ISSN 1322-0330

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

Thursday, 23 April 2026

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THURSDAY, 23 APRIL 2026

The Legislative Assembly met at 9.30 am.

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

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

PRIVILEGE

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 22 December 2025 the Manager of Opposition Business, the member for Springwood, wrote to me alleging that the Attorney-General and the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services deliberately misled the House on 9 December 2025. The statements identified were alleged to concern material not being provided to the Child Death Review Board due to cabinet confidentiality. I note that on 25 March 2026 the Attorney-General made a clarifying statement in the House, and that is recorded at page 731 of the *Record of Proceedings*. I further note that the minister's comments were posing a question that invited explanation. Accordingly, I consider the Attorney-General and the minister have made adequate explanations. Therefore, 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 and misleading of the House by the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity and member for Nanango, and the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services and member for Currumbin [591].

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

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S RULING—ALLEGED CONTEMPT OF PARLIAMENT

MR SPEAKER Honourable members,

On 22 December 2025, the Manager of Opposition Business and member for Springwood wrote to me alleging that the Attorney-General and Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services deliberately misled the House on 9 December 2025.

The matter relates to statements made during both Question Time and Matters of Public Interest.

During Question Time, the Attorney-General stated:

'What was in the cabinet document that those opposite refuse to release?'

…

'However, the document requested by the commissioner and by the Child Death Review Board of the opposition was refused on the basis that it was cabinet-in-confidence. What we want to know is why. What are those opposite covering up? Why will they not release it and give some certainty to some parents? What was contained in that secret cabinet document?'

…

'Why have they not released the cabinet documents that explain the decision-making process around that table'

During Matters of Public Interest, the minister stated:

'Why have they not released the cabinet documents that explain the decision-making process around that table'

The Manager of Opposition Business argued that there was no request made of the Office of the Leader of the Opposition to release documents from the former Labor Government which were subject to Cabinet-in-Confidence. Rather, he said the Child Death Review Board requested certain documents from Departments rather than via the process in the Cabinet Handbook.

I sought further information from the Attorney-General and the minister about the allegations that have been made against them, in accordance with Standing Order 269(5).

The Attorney-General referenced the 'In Plain Sight: Review into System Responses to Child Sexual Abuse' report which highlighted that some documents had not been provided due to Cabinet confidentiality. However, she also stated that she was of the belief that the Opposition had refused to provide documents after the proper process was followed. She noted that she will be raising that matter with the Department of Justice.

The minister argued that she was posing a question which invited explanation, rather than being a factual proposition. However the question contained, and was premised on, a clear factual proposition which was capable of misleading.

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 reviewed the In Plain Sight: Review into System Responses to Child Sexual Abuse' report. I note that on page 225, the report states:

'The Board was keen to understand the relationship between advancements in child safeguarding legislation and critical incidents. Unfortunately, the documentation requested was not provided, on the basis that it was Cabinet-In-Confidence.'

And

'The Department of Justice advised that this draft brief was not approved beyond the relevant Executive Director. A section of the internal brief which included cabinet-in-confidence information was not provided by the department in response to the Board's request.'

And on page 227, the report states:

'The Board asked the agencies to provide copies of briefings, implementation updates and progress reports relating to the reportable conduct scheme. Limited information was provided with agencies citing that the information could not be disclosed due to cabinet privilege. Each agency provided a timeline that aimed to provide a comprehensive outline of key milestones in the development and design of the scheme.'

The Report states that material was not provided based on Cabinet confidentiality. However, what is unclear is whether the Department made any request for those documents to be made available, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Cabinet Handbook.

I note that on 25 March 2026 the Attorney-General made a clarifying statement in the House and this is recorded at page 731 of the Record of Proceedings.

After reviewing the Report, along with the minister's submission, I consider that the minister has made an adequate explanation. A question was posed, but it cannot be said that it contained a factually incorrect or misleading statement.

Accordingly, I find that the Attorney-General and the minister have made adequate explanations.

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

Finally, I encourage all members to use the procedures of the House available to them, such as Ministerial Statements, Question Time, Matters of Public Interest and the Adjournment Debate to outline or explain any policy positions or matters that they are of the belief have been misinterpreted.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Pursuant to standing order 269(7), I move—

That the matter be referred to the Ethics Committee.

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

AYES, 33:

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

NOES, 52:

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

Ind, 1—Bolton.

Resolved in the negative.

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 11 March 2026 the member for Jordan wrote to me alleging that the Minister for Education and the Arts deliberately misled the House on 10 February 2026. The minister alleged that no members of the opposition had attended Jewish events in the preceding 2½ years. It is clear from the submissions put forward by the member for Jordan and the minister's own words in 2025 that that was incorrect. I note that on 22 April 2026 the minister apologised to the House,

and this is recorded at page 1,035 of the *Record of Proceedings*. Accordingly, I consider the minister has made an adequate apology and I will not be referring the matter for the further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. I once again urge all members to ensure the words spoken in the House are accurate and fair. 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 Education and the Arts and the member for Surfers Paradise [592].

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

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S RULING—ALLEGED CONTEMPT OF PARLIAMENT

On 11 March 2026, the member for Jordan wrote to me alleging that the Minister for Education and the Arts deliberately misled the House on 10 February 2026.

The matter relates to statements made during the Adjournment debate.

Specifically, the minister said:

None of those opposite from the Labor Party, including the Prime Minister, were at Never Again is Now rallies or Kristallnacht and Yom HaShoah commemorations over the past 2 and a half years until December 2025.

The member argued that this was false and provided social media posts from 2025 which showed herself, the member for Ipswich, the member for Stretton and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon Milton Dick MP in attendance at Yom HaShoah commemorations.

The member also provided an excerpt from the Record of Proceedings from 3 April 2025 in which the minister references her attendance at Jewish events. The member submits that this is evidence that the minister knew his statement was incorrect, and an intention to mislead the House.

I sought further information from the minister about the allegation that has been made against him, in accordance with Standing Order 269(5).

The minister submitted that when he made the statement, he was referring to the attendance of Labor members of Parliament at the Yom HaShoah commemoration at Southport on 5 May 2024. He advised that he did not see a Labor MP at that specific commemoration.

The statement made by the member, however, was not limited to one specific event on 5 May 2024.

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.

From the submissions put forward, it is clearly factually inaccurate to say that none of the Opposition attended Jewish events. I also note that such statements have the potential to unfairly affect a member's reputation, particularly as the member for Jordan is the Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

However, I note that on 22 April 2026, the minister apologised to the House and this is recorded at page 1,035 of the Record of Proceedings.

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

I once again urge all members to ensure that words spoken in the House are accurate and fair.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Members, Conduct in Chamber

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, given the various tactics and behaviour in the House this week, I again find it necessary to remind members of part 6 of the Code of Ethical Standards, 'Respect for Persons', which states—

Members should treat other members of Parliament, members of the public, officers and employees of the Parliamentary Service and other public officials with courtesy, honesty and fairness, and with proper regard for their rights, obligations, cultural differences, safety, health and welfare.

Mr J Kelly interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Greenslopes, you are warned. I will continue—

Members should not use abusive, obscene or threatening language (either oral or written) or behaviour towards any other member, officer, employee or member of the public.

I would ask all members to reflect upon that part of the code and their own conduct in this House. You need to ask yourselves these questions. Is what I am doing courteous, honest and fair? Is what I am doing actually in the public interest? Is what I am doing ultimately going to bring this institution into disrepute? I think we can do better.

Visitors to Public Gallery

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise that we will be visited in the gallery this morning by students and teachers from Warrigal Road State School in the electorate of Toohey, Bray Park State School in the electorate of Pine Rivers, the School of Total Education in the electorate of Southern Downs and Merrimac State High School in the electorate of Mermaid Beach.

PETITIONS

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

Logan City Council, Draft Planning Scheme

4,297 petitioners, requesting the House to pause the Logan City Council's draft planning scheme to undertake an independent audit of the hydraulic modelling, further public consultation and to revise mapping accurately to prevent misclassification of safe land [573, 574].

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

Anti-Semitism, Legislation

588 petitioners, requesting the House to declare the antisemitic laws are there to protect all semitic peoples and to put such a definition in the legislation [575].

Medicinal Cannabis

5,283 petitioners, requesting the House to amend legislation to provide a full medical defence for patients who test positive for THC when taking medicinal cannabis as prescribed by their doctor [576].

Petitions received.

TABLED PAPERS

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32)

MINISTERIAL PAPERS

The following ministerial papers were tabled by the Clerk—

Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie)—

577 Response from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie), to an E-Petition (4417-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 3,105 petitioners, requesting the House to conduct an independent inquiry into the Snapper Rocks to Rainbow Bay Foreshore Precinct Draft Master Plan

578 Response from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie), to an E-Petition (4451-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 445 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure that the outcomes of the current public consultation process on proposed amendments to the Low Medium Density Residential planning provisions affecting the Wynnum and Manly areas are fully considered before the government finalises its review

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

579 Response from the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Hon. Nicholls),to an E-Petition (4390-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 358 petitioners, requesting the House to conduct research into the incidence of dental caries in fluoridated water areas vs unfluoridated water areas and table the research in Parliament

580 Response from the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Hon. Nicholls),to an E-Petition (4401-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 772 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure an independent Part 9 investigation into the maternity unit at Toowoomba Hospital

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington)—

581 Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington), to an E-Petition (4348-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,770 petitioners, requesting the House to reform Queensland's sentencing framework and repeal s 9(2)(f) and s 9(6)(a), and amend s 9(6)(h) of the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992

582 Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington), to an E-Petition (4419-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 3,594 petitioners, requesting the House to allow citizens to defend themselves without fear of prosecution and allow self-defence of the home as a genuine reason to own a firearm

583 Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington), to an E-Petition (4431-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 11,777 petitioners, requesting the House to review sentencing laws and guidelines relating to the possession, viewing and intentional searching of child abuse material in Queensland and to ensure stronger penalties and sentencing provisions reflect the seriousness of these offences

Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg)—

584 Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg), to an E-Petition (4399-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 561 petitioners, requesting the House to Upgrade the Warwick—Toowoomba Rail Corridor for regional communities

585 Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg), to an E-Petition (4402-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 415 petitioners, requesting the House to upgrade the Goorganga Plains and Myrtle Creek sections of the Bruce Highway near Proserpine

586 Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg), to an E-Petition (4418-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,147 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a range of measures to strengthen Queensland's e-mobility safety framework

587 Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg), to a paper petition (4468-26), presented by the member for Maryborough, Mr Barounis, and an E-Petition (4339-25), sponsored by the member for Maryborough, Mr Barounis, from 107 and 4,580 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to commence construction of the Tiaro bypass on the Bruce Highway

Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers (Hon. Leahy)—

588 Response from the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers (Hon. Leahy), to an E-Petition (4449-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,048 petitioners, requesting the House to prevent persons with any association to real estate or property development being eligible for election to a Queensland council

Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth (Hon. O'Connor)—

589 Response from the Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth (Hon. O'Connor), to an E-Petition (4370-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,421 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure an Amnesty to homeless persons who are camping in make-shift dwellings, their car, or tents, on public land, car parks or gardens to protect them from council fines or prosecution

590 Response from the Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth (Hon. O'Connor), to an E-Petition (4398-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 522 petitioners, requesting the House to change the law so fly screens are mandatory on all windows and doors in homes throughout Queensland

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Anzac Day

Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.42 am): This coming Saturday is Anzac Day. As dawn breaks on 25 April we unite to honour and remember the sacrifice of those who have served our country, those who never returned home and those who continue to serve. Since the First World War Australians have lived by the Anzac ethos of courage, mateship and loyalty. Queensland is home to the largest population of veterans in Australia and it is vital that we honour and support our veterans and their families. It is why we have been working to deliver our state's first ever Veterans and Veterans' Families Strategy, to strengthen outcomes for Queensland veterans and their families. Anzac Day calls on us all to honour the service and sacrifice of our veterans who have served our country. Lest we forget.

CFMEU Inquiry

Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.43 am): Our government is working to deliver the infrastructure we need—more homes, hospitals, schools, roads, dams, public transport projects and sporting venues—right across the state. To do that we must restore productivity in Queensland. After a decade of decline under Labor, productivity in this state was decimated. The former government's Best Practice Industry Conditions, BPICs, put their union mates ahead of Queenslanders. Worksites were held to ransom, causing projects to blow out in cost and take longer than promised. Queenslanders were left to pay the price. It is why our government initiated the landmark Commission of Inquiry into the CFMEU and Misconduct in the Construction Industry. The evidence presented so far points to a culture that strayed far from the standards Queenslanders expect. Allegations of intimidation, bullying, misogyny, disregard for due process and, perhaps most alarmingly, ministerial interference have all been heard.

Mr Bleijie: Disgraceful.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I take the interjection. We know that the impact of the CFMEU was felt far beyond worksites. It meant fewer homes for families, patients left waiting on much needed beds and delays to classrooms. It is why our government has permanently removed BPICs. We will not let them continue to drive costs up and drive productivity down.

Queensland is experiencing strong growth and our government has a plan to deliver for our future. We are preparing to host global events. We are working to address housing pressures. We are delivering the transport infrastructure needed to connect our decentralised state, and we are just getting started.

Fuel Security

Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.44 am): In a couple of hours, National Cabinet will be convened to discuss fuel security issues. I remain deeply concerned about the weeks and months ahead and what they will look like, and we continue to fight for those industries that rely so heavily on fuel. It will also be an opportunity for me to again raise the importance of a national dashboard, not just to know about the challenges with fuel here in the country but also to provide visibility of which ships are arriving and which ships are not arriving in the weeks and months ahead. A dashboard is timely, it is transparent and it gives those industries the clarity they need to plan for the future. It is critical. I am calling for national leadership, for all of us to come together and give the certainty that this nation and our state are desperately craving at the moment.

CFMEU Inquiry

Hon. JP BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (9.45 am): The Crisafulli LNP government is restoring productivity on worksites around Queensland to prove not only that we are a state that once again can and will build major projects on time and on budget but also that we can deliver the critical infrastructure Queenslanders need and deserve, including housing, after a decade of decline by the Labor Party. Queenslanders know that the Labor Party in government made Queensland less attractive to investment, with broken promises on taxes, a culture of chaos and an inability to make lasting legacy policy decisions to give investors confidence to invest in this great state.

Unlike the Labor government, our government has demonstrated clearly that Queensland is open for business, with a refocused EDQ unlocking thousands of homes for Queenslanders across the state, a land activation project that partners with the private sector to unlock underutilised government land for housing and a $2 billion Residential Activation Fund delivering essential trunk infrastructure. That is why I was pleased to see reports from Sydney last night that Meriton, Australia's biggest apartment developer, is moving out of New South Wales to Queensland, given the strong pro-business attitude of this government and the record planning approvals we are delivering to get Queenslanders into housing as quickly as possible.

Meriton's decision is a welcome one, and I know that companies from all over the world are now looking to Queensland as a reliable destination for investment. I saw in New South Wales media last night that the New South Wales Labor planning minister was trying to come up with all sorts of excuses about why companies are now moving to Queensland. He said, 'We're going to try. We are looking at the planning reforms. We are doing it.' We have done it. We have done it in Queensland. If businesses want to do deals with government to build housing right across the state, this state and this state government are open for business.

Mr Nicholls: We build.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the honourable health minister. With housing you need hospitals and you need schools—it covers all portfolios. If honourable members want me to go through all of them, I will.

We have been able to achieve this shift by restoring productivity to Queensland worksites and removing Labor's CFMEU tax, BPIC, which made major projects untenable and cost Queensland billions. BPICs are no more. We have gotten rid of them. The Labor Party were more concerned with lining the pockets of their union masters than getting Queenslanders into housing. Over the course of the commission of inquiry into the CFMEU the Labor Party have been exposed for the protection racket they ran for this violent, misogynistic organisation because they were owned by the CFMEU. Yesterday I raised serious allegations that had been raised in testimony before the royal commission involving the former industrial relations minister in the Palaszczuk government wielding her influence to threaten contractors if they did not bend the knee to the CFMEU. Those allegations need to be answered. The former minister in question, the member for McConnel, is still yet to face the media and explain herself. It is unacceptable. Queenslanders expect their elected representatives to front up when serious allegations of misconduct are raised, particularly—

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Member for McConnel, I would not be pointing to anyone, because there is a big mirror in front of you and it is pointing right at you.

Mr SPEAKER: Deputy Premier, all of your comments will come through the chair.

Mr BLEIJIE: Queenslanders expect their elected representatives, including former ministers who have been exposed in a royal commission into corruption in the CFMEU—

Mr Stevens: That's a disgrace.

Mr BLEIJIE:—to explain to Queenslanders. To not do so would be a disgrace. The opposition have said they will not be offering a running commentary on the commission of inquiry. It is not good enough for them to literally run from scrutiny. I call on the Leader of the Opposition, the member for McConnel and the member for Miller, who was in that meeting, to explain themselves to both this House and Queenslanders. They must do so urgently in the public interest.

CFMEU Inquiry

Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (9.49 am): On 13 July 2025, alongside the Premier and the Deputy Premier, I announced the landmark Commission of Inquiry into the CFMEU and Misconduct in the Construction Industry in Queensland. The Crisafulli government announced the inquiry, as Queenslanders have a right to know the full extent of what was allowed to fester inside the CFMEU when the Labor Party was in government. Today I rise to update the House on the extraordinary events which have been uncovered by the inquiry to date.

