research from the Grattan Institute finds that migration accounts for only a small percentage of the increase in house prices. Population growth in Australia was 2.3 per cent per year from 1947 to 1960, driven strongly by migration, yet there was no housing crisis. At the moment population growth is 1.6 per cent, yet migration is often blamed.

Frankly, I am sick and tired of migrants in my electorate and across Queensland being targeted in this debate. It is policy failure—not migration—that has pushed housing prices out of reach for so many Queenslanders. The main issues include supply constraints, long planning and zoning delays and underinvestment in social and affordable housing—all responsibilities of the Crisafulli government. In terms of planning and zoning delays, this government seems happy to override planning laws when it comes to the Olympics and building the new stadium in Victoria Park, which they said they would not do, but when it comes to public housing it is all too hard. It is apparently not their job; it is the responsibility of councils.

Thanks to the LNP there are 2,800 fewer social and affordable homes that will be mandated compared to when we were in power. Not only that, but the LNP has axed social and affordable housing targets. As a result we have now seen an 11 per cent increase in the social and housing waitlist in just under three months. Unless this government gets serious about building affordable housing, migrants in Queensland will continue to be targeted by the far right. The Premier needs to do two things: stand up to these far right organisations and get busy building the affordable housing that Queenslanders need.

Mossman State High School, Students

 **Mr KEMPTON** (Cook—LNP) (9.14 pm): Last week I visited the year 12 legal studies class at Mossman State High School to provide the students with an insight into the workings of politics in society. I think I gained more from these bright young minds about modern-day politics than I gave. I was then whisked off by the school captain, Amber Schumacher, to officially open the newly constructed basketball, netball and futsal courts courtesy of a Go for Gold sporting grant.

It was during a casual conversation with the head of physical education, Tracey Butland, that I learned her daughter Caitlyn had recently achieved a gold medal in the pole vault. I asked, 'Where is your daughter?' expecting she was at some faraway school providing greater sporting opportunity. 'She is here in year 10,' the proud mum disclosed. 'Can I meet her?' 'Yes, for sure.' When the pleasantries and the sandwiches were over, Tracey introduced me to Caitlyn, a tall, shy young lady waiting in the foyer with her friend Sophie.

In April this year Caitlyn shone at the Australian junior nationals in Perth when she won a gold medal for the under-17 girls pole vault by soaring gracefully over a remarkable height of 3.16 metres—her new personal best. Even more extraordinarily, Caitlyn used borrowed vaulting poles as she had outjumped her training poles. It is equally important to acknowledge the unwavering commitment of Caitlyn's family, who dedicate their time to support her training with the Cairns Vaulters each week. Pole vaulting is not her only talent. In Townsville during the North Queensland athletics championships Caitlyn secured first place in the triple jump and is consistently impressing with her performance across a variety of events—a quiet, unassuming champion.

Then the attention turned to her friend Sophie Hamilton, also a grade 10 student at Mossman State High School. Sophie has no intention of waiting for life to come to her as she seizes every opportunity in academics and sports. Recently in Townsville Sophie showcased her talent at the North Queensland athletics championships, achieving third place in the 90-metre hurdles and seventh in the 100-metre sprint and long jump. To top that off, she has been selected from hundreds of students across the state for the STEM Japan Global Student Program. Sophie will be travelling to Japan in December as part of a small group of students to experience Japanese school life at local schools throughout Hiroshima and Kyoto. The 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games may not come as far north as Mossman; however, these two remarkable young women may well take Mossman to the Olympics.

Inala Electorate, Homelessness

 **Mrs NIGHTINGALE** (Inala—ALP) (9.17 pm): I rise today on behalf of the hardworking families, pensioners and renters in my community who are doing it tougher than ever under this LNP government. Every week I meet locals at breaking point. One mum in Richlands told me she is living in a two-bedroom unit with her four kids, sleeping in the lounge room, because the rent went up \$120 a week. She is working two jobs yet still falling behind. Another pensioner in Durack said to me that he never thought he would be this old and worried about losing his home. This is Queensland in 2025 and it is not good enough. I have children from nearly every school in my electorate living in motels.

When the Premier came to office he promised Queenslanders they would be better off. He looked them in the eye and said life would get easier. Tell that to the families paying record rents, the young people who have given up on buying a home or the pensioners choosing between power bills and prescriptions. Are they better off? Not in my community. Inala used to be a place where people could afford to get a start—a suburb built for working families, new migrants and battlers trying for a new future—but not anymore. Recently a home in Inala sold for over \$1 million—\$1 million in what was once the last affordable pocket of Brisbane's south-west. If struggling families cannot afford to live in Inala anymore, where on earth are they supposed to go?