In March this year senior counsel assisting, Patrick Wheelahan, said there was regulatory capture of Workplace Health and Safety Queensland by the CFMEU during the period that 'Grace Grace was the minister for industrial relations'. He went on to say that regulatory capture was 'a form of institutional corruption' and that 'what we are seeing through this inquiry is that the CFMEU has weaponised Labor's laws for illegitimate industrial control purposes'—Mr Wheelahan's words, not mine. Under the supervision of the member for McConnel, construction sites became places of bullying, fear and intimidation. At hearings this week we have learned that top-ranking public servants were powerless to stop the militant behaviour of the CFMEU. Giving evidence this week, former deputy director-general of the Office of Industrial Relations Peter McKay said that former CFMEU Queensland secretary Michael Ravbar had the ear of government, stating—

I knew he did meet with the premier and then industrial relations minister Grace Grace on at least one occasion.

Not only that, the commission of inquiry has also revealed several directors-general repeatedly warned Labor ministers and the then premier about the risks and costs associated with Labor's BPIC on major construction projects. Only yesterday the commission heard evidence that the member for McConnel allegedly threatened contractors behind the $1.6 billion Toowoomba Second Range Crossing project—a meeting attended by the member for Miller when he was transport minister. This is about ministerial accountability. The work of the inquiry is ongoing. It is in the interests of all Queenslanders that the truth is uncovered—that the true extent of Labor's close relationship with the CFMEU and former Labor ministers is laid bare for all to see—to ensure the mistakes of the past are never made again.

CFMEU Inquiry

Hon. RM BATES (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training) (9.53 am): Queensland is in the grips of Labor's skill shortage, created by those opposite during their decade of decline. Labor left behind a predicted peak shortfall of around 50,000 skilled workers. Imagine Suncorp Stadium but the stands are empty because someone forgot to sell the tickets: that is the scale of Labor's skill shortage. The Crisafulli LNP government is committed to delivering skills and training initiatives to fix Labor's mess so we can build the homes, the hospitals and the infrastructure that Queenslanders need. The Crisafulli LNP government has already started to turn things around, but we know there is so much more work to be done.

Is it any wonder young Queenslanders were abandoning their hopes of a career in construction and people were leaving the industry during Labor's decade of decline given the truly disturbing revelations we have heard recently from the CFMEU royal commission? The commission has heard that union bullies and thugs did not just carry out their campaign of fear on worksites across Queensland; they brought their terror all the way to the top—free rein, it would seem, for Labor's union overlords, harassing and accosting Queensland's hardworking public servants without consequence from their Labor comrades.

The commission has heard evidence from the current director-general of my department, Mr Peter McKay, about the targeted CFMEU campaign against the regulator during his time as the deputy director-general of the Office of Industrial Relations, and what incredible testimony—disgraceful, disgusting, unforgiveable behaviour from Labor's union overlords: baseless attacks from the CFMEU to damage the credibility of the regulator, bullying and harassing public servants who were just trying to do their jobs, pressure to sack individual public servants and to hire CFMEU mates to get favourable outcomes for the union, denigrating and harassing individual inspectors through social media. In any other workplace that would be called bullying but we hear crickets from Labor. Why is it not standing up for worker safety? The pressure from the CFMEU meant Mr McKay was left fielding calls from union organisers complaining about pressing issues like Glen 20 spray not being listed on a site's hazardous chemical register. In his own words, Mr McKay became Queensland's highest paid and least qualified construction call centre operator.

That culture of fear, of harassment and of intimidation when the CFMEU did not get its way that festered under the former Labor government is truly disgraceful, but I can assure all Queenslanders that under the Crisafulli LNP government the red carpet for Labor's CFMEU mates has been rolled up and put in the skip. Queenslanders and our hardworking public servants should not have to deal with bullying just for doing their job; nor should they be hesitant to go to work because some union thug might be there waiting for them. Queenslanders and our Public Service can be confident that the Crisafulli LNP government will back them every day of the week over union bullies.

If that was not all disgraceful enough, we have also heard evidence at the commission of inquiry that when she was a minister the member for McConnel threatened to tear up a major billion-dollar contract unless the builder made a deal with the CFMEU, with the commission hearing about the kind of behaviour that would be expected to happen in underdeveloped countries like Nigeria, not Australia. No wonder our international partners and investors still recoil at the thought of the former Labor government, on top of all of the other damage that it did to our trade relations—and I am looking at you, member for Woodridge. The Crisafulli LNP government is committed to turning Labor's mess around. We are open for business and we are getting Queenslanders back on the tools to help build the future of this state without having to look over their shoulders and worry that they will become the next target of some union standover man.

Procurement; CFMEU Inquiry

Hon. ST O'CONNOR (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (9.57 am): I rise to update the House on the Crisafulli government's reforms to government procurement in Queensland—reforms that are making it easier to do business with government, opening up new opportunities for Queensland's small and family businesses, and reforms that are restoring confidence and productivity across our state's construction sector. Through our new Queensland Procurement Policy 2026 we are delivering a system that is simpler, clearer and fairer. We have replaced hundreds of pages of fragmented, overlapping rules with one streamlined central policy. We are ensuring government procurement delivers value for Queenslanders.

We knew how toxic the CFMEU was to getting things built in this state, but what is even worse is how deep that toxicity ran through every single major decision of the former Labor government. My first action as the minister responsible for procurement was to put a stop to BPICs. My colleagues in cabinet and I—like the Deputy Premier, the transport minister, the health minister and the education minister—all received advice from our public servants that this was the biggest issue at the top of an enormous pile of things that we needed to fix. The former Labor government had that same continuous and urgent advice that its procurement policies were having an impact, and not just from external stakeholders like the Major Contractors Association or Master Builders but also from internal departmental sources—advice that this was going to make projects cost more and take longer.

How could a minister get both internal and external advice that a government policy would drive up project costs an extra 15 per cent—adding $6.5 billion in costs to taxpayers—and still go ahead with it anyway? That is what happens when a government is completely owned and beholden to a militant, misogynistic union like the CFMEU—a decade of ministers completely devoid of independent thought, doing exactly what the CFMEU told them to do. We know that the member for Springwood outsourced the drafting of procurement policies to that very union. Just yesterday we heard disgraceful allegations that the member for McConnel became the CFMEU's enforcer, going after contractors that the union told her to target.

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and I ask that that be withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence.

Mr O'CONNOR: I withdraw. The member for McConnel can take any opportunity she likes to explain those allegations outside the House. A government minister was allegedly using the power of the state to pressure private companies to do deals with a militant union or they would have work taken off them. We have had a witness at the inquiry compare dealing with the Queensland government under Labor to a country with a broken system where corruption is rife. It is shameful. We have also heard evidence that the CFMEU had the ear of ministers and even the then premier, with senior public servants warning of the union's extraordinary access and influence across government. This was not just a one-off. They practically had a table reserved for the CFMEU at the 1 William Street coffee shop. This was baked into how government operated under Labor.

We have also heard concerns about regulatory capture, where the very bodies meant to enforce the rules were instead influenced by those they were meant to oversee. This was a culture where the lines between government, regulators and unions became dangerously blurred, and the consequences of that failure are now plain for all to see. When Queenslanders needed homes, needed infrastructure and needed a government focused on delivery, Labor allowed a culture to develop that drove up costs, ground projects to a halt and locked out small and family businesses from government work. That is the legacy we inherited, and that is why our Queensland procurement reforms are so critical to turning things around.

CFMEU Inquiry; Queensland Rail, Enterprise Agreement

Hon. BA MICKELBERG (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.01 am): When global companies are looking to invest, they want confidence that the government of a country will honour all of their contractual obligations. It is called sovereign risk. I raise this because yesterday at the CFMEU commission of inquiry we had the extraordinary situation where a senior leader of a major international construction firm compared Queensland to underdeveloped countries like Nigeria. Why? It is because they were faced with the threat that the government would tear up their contract if they did not do a deal with the CFMEU, the backers of the Labor Party.

What we heard at the commission yesterday were allegations of Third World corruption in our own state, and those opposite, who were allegedly involved, should reflect on the damage they have done to Queensland's reputation. What you would expect to see as a result of this sort of recklessness is not only a loss of confidence for companies looking to do work in Queensland but that, in turn, they would then price that into their offers. Ultimately, it means Queenslanders were worse off. What we have seen since coming to government, however, is confidence returning. Companies are tendering for road and rail projects in Queensland for the first time after confidence returned with the change to the Crisafulli government.

While I am on my feet, I would like to provide the chamber with an update on Queensland Rail's enterprise bargaining negotiations. Queensland Rail has been negotiating in good faith with unions since January 2026. This has included more than 60 meetings with union representatives to date. Unions have submitted more than 500 claims during this process. Some of these far exceed what would be considered reasonable including increases to superannuation to 18.5 per cent, a 32-hour work week, birthday leave, extra annual leave and extra personal leave.

Regardless, Queensland Rail have been working through these claims and will be making a further offer on 27 April, consistent with the Fair Work Commission process. Under this process, unions will have until 7 May to consider the offer. Yesterday, the ETU held a press conference where they outlined their industrial relations strategy. ETU organiser Darren Wood said—

> We've set our action up in a way that it targeted projects first, and that it will slowly lead to having an effect on transport and on passengers.

Clearly, this is a factual statement, because it aligns with their actions to date. Over Easter the ETU delayed the start of important work by refusing to de-energise the overhead powerlines in construction areas. The result was a delay in the completion of works, extending the closure periods and impacting thousands of rail users.

What is next in the union's plans? The unions have continued to submit notices for protected industrial action including, in the case of the ETU, protected industrial action on Anzac Day. As at yesterday, there are 264 union notices in effect. These notices include a range of actions, from bans on using phones and computers through to refusing to fix signal faults. While QR have been trying to

manage this protected industrial action and keep services running, the cumulative effect will be the progressive degradation of services—something that we are already seeing and something that the ETU acknowledged yesterday was part of their strategy.

The union's refusal to undertake essential maintenance on trains means that there are fewer trains available to run the normal number of services. Queenslanders need to know that the longer the unions continue their actions the more three-train cars will be used in place of six-car trains. This means overcrowding on trains at peak times. Queenslanders should not be forced to cram into trains to get to work or school.

The only reason that Queenslanders are faced with this reality is because of union industrial action letting them down. If industrial action continues, the number of trains available will fall and QR will be forced to cancel more and more services. Even if the unions withdrew all of their protected industrial action today, the backlog in maintenance means it could be some time before all trains can return to service. Should industrial action result in union members refusing to fix a fault on the rail network and QR being unable to safely operate, we may see entire train lines shut down with little notice to customers.

I call on all parties—I call on the unions—to come back to the table in good faith and to work towards a solution as quickly as possible so we can avoid additional unnecessary impacts to passengers.

Federal Budget

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (10.06 am): In just under three weeks, federal Treasurer Jim Chalmers will hand down the federal budget. The global environment is shifting rapidly and it is becoming more dangerous. The war in the Middle East is not just a geopolitical crisis; it is an economic shock. We have seen oil prices surge, and history tells us clearly that oil shocks drive inflation, slow growth and increase the risk of recession. That is exactly what Australia is now facing and Queensland, like Australia, lives at the end of a global supply chain on which we heavily rely. The International Monetary Fund has warned that a prolonged energy crisis could trigger a global recession, with inflation forecast to peak above five per cent. The Reserve Bank has been explicit: there is a real risk of recession. Queenslanders are being hit hard from every angle, especially on mortgage costs and fuel. They expect next month's federal budget to help ease that pressure—not just talk about it.

The federal government budget matters to Queensland. The Albanese government must deliver solutions to the problems they have created: the federal government's failure to address stranded Australians which means more Queenslanders waiting longer for the health treatment they deserve; the federal government's NDIS cost-shift to the states—their failing program, their responsibility; the federal government's failure to quarantine Queensland projects from GST while other projects around the country are exempt; and the federal government's 2025 amendments which do not allow an EPBC fast-track option for projects like the Taroom Trough—damaging productivity. The federal government has failed to lock in funding for nation building, roads, rail and energy infrastructure. This budget is their chance to do the right thing and fund them.

Finally, the federal government fails to acknowledge that Queensland is the east coast gas market—90 per cent of it by next year alone and 96 per cent by 2037. When the Prime Minister talks to trading partners about fuel and the relationship with the Australian gas industry, he is talking about Queensland gas, and the GST carve-up must reflect this. Queensland is not asking for special treatment; we are asking for our fair share of a national budget that we help fund. Queensland is carrying the nation's economic load, and the federal budget should reflect that reality.

The question on this budget for the federal Treasurer is simple: do the Prime Minister and the federal Treasurer back Queensland or do they take it for granted? Queenslanders will judge this budget on one thing: whether it delivers for them, not just for Canberra. A strong Queensland means a stronger Australia. This budget is the federal government's chance to prove that it understands that fact.

Anzac Day; CFMEU Inquiry; Federal Budget, Health Services

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (10.09 am): I associate myself with the comments made by the Premier in relation to Anzac Day. I also endorse the comments by the Deputy Premier in relation to the CFMEU and building practices and their

effect on construction and the construction industry. Is it any wonder, when I look across at the other side, that eight of the front bench have been absent from the House for the first half hour of parliament this morning. Eight of them absent; not interested in Queensland; not turning up for work.

I have stood here many times before, including just yesterday, to speak about patients stranded in our Queensland public hospitals. These patients should be cared for with more appropriate Commonwealth supports: residential aged care, home care or the NDIS. Today I am calling on the Commonwealth to properly fund reforms for stranded Australians in the upcoming federal budget on 12 May. The announcements made at the Press Club yesterday by the Albanese Labor government will not scratch the surface of the problem faced in Queensland, let alone nationwide.

Through no fault of their own, more than 10 per cent of all hospital beds are occupied by patients who are medically fit for discharge but, because of the failures of the federal Labor government to fund appropriate places, have no place to go. Make no mistake about it: this is not just straining our hospitals or our staff, it is also costing Queenslanders a staggering $3.3 million every single day. More importantly, it is a cost being felt most acutely by patients themselves. I hear countless stories as I travel through our hospitals from Queenslanders who previously lived independently, but long waitlists for aged-care packages and home supports have left them deconditioned and now unable to walk or shower on their own. Every day those patients stay longer in hospital; the more help they will need to recover.

Since October last year Queensland's waitlist for aged-care packages has grown by more than 17 per cent. While the Commonwealth has recently announced investment to increase aged-care capacity in other states in Australia, there remains a clear and urgent need to boost capacity and capability here in Queensland. Current projections indicate Queensland will require an additional 30,000 aged-care places by 2036-37. This challenge dwarfs the piecemeal 5,000 beds a year nationwide put forward by Commonwealth Labor yesterday. We have programs that are ready to roll out that will help solve this problem, including expansion of maintenance in the home in Townsville, a falls co-responder model in Rockhampton and enhancing the long-stay rapid response model statewide. Queensland is doing more than its fair share and I am calling on the federal government to take responsibility for moving stranded Australians into more appropriate care in next month's budget. Queenslanders deserve nothing less.

Federal Budget, Disability Services

Hon. AJ CAMM (Whitsunday—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.12 am): Next month the federal government will hand down its budget and in doing so will walk away from its responsibility for people living with a disability. The same government that established the National Disability Insurance Scheme will introduce legislation, without consultation with states and territories nor peak sectors, that will ultimately change the course and direction of the lives of almost 160,000 Australians living with a disability. What does that mean for parents of children with autism in Queensland? It means if you have one-on-one occupational therapy or speech therapy then say goodbye to it because it will be gone under these cuts and these changes.

The Albanese government has allowed fraudsters, criminals and rorters to take over a system that existed for our most vulnerable. It sounds quite similar to the residential care system which the government inherited from those opposite—an unregulated, billion-dollar industry where fraudsters, rorters and those who made money and profited off our most vulnerable—

Mrs Gerber interjected.

Ms CAMM: I will take that interjection from the youth justice minister who has had to deal with many children who have come out of the broken residential care system where we have seen those fraudsters investing in crypto, in gold, in million-dollar shareholder loans, all on the watch of those opposite. More than 50 per cent of children in residential care have one or more disability and this cut will go to the heart of the system that is already under enormous pressure after being broken by those opposite.

The Crisafulli government has made a commitment when setting targets, which those former child safety ministers opposite failed to do when they failed to seek funding because they wanted to line the pockets of the CFMEU instead of supporting vulnerable children, as we have heard in the commission of inquiry. I have given a direction to my department that it is unacceptable for children under five to live in residential care. I can assure Queenslanders that work is underway to remove those children from residential care. I have also made it clear that the number of children living in residential care as a whole is unacceptable.

Last week I was in Townsville with three LNP members to announce a new foster care pilot. The member for Hinchinbrook could not make it, but I know he was pleased to see our announcement for professional foster care and extra supports for those families, those carers, as well as the children who will be transitioning out of residential care into family-based care. I have expressed both to the stakeholders and my department—my frontline staff—that it is no longer acceptable that residential care is an option. First and foremost, the priority is to move children into family-based care. We have a plan underway to deliver that. We welcome the commission of inquiry's final report and will take it very seriously and consider in depth all of the recommendations to deliver safety for children and a safer community for Queenslanders.

MOTION

Order of Business

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (10.15 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That general business notice of motion, House to take note of committee reports, No. 3 be postponed until the passage of the Waste Reduction and Recycling (Strengthening the Container Refund Scheme) Amendment Bill 2026.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

ABSENCE OF MINISTER

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (10.16 am): I advise that the Minister for Primary Industries will be absent for today's sitting. I advise that the Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development will answer questions for the minister in question time.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr SPEAKER: Question time will conclude today at 11.16 am.

Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

Mr MILES (10.16 am): My question is to the Premier. Given media reports that the Australian Electoral Commission will investigate the Minister for Sport for alleged enrolment fraud, will the Premier stand down the minister pending the outcome of that investigation?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thought yesterday those opposite had reached the bottom of the barrel, but this morning we saw in a stunt a condemnation of a ruling of yours, Mr Speaker, and now we have this question. We know how desperate they are. Of all days to be talking about standards! Sitting two to the left of the Leader of the Opposition is somebody who is facing allegations of bullying, harassment and being a bag person for the CFMEU. Can you believe it?

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I withdraw. The Leader of the Opposition's leadership is under threat. He knows it, his team knows it, every member in this parliament knows it. For them to come in and do a repeat of yesterday, which failed so spectacularly, shows the desperation of the Leader of the Opposition. I will tell members why the Leader of the Opposition is desperate. He has a date with destiny in a few weeks time. In a few weeks time he knows that if he does not get the double-digit swing that is expected and needed he is a goner. Around him sit people who know he is a goner. He is not up to it. He does not work hard enough. He is not focused enough.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. This is a question of the Premier about his minister.

Mr SPEAKER: The point of order is on relevance. Premier, you have one minute 48 seconds remaining.

Mr CRISAFULLI: The Leader of the Opposition is right about one thing: standards matter and right now he cannot sit beside the member for McConnel without holding her accountable.

Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games

Mr DICK: My question is to the Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Given the media reports that the Australian Electoral Commission is investigating the minister for alleged enrolment fraud and given the minister's obligations under the Ministerial Code of Conduct, will the minister now stand down pending the investigation outcomes?

Mr MANDER: Let me remind the opposition of what has happened this week. I made statements earlier this week about the obligations that I have met, that I have at all times updated the Electoral Commission of any change in my circumstances, that I am currently enrolled at the address of my permanent residence and that I believe—and I am very certain—that I have followed every requirement of the ECQ every time. To bring clarity to that situation and to put the matter to rest, I wrote to the ECQ and asked them to affirm those arrangements and the processes that took place. This is what those opposite need to hear: part of that process is that the ECQ then refers it to the AEC. That is part of the process.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The minister is explaining his situation. The cross-chamber quarrelling will cease or members will start to be warned.

Mr MANDER: The Labor Party has not initiated anything because it had already been initiated by me to make sure—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr MANDER: The process is already underway, initiated by me, because I have full confidence that I have complied with every requirement of the ECQ and the AEC. I have no issue to hide. That is why I self-referred.

Mrs Gerber interjected.

Mr MANDER: I take the interjection from the minister and member for Currumbin. This is simply a deflection from the situation in the Labor Party at the moment where they are under the pump about the CFMEU inquiry, they are under the pump about the Stafford by-election and they are under the pump because of their disunity when it comes to Adult Crime, Adult Time. That is all this is. It is grubby politics at its worst.

Community Safety, Age of Criminal Responsibility

Mr KRAUSE: My question is to the Premier and Minister for Veterans. How is the government's strong stance in support of maintaining the age of criminal responsibility making Queensland safer, and is the Premier aware of any plans that would raise the age of criminal responsibility, putting more Queenslanders at risk?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the honourable member for Scenic Rim for the question. As always, his question is pertinent, it is relevant and it shows his great connection with his community. The member asks about a number of things that we are doing. We are very committed to making sure that we finally get early intervention right in this state after a decade of decline. We are very committed to making sure that consequences for actions are there. We are very committed to making sure that there is rehabilitation when a young person is both in detention and outside of detention. We are very committed to putting more police on the streets—and we are seeing that, with 10 times the number in less than half the time in terms of a net increase. There is another thing we are very committed to and that is laws that deliver what the community and Queenslanders demand—that is, stronger laws. It is accountability and it is consequences for actions.

The member specifically asked about the minimum age of criminal responsibility. The reason the question is so pertinent and the reason it is so difficult for those opposite is that they do not believe in it. They understand that it is at odds with their policy document—a policy document that those opposite are bound to. They are bound by it. It is not guidelines; it is what they have to do. There are many ways that I could explain why that policy is so short-sighted and why it is at odds with Queenslanders. Rather than explain it, I will relate it through the eyes of people living in the electorate of Maryborough. A 13-year-old boy, a repeat offender, was driving a stolen car and three women died. I repeat: three women died. One was 17 years of age. I want to clarify this for the House: what those opposite believe in and are bound by means that that individual would face no consequences. Process that. A 13-year-old who takes three innocent lives would never face an ounce of accountability. That is the Labor Party policy platform.

They can chop it up any way they like. They can pretend it does not matter. They can say one thing in one part of the state and another when they are trying to suck up Greens preferences to cling to their existence, but it is in their DNA and Queenslanders know it. This policy document binds the Labor Party. We are not going back to the bad old days of the past.

(Time expired)

Stafford By-Election, Billboards

Ms SCANLON: My question is to the Premier and Minister for Veterans. Has the Premier or his office directed or requested anyone to commission taxpayer-funded government billboards, social media or TV advertisement in the Stafford electorate during the by-election and will he rule it out?

Mr Bleijie: We are a government for all of Queensland.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the honourable member for the question and I take the interjection from the honourable Deputy Premier. This is a government for every part of Queensland. Those opposite do not like seeing the positive billboards saying what this government is doing to deliver for Queenslanders across the state. I am going to talk about some of the things I have seen on those billboards. I have seen reference to delivery on the Bruce Highway after a decade of underinvestment and a campaign from those opposite that said we would never secure 80-20 funding—but we did, and we are rolling out the single biggest investment on the Bruce Highway in a generation. I can tell the House what else is on those billboards.

Mr Langbroek interjected.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will get to you; do not take offence. Another thing that I see on those billboards is a commitment to making sure that every change to laws in this state will be about strengthening rather than weakening. Adult Crime, Adult Time is on those billboards. I can tell the House what else is on those billboards.

Mr Bailey: Propaganda.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will get to that. A commitment to deliver special schools in this state is on those billboards. I can tell the House what else is on those billboards: the Hospital Rescue Plan, finally funded, delivering more beds and making sure that Queenslanders understand that our hardworking doctors and nurses have a government that has their back. Daniel's Law is on those billboards. That is about protecting our kids. Permanent 50-cent fares—that will drive them berserk.

I can tell the House why this annoys them so much. It is because every time someone drives past a billboard they are reminded of what they saw before the election from the Labor Party. They were told that there would be fewer nurses in this state and over 4,000 have been added.

Ms SCANLON: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The question was specifically around expenditure in Stafford.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order in relation to the member for Gaven's point of order in that it was a broad question, asking about billboards and government messaging, and the Premier is being responsive to the question as asked, and there were a number of elements to the question.

Mr SPEAKER: The question, as I heard it, talked about billboards and also mentioned 'in Stafford'. Premier, you have the call.

Mr CRISAFULLI: This is a government for all of Queensland and Stafford is part of Queensland. I will tell you another thing about Stafford: the only way those opposite will be able to secure the swing that they need to save the Leader of the Opposition is with the Greens feeding them preferences. That is the only way. The Leader of the Opposition knows right now he should be winning on primary votes. That is what history shows in Stafford—that is what history shows in by-elections—but he is not up to it. The member for Gaven knows he is not up to it, the entire front bench knows he is not up to it and the backbenchers with their heads down know he is not up to it. Every time Queenslanders drive past the billboard, they are reminded that this government is doing what it said it would do. They are reminded that the scare campaign about all those issues has no validity and they are reminded that this Leader of the Opposition is living on borrowed time.

(Time expired)

Justice System, Mandatory Minimum Sentencing

Mr LISTER: My question is to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Just hold, member for Southern Downs. There is too much noise in the chamber. I could not hear a word you were saying. Could you start your question again, please?

Mr LISTER: My question is to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity. How is the government's strong support for mandatory minimum penalties for violent offenders, including murders, making Queensland safer, and is the Attorney-General aware of any plans that would allow more violent offenders to walk free?

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I thank the member for Southern Downs for his hard work in and around the Southern Downs and Goondiwindi region, an area where, under the former Labor government, crime increased. What have we done? We have implemented consequences for actions, ensured we are looking into rehabilitation and early intervention, put more police on the streets in places like Goondiwindi and introduced stronger laws. We know those opposite are never on the same page. Our government has been tough on crime as opposed to the former government that was weak on crime. There is no greater example.

I am asked about the mandatory minimum penalty for murder. I would say we have no intention of removing it. In fact, if we could make it stronger, we absolutely would.

With regard to the alternatives that we have been given, the Premier has just talked about the state Labor party platform. They are bound to this document. On page 110, for those reading along at home, this is what it says—

Labor will repeal legislation which fetters judicial discretion by imposing mandatory minimum sentences for criminal offences.

I thought: who would be supporting that? Just this week, the member for Woodridge fronted the media, unlike the person sitting beside him so far, to say—

The government should be presenting the evidence that says mandatory minimum sentences makes a difference. There is a lot of evidence to the contrary, not just in Australia but around the world.

An opposition member interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I cannot wait for the member over there who is saying 'yes' and the member for Woodridge to stand up and call Lee Lovell and say to him that his wife's killer does not deserve mandatory life. I went down to the High Court with Lee Lovell on this issue because under our laws that murderer, that killer, would have got life. That is not the case under those opposite. This is why we went to the High Court—to fight for just a little ounce of the justice that that family deserves. Under those opposite, the member for Murrumba would like to see—

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: As I have said, leaders get latitude, but, member for Woodridge, you have reached the end of my patience. If you come to my attention again, you will be warned.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: From that display, it is obvious that the Labor opposition in this state are not going to support Adult Crime, Adult Time. It is obvious that they are not going to do that in this House tonight. If it is not bad enough that those opposite will not support our tough-on-crime stance, they want killers running around on our streets.

(Time expired)

Stafford Electorate, Pedestrian Safety Upgrades

Ms FARMER: My question is to the Premier. In relation to the school communities of Mount Alvernia College, Padua College and St Anthony's Primary School in the heart of Kedron, all co-located in the Turner Road precinct, will the Premier guarantee that the required pedestrian safety upgrades will be delivered for the safety of students, staff and parents?

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I submit to you that under the standing orders that question would be best directed to another minister whose relevant portfolio area covers the question as asked and I ask—

Ms FARMER: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The question crosses several different portfolios which is why I am asking the Premier.

Mr SPEAKER: The Premier, as leader, obviously gets a number of questions across a number of portfolios. It is probably a question that would have been better asked on notice. Premier, you have the call.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I suspect that if the honourable member for Bulimba really wanted an answer she would have put it on notice, but I do not believe that that is the case. There are two things for certain. The first is that everyone over there in opposition, including the member for Bulimba, knows that when they were in government they did not fund that project. That is the first thing that is for sure. They had a fair crack to do it. They cannot say that they did not have an interest because it is Labor Party heartland; we know that and those opposite know that. It is not as though they did not have an opportunity to do it. That is the first thing. The second thing is that the honourable member will know that if this government says it will do something, it will do it.

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Miller is warned.

Mr CRISAFULLI: That is our mantra. We are delivering what we said we would deliver. As I get around the electorate of Stafford I meet people, as I did the other day. I went to the Grange Gorillas and they know we are investing in the nets behind the goals because that is exactly what we said we were going to do. They already have the money in the bank. They had the money in the bank long before the opposition had a focus on the seat. I make the observation that there are school fence projects that we promised that we are delivering. There are transport projects that we promised that we are delivering. We are doing that across the state because it is as much for us a desire to deliver for this state as it is to restore faith in those who govern.

Queenslanders lived through a process for a decade where those opposite would say one thing and do another—make a promise and then walk away. Those opposite campaigned on the same issue across three electoral cycles. The number of police they said they would deliver they did not hit over four electoral cycles, from the first promise through to the last. In contrast, people in this state are seeing a government that does as it says and delivers on its word.

I do note the great level of interest about Stafford at the moment from those opposite. I can tell you why. The last time there was a by-election in Stafford, the opposition secured an 18 per cent swing. That would put them on about 23 per cent. Now, to get to 23 per cent, they would have to win on primaries and then get all of the Greens preferences.

Mr McCallum interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Bundamba!

Mr CRISAFULLI: The Leader of the Opposition will not even win on primaries.

Mr McCallum interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member Bundamba, you are warned. I had just cautioned you.

Mr CRISAFULLI: The Leader of the Opposition is a man hanging by a thread. His obsession with Stafford is because he knows he will not get the swing required, and his goose is cooked.

Justice System, Mandatory Minimum Sentencing

Mrs KIRKLAND: My question is to the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services. How is the government's strong support of mandatory minimum penalties for violent offenders, including child sex offenders, making Queensland safer, and is the minister aware of any plans that would allow more violent offenders to walk free?

Mrs GERBER: I thank the member for Rockhampton for her advocacy. She is a fierce advocate for her community and for strong laws. The Crisafulli government's strong support for mandatory minimum sentences is making Queensland safer, and we are delivering exactly what we said we would. It will mean that violent offenders, murderers and sexual predators will be off our streets. In fact, one of the Attorney-General's first acts when we came to government made life imprisonment a mandatory minimum sentence for youth murderers in the first tranche of Adult Crime, Adult Time.

What do we see from the Labor Party? The member asked if there were any plans that might see violent offenders walk free. Labor's state platform for 2025, which is a policy document they are bound to implement if they ever get the chance to be back in government, states that they will not only seek to raise the age of criminal responsibility so that violent youth offenders and sexual predators would walk free but also seek to remove mandatory minimum sentences.

Their policy platform says that they want to remove mandatory minimum sentences for criminal offences. The member for Woodridge confirmed it this week. He has confirmed that he questions whether or not they should even be in place. This is the policy platform that the Labor opposition is bound to implement if they ever have the chance to be back in government. They go into Queensland communities, like Stafford, and talk tough on crime, but when they come into this House their policy platform says they are not going to hold youth offenders accountable and they are going to weaken our laws and remove mandatory minimum sentencing.

We know that mandatory minimum sentences make a difference. We know that to suggest that child sex offenders, who commit some of the most heinous crimes against our most vulnerable, should not face life imprisonment—that is what Labor's policy says—is an absolute disgrace. Labor do not believe in strong laws. We know that they are going to vote against Adult Crime, Adult Time. We know that they do not support victims. Labor need to front Queenslanders and explain to victims why they do not support strong laws and why they are going to vote against Adult Crime, Adult Time. They need to explain why their policy document says there will be no consequences for youth offenders and they will remove mandatory minimum sentencing.

Stafford By-Election

Ms FENTIMAN: My question is to the Premier. Has the Premier provided any government commitments or undertakings to One Nation in return for their not running in the Stafford by-election?

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I am going to get some advice on this question.

Mr Crisafulli: Please, Mr Speaker, please! Please rule it in.

Mr SPEAKER: Usually that is something the party organisation manages, but has the Premier had any conversations—

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I call the Premier.

Mr CRISAFULLI: If I was batting on a cricket field and the member was bowling, I would say, 'Bring her on from both ends.' The answer is no. I want to ask: what deal has been done with the Greens? The Greens in this state are an anti-Semitic movement. The Greens in this state stand for everything that is wrong with politics in this nation. I ask those opposite: will they accept the Greens' how-to-vote card that funnels the vote that is needed back to the Labor Party? Without the Greens' vote, which is likely to be in the high teens, as we have seen—possibly 20 per cent—the Leader of the Opposition would have no chance of winning this seat. He is deeply unpopular. His party is on the nose. His leadership is under threat. They have no prospect of winning under their own right, which they should be able to do in what is Labor Party heartland.

There is a reason they are where they are at the moment. There is a reason they are begging for the Greens to feed them: if they do not, they will go. Nothing has changed. They still do not back Adult Crime, Adult Time, even though in a decade they created a youth crime crisis. They still do not back a health rescue plan. Under those opposite, there was underinvestment and a lack of planning and there were no reinforcements for our frontline staff. It has all been fixed. They still do not back a housing plan that turns around three years of a $2 billion Housing Investment Fund, two failed ministers and not a single home being delivered. They do not believe in permanent cost-of-living relief. We have locked in 50-cent fares. We promised it and delivered it.

They do not believe in an energy plan that is affordable, reliable and sustainable and makes sure every single Queenslander knows that we are getting the most out of the assets that we have now while we are building new ones for the future, and we are using Queensland gas. They do not back the Taroom Trough. They do not back it because they do not believe in it. There is a reason they do not back the Taroom Trough. If they do back it and they say it too loudly, too proudly or too boldly, they know that the Greens might not put out a how-to-vote card, which is the only thing that can save the Leader of the Opposition. As the House can tell, I have had a bit of fun in the last few minutes answering this question. I wonder—just maybe—if the person who asked the question has an ulterior motive for asking it.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Waterford, I will not caution you again.

Crime, Police Powers

Mr BAROUNIS: My question is to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. How is the government's action on crime making Queensland safer, and is the minister aware of any plans that would weaken police powers and put Queenslanders at risk?

Mr PURDIE: What a great enunciated question by the member for Maryborough. I think I caught most of it. It is also fantastic to finally have a member for Maryborough who is committed to representing the people of his electorate down here. The things that matter to them—the things that are top of mind—are very important.