The LNP promised to fix housing but they have made it harder to find and harder to afford. They have cut funding for affordable housing and scrapped rental support programs. While they boast about streamlining approvals, the truth is simple: fewer homes are being built and more Queenslanders are being left behind. This government loves to talk about green shoots, but you cannot move into green shoots growing on empty plots. When Labor was in government we built homes, invested in community housing, backed renters and provided real cost-of-living relief, from energy rebates to cheaper registration. Luckily for Queenslanders, because of Labor's 50-cent fares they can still get to work. Even in opposition Labor is doing more to ease the cost of living than this LNP government is doing while in power.

This LNP government have not committed a single dollar to new social housing in Inala—not one—but Queenslanders know the truth, despite their claims that they have. They know that the 14 new social homes in my electorate were built by Labor because they saw me turning the first sod at the start and helping tenants move in at the finish. I was proud to help those families, even sourcing furniture and whitegoods for those who needed it. That is what Labor does.

An honourable member: You've done more than the Premier.

Mrs NIGHTINGALE: I take that interjection. We provide real, tangible support that helps our communities. Inala deserves a government that builds homes, not headlines; that delivers relief, not rhetoric; and that puts people first, not profits.

Mr Head interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Callide, you are warned under the standing orders.

Regional Housing Ltd

 **Mr BENNETT** (Burnett—LNP) (9.20 pm): Today it is a true privilege to stand here and celebrate the story of an organisation that has not only changed lives but also changed the very landscape of housing across regional Queensland. More than 35 years ago, in the heart of Bundaberg, a small group of dedicated people came together with a simple purpose: to offer advice and a safe place to stay for those at risk of homelessness and the most vulnerable. What began as a modest charity with a single boarding house for men has grown into something truly remarkable. Today, Regional Housing Ltd stands proudly as the only tier 1 community housing provider that was founded and continues to operate solely within regional and rural Queensland. That alone is an extraordinary achievement.

Regional Queensland faces housing challenges unlike anywhere else in Australia, with vast distances, limited supply and communities that depend on one another. What sets Regional Housing apart is that the organisation's staff live in those very communities. They know the towns, the faces and the struggles, and they bring a deep personal understanding to every solution they deliver.

From those humble beginnings, Regional Housing now employs over 80 staff, delivering housing and support across 13 local government areas from Bundaberg to Townsville and the Fraser Coast to the Torres Strait. Soon they will be in the Southern Downs, Whitsundays and the Tablelands. Their reach is vast but their mission remains beautifully simple: every person has a home. Their housing portfolio now spans around 1,000 dwellings, from crisis accommodation and youth shelters to disability housing and homes for women, particularly those aged over 55. Their future looks bright, with over 200 new dwellings currently in development, each one representing hope, stability and a new beginning for someone in need. However, the organisation is about more than just housing; it is about support, it is about connection and it is about helping people rebuild their lives through services like homelessness support, financial counselling, home modifications and outreach programs that meet people where they live.

Regional Housing Ltd is proof of what is possible when compassion meets commitment and when a regional housing organisation refuses to accept that geography should define opportunity. From a small charity with a big heart to a respected leader in community housing, the organisation has grown, evolved and thrived, all while keeping one vision at its core: every person has a home. Thanks to Regional Housing Ltd, more and more Queenslanders do have a place to call home.

That brings me to a sad indictment as in the debate on a motion earlier today the member for Bundaberg viciously attacked this same organisation, which has done so much in our community. He made outrageous accusations such as that they are not able to provide homes. I say to the people at Regional Housing: the LNP gets you and we want to work with you on housing solutions. We will not use you as a political football, as was done today. Today's debate showed an incredible depth of immaturity and lack of respect. Most importantly, those most vulnerable people in our community, particularly in Bundaberg, deserve so much more than the cheap political stunt we saw today.

Hinchinbrook Electorate, Katter's Australian Party

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (9.23 pm): I have put up with a fair bit in the last few weeks, since the member for Hinchinbrook resigned. I have had to endure a tirade of attacks from the LNP on our candidate, who is a 22-year military veteran, a small business owner and a family man.

A government member interjected.

Mr KATTER: There have been continued and persistent attacks on him. I just heard a comment from the member for Cook, I think. They want to build a narrative where the political world should be Liberal and Labor and that is it—that is the only representation—and, if someone wants to introduce any issues beyond theirs, they are irrelevant.