Recently, when the Premier and I visited Maryborough, we were able to meet Belinda, the owner and operator of a paint shop—Earles Paint Place—which has been in Maryborough for 90 years. We heard about the impacts of crime. There was an explosion in unlawful use of a motor vehicle offences—they increased by 500 per cent in Maryborough under those opposite. Pleasingly, that has started to come down. The antisocial, disorderly and threatening behaviour has been putting downward pressure on her business and the livability of Maryborough. I thank the member for making a commitment to her that the Premier and I and our government will do everything we can to make sure the police have the powers they need.

We talk a lot about Adult Crime, Adult Time and a lot about bail laws and youth crime laws. Those opposite are putting the protection and privacy of murderers, sex offenders and paedophiles over the protection of our young children. They opposed our motion to support Daniel's Law and to change bikie laws that would help police target organised criminals.

Ms Scanlon interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Gaven is warned.

Mr PURDIE: Recently, they voted against our tough laws that would take guns out of the hands of terrorists. The list goes on.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The Attorney-General is warned.

Mr PURDIE: Whether it is watering down drug laws, which would increase demand and help drug traffickers profit—we know that they are soft on the worst of the worst: bikies, organised criminals, sex offenders and murderers.

What alarmed me the most about this document is that, as we now know, it was drafted by Labor's candidate for Stafford. Even the Greens voters in Stafford would expect that a young police officer walking the beat in his uniform would have the power to say to someone who is being disorderly, indecent, threatening or violent, 'Please move along.'

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I draw to your attention the standing orders in relation to anticipation of debate. It occurs to me that matters that the minister is referring to are squarely within the bill that is on the *Notice Paper*.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, there is a bill before the House. Please ensure that you are not anticipating debate.

Mr PURDIE: I do not think we have cut and pasted their policy document into the bill before the House, Mr Speaker. On page 118, their policy document, which they are bound to, suggests that police should not have the power to ask someone acting disorderly, violently or indecently to move along. We know that for over a decade they watered down bikie laws.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I will be very careful not to offend the standing orders in relation to anticipation of debate. The matter to which the minister is addressing maybe mentioned in another document but it is squarely dealt with by the bill on the *Notice Paper*. I ask you to ensure that he does not offend that standing order.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The Minister for Police is clearly quoting from a policy document. He is being very careful. He understands his obligations in relation to the bill that is before the House. I submit to you, Mr Speaker, that he is referencing that policy document and he should be able to continue to answer the question.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, you might be quoting from a policy document, but it is very close to what is in the bill. I ask you to be very cautious in your remaining 16 seconds.

Mr PURDIE: My point is that they have learnt nothing—whether it is paedophiles, whether it is murderers, whether it is sex offenders or whether it is the basic right of a frontline police officer to ask someone to move along. The Greens voters of Stafford need to understand this. They need to learn from their mistakes.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. It is highly disorderly for a member of this House to defy a ruling or instruction that you have given.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr de BRENNI: The minister is clearly aware of the rule of anticipation. You directed him as such and he continued to talk about the same matters. I ask you to address his disorderly conduct.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you for that. I will be happy to look at the tape.

Crisafulli LNP Government, Ministers

Mr RYAN: My question is to the Premier. As the responsible minister under the Financial Accountability Act for the parliament, has the Premier undertaken all due diligence to ensure that his ministers have complied with their obligations when claiming travel allowances and, if not, will he request the Clerk to do so?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I sense that the photocopier must be broken on level 9. They are the same questions as yesterday—rinse and repeat, rinse and repeat, rinse and repeat, as was the day before. There is no standard to which those opposite will not sink to. I am going to make the same point I made yesterday: all members in this place on both sides have to be held accountable to the rules of the day. That is the fit and proper process. I am certain that the Leader of the Opposition would take a keen interest, as do I, to ensure that all members do so so that we can represent the great people of this state.

Workplace Safety

Mr FIELD: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations. How is the Crisafulli LNP government restoring safety for workers on their worksites and in their homes, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any policies—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Capalaba, I am sorry. You will have to start that again. The noise was too much. Could you repeat your question, please?

Mr FIELD: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations. How is the Crisafulli LNP government restoring safety for workers on their worksites and in their homes, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any policies that could put Queensland workers in danger?

Mr BLEIJIE: I thank the member for Capalaba for his question. The Crisafulli government believes that every worker has the right to be able to go to work safely and return home to their families in a safe environment, and also be well paid. We also believe in restoring productivity to the worksite. We also believe a worker should be able to go to a worksite and not have to face intimidation, bullying, coercive behaviour, misogynistic behaviour, sexual assaults, sexual bullying—all of the harassment that we have seen undertaken by the CFMEU and, of course, protected by the Labor Party over 10 years. If they wanted to change the culture on construction sites, they could have done it.

I also report the November 2025 policy document of the Labor Party that has been talked about this morning. Labor's candidate for Stafford, Luke Richmond, was the architect of the 2025 policy document, which includes reintroducing BPIC, Best Practice Industry Conditions, which is the CFMEU tax. It is a document that was prepared by the state secretary of the Labor Party, Luke Richmond, who the Labor Party have now put in as the candidate for Stafford. He believes in the restoration of the CFMEU tax.

We do not have to understand why; we can just look at the royal commission. We have seen testimony at the royal commission. We saw testimony yesterday. We have not seen the former minister for industrial relations front the media about this at all. Interestingly, for 10 years I have been raising the issue, as workplace health and safety officers have, of one Helen Burgess. Helen Burgess has been referenced in the commission of inquiry as having a close relationship with a CFMEU delegate and would attend construction sites, and the Labor Party protected her. In fact, then minister Grace Grace at the time said, 'Oh, that poor thing. She's going to get this at estimates.' She protected her.

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and I ask that that be withdrawn. It is not correct.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence. I ask that you withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. The commission of inquiry heard last week—let me quote the commission of inquiry—that, when news broke about Helen Burgess's CCC investigation, then minister Grace is alleged to have said to Peter McKay, 'That poor woman,' and 'I feel for her that she has to go through this every year at estimates.' That was at the royal commission.

I wondered why she said that about Helen Burgess, so I have done a bit of research. I want to advise the House that I found a Queensland Council of Unions document from 2004—the general secretary was Grace Grace, and right down the bottom it says that the administration officer of the QCU was Helen Burgess. If the former minister, the shadow IR minister, wants to get up and say, 'That's a coincidence,' I am happy to accept it, but there it is. The relationship went back to 2004. The protection racket of the CFMEU started back then. It all makes clear sense now. For the shadow minister not to explain herself is a 'dis-Grace'!

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence to that last quote and ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence. I ask that you withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.

(Time expired)

Tourism Industry, Fuel Security

Mr KNUTH: My question without notice is to the Premier. With the Queensland Tourism Industry Council warning this week that the industry is at breaking point, with regional operators facing revenue drops of 30 per cent or more due to the fuel crisis—and I table that—what immediate action is the government taking to support struggling tourism businesses in regional Queensland?

Tabled paper: Media release, dated 21 April 2026, from the Queensland Tourism Industry Council titled 'Tourism at breaking point: QTIC calls for urgent stabilisation support' [593].

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the honourable member for the question. It is a good question. All members in this House should be alert and alive to how important it is right now to ensure that we do a couple of things in the short, medium and long term to support industries but particularly the tourism industry because they are going to be the first to feel it. I know the minister has done a great job in ensuring that he puts that on the agenda.

I advise the House that yesterday I again convened a meeting of our Fuel Supply Taskforce. The feedback that we have received from industries—and many of whom are the kinds of industries that the member represents—is that there is real uncertainty and there is real fear. I understand that at the moment people have seen a reprieve in terms of the prices at the pump. That has been such a great thing for people. What is not there is the clarity in the long term about the supply and what that will mean for prices.

The honourable member asked about tourism. He is spot-on. There are a couple of things that need to happen. Firstly, there are a raft of businesses—I do not want to single them out, but you can put tourism in this—that do need financial support. There is no doubt about that. The honourable Treasurer mentioned that in a couple of weeks time Canberra will be handing down their budget, and it is an important one—

An opposition member: Ah!

Mr CRISAFULLI: I am not sure if I can take an 'ah'. I am going to take the 'ah'.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! There is too much noise from both sides. The member for Hill is listening to the response.

Mr CRISAFULLI: It is an important interjection to take because we do collectively—all of us—have to make sure the federal government is at the table. We all acknowledge that. Surely those opposite are not suggesting that the federal government should not provide support packages. That would be strange. It is incumbent on all of us right across the board. We have to respect people's money. We have to make sure there is support there in their hour of need, and we will do that.

There is something else the tourism industry is calling for. I heard Tash Wheeler from QTIC the other day. They want, they need and they deserve a national dashboard to show in real time what fuel is here and what fuel is coming.

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Pine Rivers is now warned.

Mr Healy interjected.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I take the interjection from the member for Cairns, who sits there as a permanent reminder of the weeping sore of the Leader of the Opposition, who will not hold him accountable for what he said. The member for Cairns—

Mr HEALY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and I ask that the member withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence and asks that you withdraw.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I withdraw. The member said that the Queensland Tourism Industry Council does not support a national dashboard.

Mr Healy interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Members for Cairns!

Mr CRISAFULLI: Tash Wheeler said yesterday that she—

Mr Healy interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Cairns is now warned.

Mr CRISAFULLI: We will continue to fight for short-, medium- and long-term plans, and I urge those opposite to do the same.

Workplace Safety

Mrs STOKER: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Planning and Infrastructure and Minister for Industrial Relations. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering workplaces that are free of bullying, intimidation and aggression, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any instances where aggressive bullying was witnessed in the workplace during a decade of decline?

Mr BLEIJIE: I thank the member for Oodgeroo for the question. It is a really important question because we do not tolerate the sort of behaviour mentioned in that question in the workplace, whether it is this workplace or construction sites in Queensland. Yesterday in the royal commission—and I raised it in the House yesterday—we heard serious testimony against the former industrial relations minister, the member for McConnel. One of the witnesses, Mr Sanchez, said—

… Minister Grace clearly said words to the effect of 'You have to reach an agreement with the CFMEU or we will terminate your contract.' … She did not suggest that she could 'consider' termination of the contract—rather, she stated directly that the contract … would be terminated.

That was Mr Sanchez yesterday. Following Mr Sanchez we had Mr Blanco. As reported in the *Courier-Mail* this morning—

Ferrovial country manager Enrique Blanco also backed that account, telling the inquiry Ms Grace made clear consequences of further fallout with the CFMEU would be "ugly".

There it is in black and white, yet the former minister, the member for McConnel, is ducking and weaving from scrutiny right now. The Labor Party is quoted in the media today—are you ready for this?—

We are not going to be providing a running commentary on the royal commission.

Well, they are doing plenty of running from the media. That is the only running they are doing. I would suggest that the cobwebs are being cleared from the deep, dark halls of this parliamentary building and the Annexe because of the number of tunnels the former minister, the member for McConnel, has gone through to scurry away from media scrutiny in the last 24 hours. They were out on the balcony at eight o'clock last night so as to not be seen. Where was the member for McConnel? Correct me if I am wrong, but I do not think the member for McConnel has done a press conference in front of a full media gallery in all of 2026.

I call upon the member for McConnel. Do not run away from the royal commission. Do not run away from the media. Front the media and tell Queenslanders, explain it to Queenslanders, because we now have two witnesses who were in the meeting who said what the minister said at the time. What does the member for McConnel say? Oh, they are both wrong! This week when the member for Callide interjected about BPIC and the cost of housing, Ms Scanlon said—

I take the interjection. We will always stand up for working Queenslanders and unions.

That was directly about BPIC. BPIC is coming back if the Labor Party wins the Stafford by-election and the next election. We cannot go back to the bad old days of the Labor Party—

(Time expired)

Influenza, Vaccination

Mr MILES: My question is to the Premier. Given the decline in flu vaccinations in Queensland, can the Premier advise whether he will be getting his flu shot this year to promote public confidence in flu vaccination?

Mr CRISAFULLI: I thank the honourable member for the question. If the honourable member wants proof of how much this side of the House backs vaccination, we have funded it into the forwards and it is free, and there is more of it. The Leader of the Opposition had his chance to be a champion for this when he did not lock funding in for the long term.

Procurement

Ms DOOLEY: My question is to the Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering proper procurement processes across government, and is the minister aware of any examples where contractors were treated with aggression during a decade of decline?

Mr O'CONNOR: I thank the member for Redcliffe for the question and give a shout-out to our Queensland government procurement team in the Department of Housing and Public Works. The procurement team is back in the Department of Housing and Public Works after it followed the member for Springwood wherever he went across government because he was the only one they trusted to do the bidding of the CFMEU and bake the CFMEU into government procurement. That led to projects costing more and taking longer to deliver. It led to productivity tanking on construction sites across our state. It led to 77,000 fewer homes being delivered across Queensland since 2018. Imagine what our housing situation would look like right now if we had those 77,000 homes. It meant that the CFMEU was picking the subcontractors who could work on government jobs. Through the member for Springwood's office we have heard allegations that they were vetting those subcontractors. They allowed just 0.12 per cent of the licensed tradies in this state to bid for government work. It was appalling. The whole system was geared towards their union mates.

The member asked me about examples of aggression on construction sites. Through the commission of inquiry we have heard appalling allegations from a contractor who said that Jade Ingham of the CFMEU wielded enormous influence over the industry and that he had the ability to make or break contractors by branding them as an 'industrial risk' to tier 1 builders. The contractor who gave evidence to the commission said that they believe they lost major tenders because of that union opposition. We heard allegations that the CFMEU—

Mr Bleijie: They put him on the QBCC board.

Mr O'CONNOR: He was on the board of the QBCC; I take that interjection from the Deputy Premier. Well, he is no longer. We heard allegations that the CFMEU used former boxers to intimidate contractors, that they hired a specific delegate to intimidate contractors who made that contractor feel that this was an existential threat to them.

That is not how things are in Queensland anymore. We have axed the CFMEU tax, and under the Crisafulli LNP government BPICs will never come back. We are restoring productivity on job sites across our state. We are making government procurement easier. We are making it simpler. We are making it more transparent. Above all, we are delivering value for money for Queensland taxpayers. There is no longer the requirement for a contractor to have the tick of approval from a militant, misogynistic union to build things on behalf of Queenslanders with their taxpayer dollars. That is what is essential to turning things around. That is what is essential to delivering the homes and infrastructure that Queenslanders expect their government to deliver, and that is what Queenslanders will get under the Crisafulli LNP government.

Influenza, Vaccination

Mr BAILEY: My question is to the Minister for Health. Has the minister sought Queensland Health advice about whether the Premier's refusal to publicly say if he will get a flu vaccination is contributing to falling vaccination rates in Queensland?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for Miller for asking me a question. I had a fear that I would get through this week without receiving a question, which is another sign of the interest the member for Miller has in the Health portfolio, which is somewhere between zero and nil.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at the minister's comments and ask that he withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, the member has taken personal offence and asked that you withdraw.

Mr NICHOLLS: I withdraw. I thank the member for Miller for the question. The member for Miller will be happy to know that the number of flu cases this year is down. Under the former government and now opposition, during the period of 1 January to 19 April 2024 the number of flu hospitalisations was 1,419. This year, the number is 860.

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Waterford is now warned.

Mr NICHOLLS: In more good news, I am happy to report on the two- to five-year-old cohort. These are the most vulnerable and they put the greatest strain on the system, and they also spread it the most because they are in kindergarten, day care and all those sorts of places and they are amongst their siblings. Under Labor from 1 March to 19 April 2024, there were 8,160 flu vaccines administered. This year under the LNP there were 10,100. For the first time in Australia we have engaged with AstraZeneca and we now have FluMist. FluMist is being made available free of charge. It is not on the National Immunisation Program, but there is allocated funding under this government—which was never done under those opposite—so we have a vaccine that is available that is easily administered and deals with those matters.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The question was about whether or not the minister had sought advice from Queensland Health. My point of order is on relevance.

Mr SPEAKER: As I hear it, the minister's entire contribution so far has been about vaccinations so I find he is being relevant to that part of the question.

Mr de BRENNI: My point of order was that the question was about what advice he had sought.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, you have one minute remaining.

Mr NICHOLLS: I can share that we have more vaccine going out to more places and it is able to be administered by more people across the state of Queensland because we have increased the scope of practice. Now, if you cannot get to get to a GP—and we say to go to a GP if you can—you do not have to go to a pharmacist at your chemist anymore. A pharmacist can come to your local sporting club or your workplace and administer it to you there. That is something that those over there were never able to do. After fixing the hole that was left by those opposite of a $25 million gap in delivering the flu vaccination, we have fully funded it and more. I will be getting the flu vaccination. I encourage all those who can get the flu vaccination in consultation with their medical professional to do so. It is available more cheaply and in more places than anywhere else in Australia.

(Time expired)

Productivity

Mr MOLHOEK: My question is to the Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering increased productivity across Queensland, and is the Treasurer aware of any projects that were held to ransom over a decade of decline?

Mr JANETZKI: The Second Range Crossing in Toowoomba was one of the most important projects in our regions ever. The former treasurer signed it off back in the former government, and the member for Toowoomba North fought so hard to get it delivered. I thank the honourable member for the question because it gives me an opportunity to reflect on how that most important project for our region was treated by the CFMEU and the Labor Party as a free-for-all. As articulated by the Deputy Premier, we saw the minister, the Labor Party and the CFMEU treat that most important project for our region as a free-for-all, and we saw that play out in the royal commission yesterday because that most important project for our region—and for yours, Mr Speaker—was put at risk because of the behaviour of those opposite. What we saw from the former minister was not guidance or suggestions; it was a threat to the delivery of that project. The former minister said to those contractors, 'If you don't do a deal with the CFMEU we will terminate your contracts.'

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and I ask that that be withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence.

Mr JANETZKI: I withdraw. When we came to government, we were not going to stand for that anymore. That is why when the Productivity Commission was introduced our first inquiry was into the building and construction industry and we saw in that 458-page document how important productivity was to build what we need to get built. BPICs went, and all of the other recommendations that will be implemented now show us the importance of productivity to our economy: the 77,000 fewer homes that the housing minister talked about, the increase in rents and the more than $20 billion in additional costs to the budget by the end of the decade that would have been seen under the regime of those opposite. We have ended it because we are determined to bring back productivity to Queensland and we need it.

We see in the behaviour of the former industrial relations minister and the former government's relationship with the CFMEU what they really thought about productivity, and we know they have not changed because it is still in their policy document. When I introduced the Productivity Commission back into Queensland, they had the chance to vote for it. We will always support productivity in Queensland. They will only ever vote against it.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: The period for question time has expired.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Visitors to Public Gallery

Mr SPEAKER: Before we move on, I have been told that we have been joined in the gallery by former Gold Coast City councillors William Owen-Jones and Pauline Young.

EXPANDING ADULT CRIME, ADULT TIME AND TAKING A STRONG STANCE ON DRUGS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from 22 April (see p. 1100), on motion of Mrs Gerber—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Miss DOOLAN (Pumicestone—LNP) (11.17 am): I rise to speak in strong support of the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026. We made a commitment to Queenslanders that if we were elected to government we would make our communities safer. This bill is delivering on that core commitment to restore safety where we live, ensuring real consequences for actions and giving police the power and resources to protect our community from youth offenders.

I reflect on the experience of Heidi and Clint Luck from Bribie Island who had youth offenders break into their home in the dead of night while their children were fast asleep. That is not okay, yet this was the reality of so many people in my community and communities across Queensland. We know that under the watch of those opposite victims of crime multiplied across the state while offenders were given a slap on the wrist and let back into our communities to continue their cycle of crime. However, our government does things differently. We listen to Queenslanders and we take action on the things that matter most.

Under this Premier we are turning the tide on the Labor youth crime crisis and we are backing Queenslanders who want safety where they live. They want to feel safe in their communities, at the shops and in their own home. The first major part of this bill strengthens our already tough Adult Crime, Adult Time laws by expanding their scope to 12 additional serious offences—offences involving violence, coercion, exploitation and deliberate harm. These include offences such as conspiring to murder, choking in a domestic setting, disabling to commit another crime and endangering the safety of a person in a vehicle. Let's be clear: if a youth commits one of these serious adult crimes, they will now face serious consequences.

We are already seeing green shoots. Since the introduction of Adult Crime, Adult Time, the number of victims has fallen by 7.2 per cent; serious repeat offenders are down 17 per cent; and proven Adult Crime, Adult Time offences have fallen 27 per cent. Those are not just numbers; they represent Queenslanders who did not become victims of youth crime. Courts have recognised that community

expectations have changed. Judges have said, 'The laws have changed and the community is sending a message that this will not be tolerated.' They are right: people are tired of seeing offenders walk away while victims are left picking up the pieces. We are sending a strong message to victims that we stand with them and we will make sure justice is served.

This bill makes sure that when someone is old enough to commit an adult crime they are old enough to do adult time. The second key reform in this bill repeals Labor's failed three-tier drug diversion system, a so-called soft-on-drugs approach that allowed repeat offenders to avoid any real consequence despite being caught with dangerous drugs multiple times. Under Labor's system, people could be caught up to five times with illicit drugs before facing any penalty. The result was that drug offences skyrocketed. In just one year, Queensland recorded a 16.8 per cent increase in total drug offences, over 76,000 in a year. Dangerous drug trafficking went up 9.2 per cent, possessing dangerous drugs rose 12.9 per cent, and other drug offences jumped 26 per cent. That was not justice; that was pure chaos.

Illicit drugs are a scourge on my community and we need tough laws to protect our young people. This bill replaces Labor's failed model with a new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework, a balanced approach that reserves diversion for first-time, low-risk offenders while ensuring repeat offenders face meaningful consequences. For minor cannabis offences, first-time eligible offenders can be diverted to education and rehabilitation programs, a great way to turn people around before it becomes too late. I have seen the impact cannabis has had on families: lives changed forever and not for the better. For other drugs, police will have a new discretion to issue penalty infringement notices—fines—backed by the option of completing a diversion program once—not five times, but once. We are also strengthening the laws around utensils and expanding police powers to issue fines for low-level drug tool offences. That sends a clear message: drug use is not tolerated, and the community will no longer carry the cost of endless chances for repeat offenders.

The third key reform in this bill creates designated business and community precincts. This is what my electorate of Pumicestone has been calling for, as have many other residents, business owners and councils in Queensland. We are directly responding to concerns around antisocial behaviour in our local shops, business hubs and community spaces. Our response is strong action through precincts that allow police to act before things go too far. They will be able to issue 24-hour move-on directions, impose longer term banning notices and use handheld scanners without the need for a warrant or senior approval—all targeted at disorderly, threatening or violent behaviour that undermines community safety and local businesses. These powers come with safeguards. People will still be able to access essential services, medical appointments and public transport even if they have been banned, but they will not be allowed to loiter, intimidate or threaten others in these shared spaces. This bill is about restoring confidence and dignity to our public places, giving police practical powers to keep our communities safe and keeping the focus where it belongs: on victims, not offenders.

Queenslanders have seen what happens under Labor. They weakened youth crime laws, closed the Childrens Court to victims, removed breach of bail and made detention a last resort. They refused to acknowledge the youth crime crisis and now they want to wind the clock back even further by weakening our laws and raising the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14. That means that serious offenders, including those guilty of violent assault or robbery, would face no criminal responsibility at all. This side of the House is different. We are putting victims first, restoring consequences for actions and backing policies that not only hold young offenders to account but also give them a real chance to turn their lives around.

Community safety should never be an afterthought; it should be the priority. In 10 years under Labor victims of crime went up by 193 per cent, assaults by 198 per cent and robberies by 101 per cent. That was Labor's legacy: a youth crime crisis they created and will never be able to fix if they refuse to acknowledge that they created this crisis. Labor continues to put offenders ahead of victims. This government is doing the opposite: restoring safety, restoring order and restoring community confidence.

We are not just introducing strong laws; we are backing them with the largest investment in prevention and rehabilitation in Queensland's history: $560 million dedicated to early intervention, crime prevention and youth rehabilitation. This side of the House recognises that we can turn kids around before it is too late. That is why we have rolled out over 50 Kickstarter programs across the state, delivered Regional Reset providers to support at-risk youth and launched Staying on Track, an intensive rehabilitation program now making more than 1,800 visits to youth detention centres. We are doing this because we know that true community safety comes from both tough consequences and the opportunity for young offenders to turn their lives around and get back on the right track.

This bill is about protecting Queenslanders. It is about ensuring that victims are heard and that crime has real consequences. For too long, our communities have lived with fear and frustration—fear of youth crime and frustration with repeat offenders who face no accountability. This government has listened and this government is acting. To Queenslanders in Pumicestone and right across this state—parents, small business owners and community workers—I say that we are standing with them. We are putting the victims first, restoring respect for the law and making Queensland safer. I commend the bill to the House.

Ms HATCHER (Caloundra—LNP) (11.25 am): I rise today to support the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill. This bill is important because it does exactly what Queenslanders voted for. It strengthens the law, backs our police, puts victims first and continues the work of making Queensland safer after a decade of decline. This bill is about one simple principle: serious crime must attract serious consequences. Nowhere is that more important than in relation to Adult Crime, Adult Time.

The Crisafulli government went to the election with a clear commitment to restore safety where Queenslanders live, work and raise their families. We said we would strengthen youth justice laws. We said we would deliver consequences for actions. We said we would stand with victims, and that is exactly what we are doing. This bill builds on the Making Queensland Safer Laws by expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time to cover a further 12 serious offences. These are not minor matters; these are serious, violent and deeply harmful offences that shatter lives, traumatise families and leave victims with consequences that can last forever. That is what Queenslanders expect, it is what victims deserve and it is what this government is delivering.

For too long the system sent exactly the wrong message, and day after day people in my community of Caloundra have been asking the same question over and over again: how did we get here? How did we get to a place where a percentage of kids have absolutely no respect for their community, the police, their schools or their families? For 10 long years Labor weakened the law. They made detention a last resort, abolished breach of bail as an offence and prioritised the rights of offenders over the rights of victims. They closed the Childrens Court to victims and families. They removed consequences, diluted accountability and left communities to live with the consequences. What was the result of this decade of decline? There was a 193 per cent increase in victims of crime, a 101 per cent increase in stolen vehicles, a 44 per cent increase in break-ins and a 198 per cent increase in assaults. That is a record of failure.

This bill provides yet more tools to step in the right direction. It says clearly that we will not wait until more victims suffer before acting. We will not wait until another family is devastated. We will not wait until another person is assaulted, strangled, terrorised or exploited before we say enough is enough. We are acting now because protecting Queenslanders matters. Importantly, these laws are not being introduced in a vacuum. We are already seeing early signs that stronger laws are making a difference. Nobody on this side is pretending the job is done; it is not. There is more work to do. More needs to be done, but these are encouraging signs that Queensland is beginning to turn the tide after Labor's decade of decline.

In fast-growing communities, just like mine of Caloundra, this matters enormously. As at 31 March 2026 the Electoral Commission of Queensland recorded 48,548 enrolled electors in Caloundra, placing the electorate 19.59 per cent above quota. This tells us something important: our community is growing rapidly and with that growth comes greater pressure on infrastructure, services, public spaces and community safety. The broader Caloundra area is growing. ABS regional population data shows that the Caloundra West-Baringa area is one of Queensland's fastest growing areas and in 2024-25 added about 2,000 people in just one year. That growth is a sign of confidence in our region, but it also means our community needs a government that is willing to act early and act decisively to keep people safe. This is why the government's approach matters so much to communities like mine. We are not just strengthening laws on paper; we are also backing those laws with practical investment.

The Crisafulli government has committed $560 million to early intervention, crime prevention and rehabilitation programs which can be described as the largest investment of its kind in Queensland history, and that investment is reaching the Sunshine Coast. In February this year the government announced a Regional Reset program for the Sunshine Coast to be delivered from Doonan, providing intensive support for at-risk young people aged eight to 17, including a short-stay reset, family counselling, mentoring, education and life skills support. This matters because on this side of the House we believe in consequences for serious offending, but we also believe in stopping this happening in the first place and young people going down that path. Strong laws and early intervention are not contradictions; they are in fact complementary. The Crisafulli government understands that you can

care about prevention, rehabilitation and intervention while still being absolutely uncompromising about accountability. In fact, you must be, because if the law does not send a clear signal about right and wrong then the community pays the price, victims pay the price, businesses pay the price, frontline workers pay the price, families pay the price—and, as we know from local evidence, that price has been paid on the Sunshine Coast.

The Sunshine Coast Council Mayor, Rosanna Natoli, said that the community deserves to feel safe and that council staff, contractors and volunteers have experienced a marked increase in aggressive and violent behaviour. This is an extraordinary indictment of how things were allowed to deteriorate. It is also a reminder of why stronger laws and stronger police powers are necessary. It matters in Caloundra because we have experienced antisocial behaviour in our CBD, our parks and close to our aerodrome. I sat at a meeting with our local police, chamber of commerce, local councillor and business representatives. Every single person around that table had empathy for mental health challenges and addiction, but at what cost to the very real-life business owners who were experiencing an individual defecating on their retail store steps? We do not want that in Caloundra's CBD where people and families are holidaying, browsing and living their lives.

That is why the designated business and community precinct measures in this bill are critically important. These provisions give police stronger tools to respond to disorderly, threatening and violent behaviour in key community areas like the Caloundra CBD. They allow move-on directions of up to 24 hours, police banning notices and more flexible use of handheld scanners—practical powers for real world solutions. For Caloundra this matters. It matters because ours is a proud, growing coastal community. It matters because families there want safe streets, safe shopping centres and safe public spaces. It matters because local businesses deserve to be able to trade. I commend this bill to the House.

Mr VORSTER (Burleigh—LNP) (11.31 am): It gives me great pleasure to rise in this House as a member of the government and lend my support to the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill. It is a bill that is of critical importance to my community of Burleigh for two reasons. The first is that it will deliver material benefits to my community, restoring safety not only where locals live but also where so many other Gold Coasters and Queenslanders come to visit and enjoy. It is also an important step to restoring faith with Queenslanders that there is a government capable of fighting for the right priorities and ensuring the fundamental principle of safety is a function of government and not something to be swept under the rug as an inconvenience or rolled out from time to time in a press doorstop to convince or confuse an electorate into thinking that the government was somehow interested. That is what we saw for a decade under those opposite, who stood up time and time again and held round table after round table but never took this issue seriously. It was always performance by those opposite and never delivery.

As a consequence, communities right across Queensland felt acute pain as their business districts—their commercial villages—were put under siege by troublemakers and youth criminals, and the heartbreak was also felt right across the cul-de-sacs, the parks, the streets and the residential neighbourhoods that Queenslanders call home. Restoring confidence in the capacity of government to deliver safety is a priority of this government and it is not something that we believe can be done in a moment, because it is our job now to undo a decade of decline. Every time we walk into this chamber we will take another step towards restoring safety. The job to restore safety must be constant because the threats to that safety are driven by cultural and structural troubles that have taken root after a decade of decline by those opposite. However, the good news for my electorate is that we do have a government focused on that work.

I want to take this moment to acknowledge the contribution of the police minister, the Attorney-General and the youth justice minister who are functioning as a very potent triumvirate focused on healing this issue and focused on healing Queensland's safety struggles but also working together to develop a suite of policies to deter troublemakers and those on the precipice of becoming troublemakers to, for the first time, make better choices—deterring behaviour before it occurs so that lives are saved and that there are fewer victims. I want to thank the police minister, the youth justice minister and the Attorney-General for delivering some initiatives in my community, including the Late Night Support Service which has seen a dramatic reduction in the number of liquor-involved incidents in the Burleigh commercial precinct, keeping young people safe and ensuring young people have a way to get home safely.

I want to thank the police minister for having delivered the Burleigh police beat—something originally promised by the former Bligh government but never delivered. That again shows that those opposite will make promises but will not deliver, and now we have a government and a police minister

who inside 12 months cut the ribbon on a police beat that is making an incredible difference particularly in terms of addressing perceptions and safety issues that have put the Burleigh CBD village economy at risk.

We have reversed Labor's cut to local police numbers and we have delivered half a million dollars of additional CCTV for Burleigh. Again, CCTV will be a powerful deterrent to troublemakers. Of course, we have already introduced Adult Crime, Adult Time mark I and mark II, Jack's Law and the first public child sex offender register. We have done all of this but, as I mentioned, we walk into this room determined to do even more, which is why I wholly support this bill and in particular I support those provisions which will now allow the government, working together with local governments, to declare certain precincts as off limits to troublemakers—off limits to those terrorising shopkeepers, terrorising their workers and dissuading customers from supporting small and family businesses.

In my community of Burleigh people are sick and tired of drug affected louts terrorising them. I am sick of it. I am reminded of conversations that I have had with Peter Crawford, for example—a Burleigh local—who has had to wrestle a knife out of the hands of a drug-addled lout in James Street. He has had to wrestle a knife out of the hands of a drug-addled lout in the middle of our CBD. That is unacceptable, but it is acceptable to those opposite to put that poor, wretched soul on a path to a destructive drug addiction by allowing him to walk the streets with little or no consequence. We say no. We say that there must be consequences for action, there must be a deterrent and we must give our police the powers to push out from our precious community and business precincts those terrorising hardworking, good Queenslanders who obey the letter of the law. I will—and this is advance notice to the police minister—continue to knock on the police minister's door and continue to knock on the door of my local councillors to ensure we declare Burleigh one of these precincts so that we can push out the troublemakers, restore confidence, restore calm, clean up our streets and ensure that this precious cultural treasure—the area of Burleigh—is open to all.

In concluding, I reflect on all of the progress we are making as a government—and it is good progress. It must endure. We on this side of the House must commit ourselves to ensuring electoral success in 2028, because we know from the binding party policy platform of those opposite that they will undo all of these measures. They will raise the age of criminal responsibility, they will do away with minimum consequences for action and we will see a return to the bad old days—more broken lives, more victims. That is absolutely something we must not tolerate.

I want to thank my local councillors, in particular Josh Martin and Nick Marshall, for their work in lobbying together with me for a clean-up of the illegal encampments in our dunes, in Burleigh Town Village, along Christine Avenue and under Tallebudgera Creek Beach. They are fierce advocates for more council resources to deal with those local law issues. They are working with me to support these laws and I thank them for it. I also want to thank my local councillor, Dan Doran, with whom I will be hosting a community safety forum in Varsity Lakes. I mention Varsity Lakes because the issues to do with youth crime and with drug abuse are not confined to our commercial precincts; they happen in every corner of our electorates. To Josh, Nick and Dan: thank you so much for your work and thank you for supporting these laws.

I thank our Minister for Police, our Minister for Youth Justice and our Attorney-General for putting together a package of reforms that will restore safety where we live. I thank our Premier, who led this policy during the election campaign and earned the mandate for delivery. I trust that we will be in a position to ensure we do even more, because the job is not done.