I will tell members what is irrelevant. There was nothing in the budget for the North Shore Boulevard intersection. There was nothing there! The only people out there calling for action are those in the KAP. We have been out there—my father, the member for Kennedy, the KAP candidate for Hinchinbrook and me. This week, in a desperate attempt to buy some votes and pork-barrel, the government has announced funding. I have a lot of respect for the Minister for Transport and Main Roads; he is having a crack. The money comes out now and then they will turn around and pitch to voters: 'Don't vote for them. They do not do anything. Don't bother voting for them. You must vote for us. We will not do anything on crocodiles, castle law or anything, but don't waste your vote on them as you will not get anything.'

How about we start rolling out some things for the by-election? The KAP candidate for Hinchinbrook has already produced a result for the North Shore Boulevard intersection. That is how this place works. Call something out, put pressure on the government and agitate and things can happen. We do not want another head nodder up there. We have people resorting to smear tactics—tactics like the one used during the last state election. The LNP said that I categorically did a deal. That was an absolutely constructed lie. I see the member for Cook nodding his head. He must have some information that I do not have.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Traeger, I ask you to withdraw the unparliamentary language.

Mr KATTER: I withdraw. That was an absolute fabrication. We are drawn down by this. We want to be constructive when we come here. What the member for Cook is not doing in here is standing up on issues like crocodiles when in his electorate a tragic attack occurred last weekend. Let us park the debate on that. Let's not show anyone what we want to say about any of this. Let's not talk about castle law. Let's not mention that. Let's have a smokescreen for everything.

I do not mind if people do not agree with us, but let's put some issues up for debate and win the by-election based on policy and what we can deliver for people. They cannot go up there and say, 'Don't vote for them,' and engage in a smear campaign. People are sick of it. People want answers. I do not care what party you are from: if you have something constructive to offer, put it on table and let's talk about it. Do not come down here and engage in a smear campaign and comment on people's integrity when they are trying to represent people. The KAP will give good representation in Hinchinbrook.

Caloundra Community Awards



Ms MORTON (Caloundra—LNP) (9.26 pm): What a wonderful night we had in Caloundra last Thursday honouring our local heroes. I was proud to host my first Caloundra Community Awards. It was a wonderful evening that brought our community together to celebrate the people and organisations that go above and beyond to make the Caloundra community such a vibrant and caring place. We began with a charity auction to support our generous hosts, the Queensland Air Museum. A big thankyou goes to Steve Venn for doing this auction, which was a stunning Bluey's Photography piece that represents our Caloundra electorate.

As the award ceremony got underway I was truly inspired by the calibre of finalists. Their dedication, compassion and contributions make Caloundra the special place we are proud to call home. I am going to try to get through these quickly because they are outstandingly fabulous. Our Senior Citizens Group of the Year runner-up was the Glasshouse Country Senior Citizens Club, which creates opportunities for those people to come together. Our winner was the Caloundra Woodworking Club, whose members take the time to mentor each other and learn new skills all in the name of friendship. Our Young Achiever of the Year runner-up was our skateboarding superstar Ellie Burrows. Our winner was Paul Gilbert, who overcomes the challenges of living with a disability by giving back to the community.

The Educator of the Year runner-up was Jacky McDonald from the fabulous Baringa Goodstart Early Learning—a true community champion. Our winner was Tara Williams, a teacher at Nirimba State Primary School—one of our new schools in the electorate—who has managed to pull together the most beautiful musical for our kids. That is an opportunity and experience they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Our Business of the Year runner-up was Brew Box Collective, where Justin and the team provide not only great coffee but also smiles and friendly faces. Our winner was Bluey's Photography, where Doug has managed to capture all of the incredible work that is going on to protect Pumicestone Passage right now. Our Sporting Club of the Year runner-up was Aura Netball, also one of our brand new clubs with the greatest team culture that anyone could ever want. Our winner was Caloundra Basketball with their 74 teams and the most well run competition any parent could ever enjoy.

The Community Group of the Year was the Uniting Church Community Breakfast Group, a group of wonderful people providing breakfast for those facing homelessness in our community. Our winner was Night Eyes Water & Landcare, who collect 38,000 kilos of rubbish from our waterways every year. Last but not least, we had our Caloundra Champion of the Year. Our runner-up was Jen Kettleton-Butler from the PPCMB for her tireless advocacy for the community of Caloundra. Our winner was Shane Dimechi from Mate-Ship, a group coming together on the water for veterans in friendship.

I would also like to give a shout-out to my fabulous team—Robyn, Fleur and Pete—for pulling it all together and to really give us the opportunity to celebrate all of the people of Caloundra. You are wonderful and you deserve the recognition.

Question put—That the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 9.30 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Asif, Bailey, Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, 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, Kelly J, 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, Sullivan, Vorster, Watts, Weir, Whiting, Young