Mr HUTTON (Keppel—LNP) (11.41 am): Making Queensland safer and safety where you live: those were things we went to the election calling for on behalf of Queenslanders—Queenslanders who had had enough, Queenslanders who had seen a 193 per cent increase in the number of victims of crime. These are victims like Brad from Yeppoon, who, while he was getting up and sorted for the day, walked out his front door to find that while his daughter was in the shower there had been young blokes through his house who had stolen their keys and taken their cars. They are victims like Kara, who woke up in the middle of the night to find young hooligans sitting on her carport roof who demanded with a knife in hand that she open the house up and give them the keys and said they would then leave her alone. They are victims like Denise, who said that she was lucky because she had multiple times seen people on her security cameras around her home but they had not found an open door so they never got in. These Central Queenslanders—these people from my community—asked for safety because their homes were no longer places where they felt secure. That is why this Crisafulli government brought in Adult Crime, Adult Time.

When we introduced the second tranche of Adult Crime, Adult Time I spoke about the small and family businesses that provide first jobs to so many young people in our community and that sponsor every little rugby league group. Every time a team needs some new jerseys or every time a kid has been chosen to represent our community at a state, national or even international level, they are the ones who reach into their pockets and say, 'Yes, we will give you a raffle prize. We will give you some support,' yet those businesses are being targeted. They are people like Ross, who was losing over $1,000 a week in stock, and Caitlin, who, because of the business losses she was taking, was having to raise the prices of the products in her store—not because of inflation but because of crime. The reality is that these people carried a heavy burden. They felt that they could not control what was happening inside their shops. They felt powerless but, more than that, they felt guilty because they were sharing that cost with every consumer who came to their business. That is not what they wanted to do. They wanted to look after their community and that is exactly what this Crisafulli government has done.

Today I want to speak about the generation of untouchables for whom this tranche of legislation is designed to help turn the tide. This is a generation of untouchables who were failed by a decade of decline—a generation of young people in our communities who were failed by a series of youth justice ministers, who were failed by a series of government policies that affirmed that bandaid solutions were the way that we fix things, not healing the crisis. Driven by ideology, what we saw over that decade was a government that kept digging deeper and deeper. The hole was getting deeper and there was more crime—the results spoke for themselves—but, because they were blinded by ideology, they could not see that it was not working. They could not see that in my community in Keppel more people were victims of crime. Even when they heard from people in my community, they just stopped listening. They were conditioning these young kids. They were conditioning these young kids to believe that their actions and the way they were living their lives were okay, that the circumstances in which they found themselves was okay and that there would always be another bandaid.

I am the first generation in my family to have ever gone to university. I aspire not only for my kids to have a brighter future but for all of the kids who were in my care as a teacher to believe that, no matter their circumstances or where they start life, they can be brilliant and do brilliant things. To do that, our community needs to have aspiration for them. Our community needs to believe that they can be better, do amazing things and go to brilliant places, yet the former government would put a bandaid on the problem and say, 'No, it is okay,' not 'Hey, let's give you a hand up. Let's help you to strive for further.'

A wise nurse once said, ' Bandaids do not heal; all that bandaids do is fester.' The gall of the Brisbane ALP political elite! Week after week they come into this chamber and speak about hooligans, speak in their adjournment speeches about crime and safety and call on the government to act because they are now hearing the voices of their community, yet when given the chance today to vote to ensure the next tranche of Adult Crime, Adult Time is implemented I am just not sure they are going to take it. I am not sure they are going to listen to the voices of the community. In fact, I can almost guarantee they are going to ignore the voices of Queenslanders. They are going to ignore the people who have been speaking in their communities because they still believe that they know better. They still believe their ideology that for a decade dug a hole deeper and deeper. Regardless of the fact that it cost them an election, regardless of the fact that Queenslanders spoke overwhelmingly for change, they still cannot accept that they are not right. I say to the opposition: you have been so busy putting bandaids on Queensland's problems that you have forgotten the job of government. You have forgotten that our job here in this place is to heal those wounds.

For the people of Keppel, for the victims, for the small businesses and for the young people in our community whom I aspire to have brilliant lives and believe that they can do anything, I support this legislation and I ask the whole House to do the same.

Hon. DG PURDIE (Ninderry—LNP) (Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (11.48 am): This bill builds on the work of the Crisafulli government. It is about protecting Queenslanders and restoring safety where you live and work. It also restores common sense to Queensland drug laws. In 2023, Labor introduced legislation that allowed repeat possession of dangerous drugs without accountability. At the time I addressed the chamber and warned that in years to come we would be looking back on the date when the government basically raised the white flag in the war on drugs in this state, and here we are. Since the introduction of Labor's watered down drug diversion program, in May 2024 total drug offences increased by more than 11,000—a whopping seven times the previous year. Trafficking offences also increased by 9.2 per cent, possession went up 12.9 per cent and other drug offences jumped by 26 per cent.

For nearly 30 years I was privileged to serve as a police officer. I was honoured to work in the state drug squad. I was also honoured to work for years at the Australian Crime Commission where we targeted nationally significant, major and organised crime drug trafficking networks. I also worked on the front line and in child abuse. During that time I witnessed firsthand the devastating impact illicit drugs have on children, families and the broader community. In the nineties I worked on the front line: picking up young people who had fatally overdosed on dangerous drugs like heroin, delivering death messages to their parents, watching their lives change forever; I removed vulnerable children from homes where parents were incapable of caring for them due to illicit drug use; and I arrested organised crime figures and bikies living in luxury funded by the misery they inflicted on everyday Queenslanders. Frontline officers know drugs fuel crime.

Those opposite have quoted people who supported the legislation before they introduced it, but I wonder what they would say now with drug offences rising 16.8 per cent in just 12 months under Labor's program. Serving frontline police officers know it is not working. I have spoken with hundreds of them. They tell me they feel frustrated, disillusioned and disempowered, forced to give multiple warnings and diversions to known offenders.

In her contribution the member for Gaven suggested police will waste time on low-level possession rather than serious crime. I would like to inform the member for Gaven that it does not get more serious than child deaths, murders, home invasions and violent robberies, all of which are driven by drug use. If the member for Gaven does not want to take my advice on that, I ask her to turn to the member for Bulimba, one of the architects of Labor's youth crime crisis, who said 100 per cent of the 28 young criminals who had been declared serious repeat offenders by the courts were recorded as having used a substance. What did the Labor government do about it? They made hard drugs cheaper by decriminalising drug taking. Professor Terry Goldsworthy said in yesterday's *Courier-Mail*—

> When Labor decriminalised possession of heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine in 2024, organised crime treated it as an open-for-business sign.

The member for Woodridge stated that the repeal of the drug diversion program will reduce the capacity of police to pursue the real criminals when it comes to drugs in our state: the producers and suppliers of illicit drugs. I understand the former treasurer does not understand the concept of supply and demand, but the reality is Labor's weak drug laws have allowed producers and suppliers to prosper, with trafficking up 9.2 per cent. It does not take a genius to work out that drugs destroy individuals and tear families and communities apart.

Last week the member for Nudgee gave evidence to the Child Safety Commission of Inquiry, admitting that under Labor there was an ice epidemic gripping the state which led to an explosion in the number of children entering care. What did the Labor government do? They watered down drug laws. Our bill repeals Labor's three-strikes policy. We are delivering a new framework that prioritises community safety while ensuring first-time, low-risk offenders have access to the health-based intervention they need.

This bill will also introduce designated business and community precincts in areas where there is a need to reduce antisocial behaviour and prevent disruption of businesses. These areas are the commercial heart of our regional towns, the homes to small, often family-run, businesses that communities rely on. These are the bakeries, the hairdressers, the chemists, the newsagents and the grocery stores that are essential to the survival and prosperity of these areas and they are under siege after a decade of decline under Labor. Our reforms will give practical tools to act early, remove those who engage in threatening and violent behaviour and restore safety to these communities. These new measures are consistent with our tough-on-crime approach and will make Queensland safer. The only question is whether those opposite will support the laws that create safer communities or will they continue to defend their failed policies that created this crisis. I commend the bill to the House.

Hon. A LEAHY (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (11.53 am): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill. The reason we are here debating this bill is a result of what happened under Labor's decade of decline when they watered down the youth justice laws and the drug laws in this state. In 2015 the then Labor attorney-general introduced into this House the Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015. Let us hear what some of the objectives of that Labor bill were: to remove breach of bail as an offence for children; to reinstate the principle that a detention order should be imposed only as a last resort and for the shortest appropriate period when sentencing a child; and, let us also not forget, to

reinstate into the Penalties and Sentences Act the principle that imprisonment is a sentence of last resort and a sentence that allows the offender to stay in the community is preferable. That is what Labor did back in 2015.

If you could date stamp where the youth crime crisis started under Labor it would be here. This is the moment when Labor began to water down the youth justice laws, and they continued to water down the drug laws in Queensland. Labor's decade of decline saw youth crime and victim numbers spiralling out of control. The Crisafulli government is cleaning up Labor's mess. We said prior to the election that we would introduce Adult Crime, Adult Time and we are doing what we said we would do. These reforms restore safety to where you live, ensure that there are consequences for actions and give police stronger laws and better tools to help reduce the number of victims after Labor's decade of decline.

This bill strengthens community safety in three strong and decisive ways. Firstly, it strengthens our tough Adult Crime, Adult Time laws; secondly, it scraps Labor's failed three-strikes, soft-on-drugs policy; and, thirdly, it recognises the impacts of antisocial behaviour and promotes community safety by creating new designated business and community precincts. This gives our police the laws and resources they need to restore safety to our shopping centres, our community hubs and our business districts. I have met with local governments that are eagerly awaiting this reform. In Mackay and in Moreton Bay, for example, they are struggling with antisocial behaviour. They are looking forward to seeing this reform as it will help them keep the amenity of their communities and their business districts. This bill is about making communities across the state safer because Queenslanders deserve to be safe. They expect that if a crime is committed the offender will be held to account and there will be consequences for the offender's actions.

We will continue to remind Queenslanders that while we in the LNP strengthen youth crime laws, Labor just weakens them, just like they did in 2015. What will those members opposite do now? How will they vote on these laws? Will they continue to be weak on crime and continue to be held hostage by the radicals in their party? Will they abide by the Labor policy manifesto that details their plans to raise the age of criminal responsibility? Will Labor vote to support this Adult Crime, Adult Time bill or will they continue to be weak on crime?

Hon. ST O'CONNOR (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (11.57 am): I rise to support this legislation. I want to focus my contribution on the antisocial behaviour aspects of this bill because at its core this bill is about restoring safety in the places that Queenslanders use every day: our local shops and dining precincts, our transport hubs, our community spaces. These are places where families should feel safe, where small businesses should be able to operate with confidence and where people should not have to navigate antisocial behaviour when going about their day.

The evidence is clear and so is the community feedback. I want to thank some locals I have met from my community over the last couple of weeks: Antoinette, a stalwart of our Chirn Park community, who raised the appalling things businesses and locals are putting up with; and a group of locals in Labrador who are experiencing horrific things on the foreshore, particularly around Harley Park. As outlined through the committee process, antisocial behaviour in business districts and community precincts has been rising. It has been impacting safety and it has been impacting our local economies for too long.

For too long the system has not been responding quickly. This bill is about fixing that. It provides a clear framework for designated business and community precincts. It gives police the tools they need to act early and proportionately. It ensures that there are real consequences for persistent antisocial behaviour. This is ultimately about balance: balance between maintaining access to public spaces and ensuring those spaces are safe for everyone; balance between early intervention and enforcement; and balance between individual responsibility and the expectations of our broader community.

Right now, too many Queenslanders do not feel safe in those spaces and that has real impacts. Businesses are closing early. Workers are feeling unsafe. Families are avoiding areas they once enjoyed. That is not acceptable to us. This bill is about restoring safety. It is about backing our frontline services. It is about ensuring public spaces remain spaces for the public.

From a housing and homelessness perspective, we know that the answer to visible disadvantage in our communities is not to ignore it. It is certainly not to criminalise it. Again, this bill is not about homelessness; it is about antisocial behaviour and it is about a proportionate and reasonable framework to take action. Our job is to respond and to engage with those in need, and that is exactly what we are doing.

Through our Housing Outreach and Mobile Engagement teams and through our incredible specialist homelessness services, we are using a co-responder model. We are working alongside health through the Homeless Health Outreach team, along with police and local councils to regularly visit precincts where people are gathering and where communities are feeling the impact. Since November 2024 our Housing Outreach and Mobile Engagement team has helped 1,828 people to get off the streets and out of parks and into stable long-term accommodation. I want to commend our teams, led by Matt Nye, our deputy director-general, and Kirby Cook, in particular, for the outstanding work they do in leading our outreach.

We are not leading with enforcement first but with engagement and support to create pathways to housing through the help that is available. Our approach is about meeting people where they are, connecting them to housing, connecting them to services and helping them move towards a safe place to live. At the same time, local councils will continue to manage and maintain public spaces, ensuring they remain safe and accessible for everyone. This is a coordinated response. It is a place-based and practical response. It recognises that antisocial behaviour and homelessness are very different things. It ensures we respond appropriately to both of those issues with support where it is needed and consequences where they are warranted. This is what a modern responsive system looks like and it is what Queensland communities such as mine have been calling out for for a long time. I commend the 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) (12.02 pm): The Crisafulli government is committed to making Queensland safer for all and to driving down the number of victims. It has been a core focus to ensure we have a fair justice system where victims not only have their rights elevated but also are able to live in such a way that there is a greater opportunity for them to avoid the impacts of crime. During Labor's time in office there was an incredible 193 per cent increase in the number of victims of crime. Under our time in government there has been a 7.2 per cent fall in the number of victims. However, we also say that there is more work to be done because, after a decade of Labor, the impact across our communities has been significant. That is why we are doing what we said we would do by strengthening laws, ensuring there is more early intervention, the police are resourced and the number of police on the beat is increased. We will ensure that work continues.

I want to talk about diversion services. My colleague the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support has headed an extensive program with the largest investment ever in early intervention programs. We recognise the need for tougher laws where adult crime equals adult time. This is about strengthening those laws even further, as we promised we would continue to do. It is also about working hand in hand with early intervention and diversion services, and we have invested $560 million in those programs.

This legislation scraps Labor's failed three-strikes, soft-on-drugs policy. Once again, in accordance with what we said we would do, it restores consequences for actions by introducing a new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework. In addition, the legislation recognises the impacts of antisocial behaviour and promotes community safety by creating new designated business and community precincts, giving our police the laws and resources they need to restore safety to our shopping centres, community hubs and business districts.

Understandably, there needs to be an awareness that there is a disproportionate number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the justice system. What does not get talked about enough is that those people are also disproportionately victims of crime. In fact, the rate of impact of crime upon our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders is far higher than on the average Queenslander who comes from a different cultural background. These laws are very much focused on driving down the number of victims across all Queensland communities and ensuring there is more access to the appropriate diversion and intervention programs. There will also be appropriate diversion and intervention programs particularly for children who come from those communities and that background. That is entirely appropriate. We are funding it, we are doing it and we are working in partnership with local communities.

The bill repeals Labor's failed drug diversion program and, as I outlined, introduces a new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework. Once again, we are talking about getting the balance right and ensuring that there is appropriate diversion. No-one can say that what Labor has done has worked because we have seen a ridiculous situation where, under Labor, offenders could be found to be in possession of illicit drugs on up to five occasions before they faced any kind of penalty or punishment.

We see the impact of illicit drugs across our communities. We see it not only in the justice system but also in the child safety system where children are paying some of the biggest prices with regard to those failures.

I want to talk about my own community of the Sunshine Coast. We are delighted to see more police on the beat, tougher laws and early intervention programs so that people have a fighting chance to thrive and have a better future than they had under Labor's failed justice system. We are restoring safety where people live with stronger laws, better early intervention and a commitment to making Queensland safer.

Hon. SJ MINNIKIN (Chatsworth—LNP) (Minister for Customer Services and Open Data and Minister for Small and Family Business) (12.07 pm): Sometimes in life you can say, 'I was there when it happened.' Just over 18 months ago in this chamber, when I sat on the other side, I remember a member, who sat around here, said words that literally, the moment they were said, changed the dial in modern Queensland politics. Those words were uttered by the former member for Capalaba. He referred to youth crime as simply a 'media beat-up'. Let me be frank: when we went to the election in late October 2024, in my opinion that was pretty much wholly and solely a referendum question as to whether those words uttered by the former member for Capalaba were in accord with the way Queenslanders were thinking. We know from history that he must have been wrong because he is no longer the member and we now have a much improved new member for Capalaba.

I highlight that simply because you would think that, after getting a drubbing just over 18 months ago in the 2024 state election, those opposite would have paused and said, 'You know what? We got some things wrong.' A good opposition would recalibrate and say, 'You know what? There are some things that we vehemently and ideologically disagree with the new government on, but there are some things that we need to at least improve on and that give pause for thought.' From listening to the contributions of those opposite over the past days in relation to the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill, they have learnt little. In fact, I will rephrase that: many of them have learnt simply nothing. It is for that reason that I am very proud to support the bill that the minister has brought before the House.

In my brief contribution, I want to focus particularly on something I am very passionate about and dear to my heart—small and family business. We have over half a million throughout the state. It has been well amplified that I managed large shopping centres in the past, but I have also, in my own private company, managed strip centres as well under the Retail Shop Leases Act. The fact of the matter is this: a pizza operator from Mansfield who was broken into five, six, seven times in two years under the weakened laws of those opposite could not obtain plate glass insurance and he literally had to leave the industry. It caused such misery to couples and individuals who were trying to make a quid in the small and family business sector.

I have to say I am flummoxed. I do not know why many opposite do not come to grips with what they have done to the fabric of Queensland society. I will tell you the probable reason. I have made it in the past. I make it my business to always read every new Labor member's inaugural speech a couple of times. It is important to me. I take a couple of mental notes, 'I tell you what, that is a bit of a strength. That is a bit of a weakness.' Here is the nub of it: many of those opposite do not have real flesh in the game economically when it comes to their own private property as it pertains to small and family business. They do not know the anguish and the pain that those in the private sector go through.

The member for Springwood last night in his contribution said, 'This is about ideology.' There are very few things I agree with the member for Springwood on, but you know what? On that occasion he was dead right. This is very much a line-in-the-sand debate, and I would invite anyone to go back and read in *Hansard* the contributions from this side of the chamber compared to that side of the chamber because this is where ideology really comes to the fore. I dismiss it when people say, 'Oh, there is not much difference between both sides.' That is absolute nonsense. There is an absolute huge difference in the way that we are wired and structured, and it is really coming to the fore in this bill.

Time will escape me—I could speak on this for a lot longer—but I will say this: I congratulate the fact that the minister has made it very clear. The member for McConnel made an absurd inference in her contribution last night when she said, 'Ah, they're coming back again.' We said there would be future tranches. This is the third tranche. We will continue to take the pulse of the people of Queensland because, unlike those opposite, we do not take our riding instructions from the CFMEU; we take our riding instructions from the people we represent. I have to say particularly to some of the new members who have joined this parliament that their contributions thus far have been some of the best contributions made because they have spoken from the heart as well as the head. I support this bill.

Hon. RM BATES (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training) (12.11 pm): The Crisafulli LNP government is doing what we said we would do—delivering for Queensland—including restoring safety to our communities. As we work to fix Labor's youth crime crisis following their decade of decline, this bill is yet another step to delivering on that key election commitment—making Queenslanders safer. Make no mistake, it is no easy task. Labor weakened Queensland's youth justice laws and oversaw a 193 per cent increase in victims of crime, a 101 per cent increase in the number of stolen vehicles, a 44 per cent increase in the number of break-ins, a 198 per cent increase in assaults, a 101 per cent increase in the number of robberies, an 82 per cent increase in the number of armed robberies and a 29 per cent increase in the number of arsons.

There is much to do, but the Crisafulli LNP government is up to the task and we are getting on with the job. We are seeing encouraging early signs. Victim numbers have already fallen by 7.2 per cent, but we know there is much more to do. This bill is part of those next steps.

This bill tackles three key areas: it strengthens our tough Adult Crime, Adult Time laws with 12 additional serious offences to attract penalties that meet community expectations; it scraps Labor's failed three-strikes, soft-on-drugs policy and restores consequences for actions with our new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework; and it seeks to address antisocial behaviour and promote community safety through new designated business and community precincts. In short, this bill is about protecting Queenslanders and ensuring there are fewer victims of crime. As Natalie Merlehan, Director and victim-survivor from the Voice for Victims Foundation, noted—

> From a victim perspective, success is measured by fewer people experiencing harm. What victims consistently tell us is simple: they do not want anyone else to go through what they did.

Those opposite have a choice this week: will they finally side with Queenslanders and victims of crime and vote for our strong, sensible youth justice reforms, or will they continue to back criminals and repeat youth offenders by voting against strengthening Adult Crime, Adult Time in Queensland? We know what Queenslanders want to see; they voted for it in October 2024. Now the question remains: what will Labor vote for?

Labor have consistently put the rights of criminals ahead of the rights of victims in this place. Labor made detention a last resort. Labor removed breach of bail as an offence. Even now in opposition, Labor still are not listening to Queenslanders who want to see young criminals accountable for their actions. Labor have learnt nothing. Labor have not changed. Their heart just is not in it because, if they are honest, they philosophically do not support strong youth crime laws and consequences for action. Labor's state policy platform for 2025, their significant policy document, seeks to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 years to 14 years. Every sign so far points to a Labor opposition under the member for Murrumba that still is not siding with Queenslanders, and they should be ashamed.

In concluding my contribution, I wish to acknowledge the hardworking men and women of my local Mudgeeraba, Robina and Nerang police stations and the significant work they do to keep our communities safe. Just the other evening I heard the unmistakable sounds of cars hooning around Reedy Creek, a situation our local cops were quickly on top of. We know our local officers work tirelessly to serve our community, and the Crisafulli LNP government is equipping them with both the laws and the physical tools to do that important work.

In stark contrast, under the former Labor government, our police were let down, just like Queensland's victims of crime. Under Labor, we saw police officers leaving the service in droves, disillusioned by the catch-and-release system created by Labor's weak youth justice laws. Under the Crisafulli LNP government, our police officers have both the laws and the support needed to tackle Labor's youth crime crisis.

The work to clean up the mess left behind following Labor's decade of decline is far from over. This legislation is only the latest in our plan to combat Labor's youth crime crisis. The Crisafulli LNP government will continue to relentlessly pursue reforms to deliver the plan we promised Queenslanders—to restore safety where people live and to ensure the rights of Queensland victims of crime are always put before the rights of criminals.

Hon. BA MICKELBERG (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (12.16 pm): I rise to address the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill, an important bill that goes to delivering on our election commitment of making Queensland safer—a bill that is all about ensuring there are fewer victims of crime. I want to acknowledge the work of both the committee, led by the member for Nicklin, and the minister responsible as they have delivered the next tranche of improvements to address what has been a longstanding issue here in Queensland.

I will get to Labor's record in time, but let's talk to the bill a little bit first. With Adult Crime, Adult Time, what we are seeing is a progressive improvement—a reduction in the number of victims. Is there more work to be done? Absolutely. Are we stemming the tide of increased offending—Labor's record of a 193 per cent increase? Under our government, victim numbers have fallen by 7.2 per cent. It is not good enough, there are still too many victims, but we are reversing the tide, which has taken a considerable amount of effort and work after a decade of Labor failure.

Those opposite come in here and play cute political games, trying to find a reason to vote against this bill. Let's be frank, what we saw on Tuesday was exactly that. Labor cannot bring themselves to support this bill because they do not believe in it. Their heart is genuinely not in siding with victims over criminals.

I have not been in this parliament that long, but in the short time I have been in this parliament I have seen it time and again. I have seen former Labor ministers proudly removing detention as a last resort. I have seen members—and the member for Chatsworth just spoke about some of them—suggesting that youth crime was a media beat-up. Thankfully the community passed judgement on the former government and those members, and now Queensland has a government that is genuinely focused on addressing the scourge of youth crime and antisocial behaviour. I will turn to those provisions as they relate to this bill in a minute.

On Adult Crime, Adult Time, this bill brings in an additional 12 serious offences. While in some cases they are not particularly common, they are still serious offences. Individuals who perpetuate offences against a person, who deliberately target an individual, should be held to account for their offending in a way that is reflective of community expectation. That is what our Adult Crime, Adult Time approach seeks to do. It seeks to provide the courts with a mechanism to be able to impose sentences that are reflective of community expectations.

As a local member, I think it is incumbent upon all of us in our society to listen to the voices of our community, including the judiciary. I suggest that some of the rulings we have seen over recent years have not been reflective of community expectation; hence, our government will continue to address the shortfalls in the legislative framework as they relate to youth crime which were established by the then Labor government.

Secondly, this bill scraps Labor's failed three-strikes, soft-on-drugs policy and restores consequences for actions. When that legislation was introduced in this House, I spoke against it and I spoke about the consequences. I spoke about the fact that it would make it harder for nurses and doctors working in EDs to do their jobs. I spoke about the fact that it would result in greater social harm, disorder and offending against persons, and that is exactly what we have seen as a consequence of Labor's soft-on-drugs approach. The new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework provides a mechanism for an individual to seek help, should it be for personal use of a minor drug and in the event that it is not their 15th offence, they are not selling it to multiple other parties and they are not an individual who consistently offends and puts our community at risk.

Before I stop, I want to address the issue of antisocial behaviour on the Sunshine Coast. I call out the member for Nicklin's advocacy, particularly in Nambour, but this is an issue that has affected multiple areas across this state. I am pleased to see our government tackling this important issue. I commend the bill to the House.

Hon. AC POWELL (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation) (12.21 pm): I want to make a very short contribution to the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026. I acknowledge the fine contributions of all of the members on this side of the chamber to this bill. It is very clear: we went to the election with a commitment to drive down the number of victims in this state, particularly those who are victims of youth crime. We put forward Adult Crime, Adult Time. We said we would do it in stages. We are continuing that work. We are starting to see improvements, but there is still a long way to go and we will keep making those changes, as necessary.

I also support the elements of the bill that relate to the illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework. I too agree that permitting individuals to avoid criminal prosecution for drug possession on up to three occasions risks conveying the message that illicit drug use is tolerable whilst simultaneously weakening the deterrent effect of these criminal offences.

Finally, I also want to associate myself with the comments made by others, including the member for Nicklin, in terms of addressing problem antisocial behaviour, particularly around our business districts. For him, it is Nambour. For me, it is Beerwah. We need to continue to look at ways that we can—

Mrs Gerber interjected.

Mr POWELL: Exactly. I take the interjection from the minister, the member for Currumbin. This bill gives the police the powers to start taking action in that respect. With that contribution, I commend the bill to the House.

Mr BOOTHMAN (Theodore—LNP) (12.23 pm): In the remaining few minutes, I would like to congratulate the minister for the exceptional work that she and her office have done to put forward this bill today and also the committee for their work. This is a tranche of legislation that fulfils a commitment we gave to the people of Queensland at the last state election that enough is enough.

When it comes to this, we are seeing green shoots, which is certainly welcomed by the communities, but obviously there is a long way to go and more legislation will be needed going forward. Having said that, we are giving it a red-hot go, because that is what the people of Queensland asked for. They have demanded that there needs to be change in Queensland. We need to make our business areas safer. We need to ensure drug use is minimised. We need to get tough on these things.

Other places around the world, like San Francisco, which went very liberal on their drug use policies, are now saying that they have gone too far and it has caused major issues there. We also need to take note that these liberalised policies do not work. Drugs are banned for a reason: they are bad for people, they kill people and they create illegal activities through organised crime. That is why it is so important for us to consider this.

I say to the minister: thank you for bringing in these legislative changes because this is what Queenslanders need and want. We want to get tough on crime. We have had enough of crime running our streets and causing issues for our hardworking families. It is critically important that we as a state get tough on crime. Minister, thank you for bringing these legislative changes in. They are critically important.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kempton): Under the provisions of the order agreed to by the House, I call the minister to reply to the second reading debate.

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (12.25 pm), in reply: The Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026 is another step towards making Queensland safer, and I thank all members for their contribution to the debate. I would also like to reiterate my sincere appreciation to all of the stakeholders, organisations, witnesses and, in particular, victims who took the time to make a submission or appear before the committee. Their contribution was invaluable, and I know that for some of them it was quite difficult. I thank them for having the courage to tell their story and appear before the committee.

The Crisafulli government is resolutely and unapologetically on the side of victims. Victims are at the heart of everything we do, and we are committed to putting the rights of victims first. We are committed to delivering stronger laws that put community safety first after a decade of decline under the former Labor government. We promised Queenslanders that the first tranche of Adult Crime, Adult Time would be law before Christmas, and that is exactly what we delivered. We said we would continue to strengthen our laws, and that is exactly what we are doing. We will continue to come back into this House time and again to make Queensland safer.

This bill continues to build on our tough Adult Crime, Adult Time laws, expanding the scope by a further 12 serious offences and ensuring there are appropriate consequences for serious crime. This bill scraps Labor's failed three-strikes drugs policy. It restores consequences for actions by introducing a new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework.

This bill recognises the impact of antisocial behaviour on communities. It promotes community safety through new designated business and community precincts and backing our police by giving them the laws and resources they need to restore safety to our shopping centres, community hubs and business districts. This is what Queenslanders asked us to do. This is what Queenslanders voted for. It is why we are delivering these laws after a decade of decline under Labor.

After listening to those opposite throughout this debate, one thing could not be more clear: Labor do not support victims of crime. Not one member—

Ms Grace: That's rubbish. Table the legal advice.

Mrs GERBER: I can hear the member for McConnel interjecting. She is happy to run a running commentary in here now, but she will not go out to the media and explain herself. Not one member of the Labor opposition who stood in this House spoke about any of the victims of crime who made a submission to the committee. They did not mention or share in the debate one of their stories—not one. What more could we expect from those opposite, who spent a decade weakening our laws?

Their decisions had real-world consequences: courts were constrained, consequences for actions were missing and victims and their families were left unseen and unprotected. Queenslanders called for change, year on year. Under the former Labor government victim numbers continued to rise, but Labor have learned nothing and have not changed. In fact, the member for Woodridge, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, took a page out of the Leader of the Opposition's book and did not even say the word 'victim' once in his contribution to this debate. The member for Woodridge should know that if he is hoping to stay in his job when the member for Murrumba fails he should probably not mimic him by failing to speak about the victims left traumatised by repeat youth offending under his former Labor government. What is more, when the member for Woodridge rose to oppose this bill he said that he wanted to be super clear that this bill has nothing to do with fighting crime. With views like that, is it any wonder that those opposite created a generation of hardcore serious repeat offenders?

It is all about victims and making Queensland safer. It is about Queenslanders who have suffered harm, who are living with trauma and who deserve a justice system that stands with them. That is in stark contrast to Labor members on the other side of the chamber. The Crisafulli government stands on the side of victims, while those opposite look for any excuse not to support our strong laws and not to stand on the side of victims. What is more, Labor is so out of touch with Queenslanders that they believe coming back with strong youth crime laws is a bad thing. The member for McConnel mentioned this was the third time we are debating this legislation. Yes, it sure is! We are back strengthening our laws.

Mrs Frecklington: And we'll do it again.

Mrs GERBER: I take the interjection from the Attorney-General: and we will do it again! We will keep coming back into this House with strong laws to deal with the youth crime crisis that Labor left us. After a decade of Labor coming back into this chamber to weaken our laws, Queenslanders now have a government that will come back and back and back to deliver stronger laws. The alternative is more of Labor's failed policies—the same policies that created a youth crime crisis, that drove up the number of serious repeat offenders by 64 per cent and that saw a 193 per cent increase in victims of crime in this state.

What did we hear from the shadow minister during this debate? There was not one solution to the crisis they created and no support for our strong laws that are driving down crime and delivering fewer victims, but there was an assertion that some of the offences in this bill should not be included as Adult Crime, Adult Time merely because they do not occur very often. What flawed logic! Labor want to wait for these offences to become more prevalent, for there to be more victims. They want to wait before acting. We will not wait. We will take action now because we stand on the side of victims. We are doing exactly what Queenslanders voted for to make Queensland safer and to ensure there are consequences for actions and fewer victims of crime in this state.

While Labor go into Queensland communities and say that they want stronger laws and that they stand on the side of victims, they come into this parliament and argue that those laws should not be in place. They come into this parliament and argue that we should wait to act—that we should wait for there to be more victims of crime; that we should wait for a victim to suffer the horrendous effects of those crimes before making it part of Adult Crime, Adult Time. We will not wait. We will take action, and that is what this bill does.

It really should not surprise members of the House that that is their argument for not supporting Adult Crime, Adult Time, because it is in black and white in their state policy document for 2025. It is in black and white that they want to increase the age of criminal responsibility—so 10-, 12- and 13-year-olds could not be held accountable for violent and serious offending. It is in black and white. This week I gave a real-world example of what that would mean. In question time today the Premier gave a real-world example of what that will mean for victims. Those youth criminals who tortured the 13-year-old girl in Noosa would face no consequences under the Labor government's policy right now. The 13-year-old in Maryborough who killed three people would face no consequences—would not even be before the justice system—under the current state Labor policy. That is the reality of Labor's position.

Those opposite also spent a lot of time talking about the panel that advised on the inclusion of the 12 serious offences this bill prescribes. For the benefit of those opposite who clearly were not listening or perhaps just cannot understand that we are a government who do what we say we will do, I will repeat it. We promised we would establish an independent panel to provide advice on which offences should be included as Adult Crime, Adult Time and we said we would publish their advice during the committee process, and that is exactly what we did. We asked the panel to advise on which additional offences should be included in Adult Crime, Adult Time, and we promised to provide that

advice. We have published it and acted on it. It is hard for those opposite to understand, but I think the real issue here is that they are looking for any excuse not to support Adult Crime, Adult Time because at their core they do not support stronger laws. Their state policy platform proves it.

While those opposite have spent this debate attacking the government for strengthening the law, trying to find any excuse to vote against Adult Crime, Adult Time, they have also desperately tried to peddle falsities that we are cutting early interventions. That is unequivocally untrue. The Crisafulli government has been very clear: our strong laws are backed by the largest investment in early intervention, crime prevention and rehabilitation that this state has ever seen—$560 million to stop youth offending before it starts, to help turn young lives around.

For the member for Bulimba to come into this House and, despite knowing it to be untrue, try to start a scare campaign about the Crisafulli government's landmark crime prevention schools is an absolute disgrace. It is completely false. It shows their true colours. They do not support these schools. Our crime prevention schools in Townsville, Rockhampton and Ipswich, which are on track to start taking referrals later this year, just as we promised, would likely be cut if the member for Bulimba ever got the chance to be the youth justice minister again.

In exciting news—and I will repeat it for the member for Bulimba's benefit so there can be no confusion—our crime prevention school on the Gold Coast, Men of Business, held its first year 7 class on Monday this week. But we know that those opposite would rather run a false scare campaign than acknowledge that the Crisafulli government is delivering for Queenslanders. They will do anything to distract from their record on crime—their failed policies that did not keep Queenslanders safe. This includes their soft-on-drugs approach that prioritised the rights of offenders over victims.

During the debate the members for Waterford and Gaven suggested that this bill is sneaking through changes to Queensland's drug laws. There is absolutely no truth in that. This bill went to a committee and there were many submitters that spoke to this bill including those referenced by the member for Waterford and the member for Gaven. Let me be very clear: this bill is doing exactly what we said we would do. We are scrapping Labor's failed three-strikes, soft-on-drugs approach and we are replacing it with a new illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework. You cannot be tough on crime while you are soft on drugs. While Labor can dress it up however they like, the truth is that we are restoring consequences for actions and putting the rights of victims ahead of the rights of offenders. We are also offering a health response to those who want it.

The police minister has been very clear that he has been speaking with police currently on the front line, and this is what they have had to say about Labor's failed soft-on-drugs program: they are frustrated, they are disillusioned, they are embarrassed and they feel disempowered that under Labor's framework they were forced to give known criminals verbal warnings when they found those criminals in possession of illicit drugs. The data backs up these police officers on the front line.

Since the introduction of Labor's soft-on-drugs scheme in May 2024, total drug offences increased by more than 11,000 from the previous year. That means that, despite offenders being able to get away with illicit drug offending for up to five times, under Labor there was still a 16.8 per cent increase in drug offending. What is more, while Labor and the member for Waterford used their contributions to distract from their failures and peddle scare campaigns that simply are not true, we are cracking down on dangerous illicit drug offenders and we are delivering a pathway for first-time low-risk offenders to be diverted into health-based intervention should they want it. That is the balance that Labor refuses to acknowledge.

While Labor has approached this debate through the lens of the offender, we have been very clear that we are addressing it through the lens of victims and the safety of our communities. In fact, the member for Waterford went so far as to suggest that diversions for offenders are life saving. What she did not talk about was the illicit drug offenders who go on to take someone's life. There was no mention of the cost of drugs to victims and their communities—victims like Matthew Field, Kate Leadbetter and their unborn son, Miles, who were killed by a repeat youth offender on drugs.

If you take the word of the member for Woodridge, the changes proposed by this bill that crack down on illicit drug use will prevent police from pursuing real criminals. Illicit drug use is a real crime and the consequences can devastate communities. They are linked to organised crime, to property offending and to domestic and family violence. The Crisafulli government made a commitment to Queenslanders that we would restore safety where you live, and that is exactly what we are doing by repealing Labor's three-tier, soft-on-drugs scheme and replacing it with our targeted illicit drug enforcement and diversion framework because you cannot be tough on crime while you are soft on drugs. That is Labor's approach.

The third element of this bill is about giving our police stronger, clearer powers to respond to antisocial behaviour. Yet again those opposite try to peddle another scare campaign that this bill somehow criminalises homelessness. That is not what this is about. This is about cracking down on violent behaviour. Labor allowed antisocial and violent behaviour to flourish under their decade of decline which resulted in crime increasing, the community feeling unsafe and businesses having their customers driven away and their workers intimidated. Let me be clear: these laws do not act in isolation. The Crisafulli government is delivering a record $5.6 billion investment in social and community housing and we have expanded our housing outreach and mobile engagement teams, which work hand in hand with specialist homelessness services and local councils to engage with those sleeping rough. These homelessness services, these wraparound supports for vulnerable Queenslanders experiencing homelessness, are in place right now. Do you know what is not in place, Mr Deputy Speaker? Strong laws that take a stance on antisocial behaviour after a decade of decline under Labor. That is what this bill delivers.

This bill will give police the power they need to take action where a person is behaving disorderly, offensively, in a threatening manner or violently in an area described as a designated business and community precinct. If the direction police provide is ignored, they can issue a banning notice excluding that person from the precinct for a month. If that individual breaches that notice it is a criminal offence. This is about restoring safety in the places Queenslanders should be able to go without fear.

We held community forums right across Queensland to listen to local communities that have been suffering under this crisis that Labor let fester, including in Maryborough. That community has seen antisocial behaviour increase and shop owners scared, their customers scared and their workers scared. This bill is about giving police the powers to restore safety to those community and business precincts. The homelessness wraparound services are in place. What is not in place are strong laws because the previous Labor government did not believe in strong laws and never had them. This is about restoring safety in the places Queenslanders should be able to go without fear: their local shopping centres, business precincts, community hubs and town centres. For too long under Labor antisocial behaviour was allowed to fester.

The real question for those opposite is how they are going to vote on Adult Crime, Adult Time, our strong laws on drugs and our strong laws on preventing antisocial behaviour in community and business precincts. We know that philosophically they are opposed to our strong laws. We know that over the decade they were in power they came into this House time and time again and weakened our Youth Justice Act. They made detention a last resort. They removed breach of bail as an offence. They closed the Childrens Court to victims and their families. In their hearts they do not believe in strong laws and we know that they do not want to support these. The question for those opposite is how they are going to vote. Are they going to vote in favour of what Queenslanders asked for? Queenslanders asked for stronger laws to help turn the tide on Labor's youth crime crisis. Are they going to say one thing in Queensland communities, that they support victims and strong laws, and then come into this House and vote down Adult Crime, Adult Time, vote down our strong stance on drugs, and vote down our laws that mean antisocial and violent behaviour in our business communities and precincts is stamped out?

The Crisafulli government is delivering exactly what we said we would: safer communities, consequences for actions and fewer victims of crime. After a decade of decline under Labor communities right across the state have been asking for stronger laws. That is exactly what this bill is delivering. We know that those opposite do not believe in it. We know that because their state policy document for 2025 proves it. That is their policy document, which the Labor Party is bound to and which their candidate in Stafford was part of writing. It says that they want to raise the age of criminal responsibility so youth offenders will not be held liable for their actions. It says that they want to divert funding from our detention centres. It says they do not believe in our tough stance on crime. We will continue to come into this House to deliver stronger laws.

One of their criticisms of us is that we are back in this House with Adult Crime, Adult Time laws. I say to those opposite that we will keep coming back—

Ms Scanlon interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kempton): Member for Gaven, you are under a warning. You can leave the House for an hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Gaven withdrew from the chamber at 12.44 pm.

Mrs GERBER: We will keep coming back and delivering strong laws because that is what Queenslanders voted for. Queenslanders asked us to do that because for a decade Labor came back into this House to weaken our laws. We will continue to back our police and stand on the side of victims.

Every single day we will continue to work so that Queenslanders can feel safe in their homes, on their streets and in their communities. We will continue to deliver these laws for those victims of crime who were left unseen and unheard under the previous Labor government, because the Crisafulli government has their back. I commend the bill to the House.

Division: Question put—That the bill be now read a second time.

AYES, 53:

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

KAP, 2—Katter, Knuth.

NOES, 35:

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

Grn, 1—Berkman.

Ind, 1—Bolton.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

Consideration in Detail

Clauses 1 to 34, as read, agreed to.

Heading—

Mrs GERBER (12.51 pm): I seek leave to move an amendment outside the long title of the bill.

Leave granted.

Mrs GERBER: I move amendment No. 1 circulated in my name—

1 Part 6, heading (Amendment of Police Powers and Responsibilities Regulation 2012)

Page 40, line 12, '2012'—

omit, insert—

2026

I table the explanatory notes to my amendments and a statement of compatibility with human rights.

Tabled paper: Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026, explanatory notes to Hon. Laura Gerber's amendments [594].

Tabled paper: Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026, statement of compatibility with human rights contained in Hon. Laura Gerber's amendments [595].

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 35—

Mrs GERBER (12.51 pm): I seek leave to move an amendment outside the long title of the bill.

Leave granted.

Mrs GERBER: I move amendment No. 2 circulated in my name—

2 Clause 35 (Regulation amended)

Page 40, line 15, '2012'—

omit, insert—

2026

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 35, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 36—

Mrs GERBER (12.52 pm): I seek leave to move amendments outside the long title of the bill.

Leave granted.

Mrs GERBER: I move amendments Nos 3 and 4 circulated in my name—

3 Clause 36 (Amendment of s 20H (Prescribed quantity for minor drug offences—Act, s 378B))

Page 40, line 16, '20H'—

omit, insert—

10

4 Clause 36 (Amendment of s 20H (Prescribed quantity for minor drug offences—Act, s 378B))

Page 40, line 18, '20H'—

omit, insert—

10

Amendments agreed to.

Clause 36, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 37—

Mrs GERBER (12.52 pm): I seek leave to move amendments outside the long title of the bill.

Leave granted.

Mrs GERBER: I move amendments Nos 5 to 8 circulated in my name—

5 Clause 37 (Amendment of sch 1B (Prescribed quantity of dangerous drugs, S4 medicines and S8 medicines))

Page 40, line 21, '1B'—

omit, insert—

1

6 Clause 37 (Amendment of sch 1B (Prescribed quantity of dangerous drugs, S4 medicines and S8 medicines))

Page 40, line 23, '1B'—

omit, insert—

1

7 Clause 37 (Amendment of sch 1B (Prescribed quantity of dangerous drugs, S4 medicines and S8 medicines))

Page 40, line 25, '1B'—

omit, insert—

1

8 Clause 37 (Amendment of sch 1B (Prescribed quantity of dangerous drugs, S4 medicines and S8 medicines))

Page 41, line 1, '1B'—

omit, insert—

1

Amendments agreed to.

Clause 37, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 38 to 59, as read, agreed to.

Schedule 1, as read, agreed to.

Third Reading

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (12.53 pm): I move—

That the bill, as amended, be now read a third time.

Division: Question put—That the bill, as amended, be now read a third time.

AYES, 52:

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

KAP, 1—Knuth.

NOES, 35:

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

Grn, 1—Berkman.

Ind, 1—Bolton.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time.

Long Title

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (12.59 pm): I move amendment No. 9 circulated in my name—

9 Long title

Long title, '2012'—

omit, insert—

2026

Amendment agreed to.

Question put—That the long title of the bill, as amended, be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Health System

Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): Queensland patients deserve quality health care close to home that is there when they need it. Labor has a proud track record of investing in accessible health care right around the state and we will always stand up against cuts to care.

We know from the ballooning specialist outpatient waitlist that there are hundreds of thousands of Queenslanders in that queue. There are more than 346,000, in fact—many living in regional and remote areas. In Mackay more than 12,000 people are waiting—a massive 22 per cent increase in just the last year. In North Queensland around Townsville there are more than 21,000—in fact nearly 22,000—patients waiting for a specialist appointment. That is up almost 10 per cent compared to last year. In Central Queensland it is more stark: there has been a 40 per cent increase in the number of patients waiting to get a specialist appointment.

While every single patient should be able to receive that care in their community, there are some cases that need specialist treatment at specialist hospitals here in Brisbane. That is why the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme is so important. Amidst the fuel affordability crisis it is so important that the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme is lifted, that it is not left going backwards in real terms under the LNP the same way other crucial health projects have such as on Brisbane's north side at the Prince Charles Hospital. That hospital should have a major expansion under construction right now to deliver 93 new hospital beds. The chief executive of that health service has just confirmed to the parliament that he has no idea when those beds will be delivered; they have been sent back to the drawing board. I think northsiders deserve better.

Just down the road there are also no answers on the 150 cancer-care beds that should be delivered at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. There is no funding, no timeline and no answers for cancer patients around the state about when that will be built. It is not surprising, but it is disappointing. Queenslanders just want confidence that when they call an ambulance it will show up and that when they get to hospital there will be a bed for them. If they are heading to the Prince Charles Hospital today they will be interested to know that there will be 93 fewer beds by the end of this term than were set to be delivered and that ramping is up, too. Again, the chief executive confirmed for the parliament that ramping is now significantly higher than it was when the LNP took office. The people of Stafford deserve better than a Premier who is all talk and no action.

Health System

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (2.03 pm): Let me set the record straight on the Prince Charles Hospital about those failures over there including the failure who has just spoken—the failure as a premier, the failure as a health minister, the failure as a planning minister and soon—

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): Member for Miller, you are now warned under the standing orders.

Mr NICHOLLS: There was a litany of failures over there. What we have heard today from the chief executive is that 93 beds are going ahead at the Prince Charles Hospital. Ninety-three beds will be delivered at Prince Charles Hospital, despite the complete mistruths being peddled not only by the member for Murrumba, who failed to deliver any new hospital beds, but also by their paymaster Wayne Swan, who is sending the same message around the traps desperately begging for money. His little email says, 'We need some money. The LNP are cutting beds,' when nothing could be further from the truth.

We know that the story at the Prince Charles Hospital is that there was a $500 million cost blowout. It was 18 months behind schedule. It had no paediatric emergency services, no expansion space for operating theatres, no sterilising department and no partnership with St Vincent's Hospital. It was barely able to be called a hospital expansion program. There was no clinician buy-in to the outcome. What Mr Nick Steele said today in the parliamentary committee hearing, which those opposite did their damnedest to disrupt, was that there are 93 beds. They also objected to a presentation by Mr Sangster about what he found when he did his investigation and what the planning was. They did not allow that to occur.

Let's talk about ramping and specialist outpatients. Ramping under Labor in March 2022 hit 55 per cent. What is it under us this February? It is 37.1 per cent. What was the figure for specialist outpatients? I note that the failed former health minister talked about specialist outpatients. Let me tell him what it was in January 2024 under those opposite: 12,211. What is it under us? It is 11,106. We have improved it from what it was under those opposite and what they left it as—a complete fail and complete mistruths.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I draw to your attention and that of the House that I believe the minister may have just divulged the deliberations of a private committee meeting—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

Mr de BRENNI: My point of order is a matter of privilege suddenly arising. I draw your attention to a serious potential breach of the obligations of members of committees and ministers not to divulge private proceedings.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take some advice.

Mr MOLHOEK: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I want to advise the House that it was, in fact, a public hearing.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: In any case, Manager of Opposition Business, that is a matter for the committee or a matter that you can refer to the Speaker.

Mr NICHOLLS: They are still not interested in the facts as they exist, the reality of the situation or the mistruths they are telling in Stafford in relation to the number of beds. There are 93 extra beds, ramping is down, specialist outpatients are better and elective surgery is down by over 400. Stafford was left in a mess under those opposite and it was particularly left in a mess under Luke Richmond.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members, order.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! That was bordering on being disorderly.

Public Service; Stafford By-Election

Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.07 pm): Queenslanders need to hear this. The good, hardworking people across the road in 1 William Street and across the Queensland Public Service need to hear this. We know that Queensland public servants are good people who have the interests of Queenslanders at the heart of everything they do. However, we know that right now they are being forced to work in toxic environments like never before. Just look at Economic Development Queensland and the leadership of the Deputy Premier and his right-hand man Julian Simmonds. EDQ employees reported a 35 per cent drop in the number of workers who believed their executive acted with integrity. This is driven by the Crisafulli LNP government's toxic culture.

Today we heard that the Premier has not ruled out compromising our terrific Public Service once more. Today the Premier refused to rule out spending taxpayers' money on LNP government advertising to win a by-election. Premier Crisafulli refused to rule out directing the Public Service to

smother Stafford in his LNP blue taxpayer-funded ads. The Premier is not allowed to direct where and when taxpayer-funded ads should appear. The Queensland Government Advertising and Marketing Communications Code of Conduct states that government advertising must not—

be designed to influence public support for a political party, a candidate for election or a Member of Parliament.

Directing the Government Advertising and Communication Committee to litter Stafford with LNP blue advertising during a by-election would have no other purpose. It would have no other purpose and the Premier refused to rule out doing that today. The Premier is treating hardworking Queensland public servants like they are LNP branch members, and that is why we are seeing the culture of the Queensland Public Service erode under this Premier. We on this side of the House know they do not deserve to be treated like this. They do not deserve to be forced to compromise their values to keep their jobs. They should not have to compromise their independence—their values—as a fiercely independent Public Service. The Public Service should not be used like this because the Premier wants to use it as his plaything.

We have seen the Premier's values in plain sight with the dirty deal done with One Nation. The people of Stafford will not know who or what they are voting for because of this dirty deal between the Premier and One Nation. The great unknown in this by-election is: what has the LNP promised One Nation in return for not running a candidate? What commitment has the LNP given to One Nation? The reality is that, should someone enter a polling booth with the intention of putting a vote—a '1'—in the box beside the LNP candidate, that voter will be supporting One Nation. If the LNP is to retain any credibility, it must come clean about its dirty deal—a dirty deal done dirt cheap by the LNP.

Stafford By-Election; Burleigh Electorate

Mr VORSTER (Burleigh—LNP) (2.10 pm): Before I turn my attention to a matter of great importance to myself and my community, I want to take the opportunity to respond to the member for Woodridge, who waxed lyrical about preference deals. I cannot help but remind myself that, in the dead of the night with 18 minutes notice, those opposite walked into this room and did a dirty deal with the Greens political party to rewrite electoral laws in the state of Queensland. Our message is clear. If the people of Queensland want a government that delivers for them, if the people of Queensland want to restore safety where they live, if the people of Queensland want to heal the health crisis, then the message is simple: they must support a government—a political movement—that will get it done. It is not in our nature to be doling out second and third and fourth preferences, because the answer is simple: only the LNP is capable of delivering for Queensland. As we have seen, Labor is addicted to the preferences of its Marxist socialist overlords. The Greens political party might be seated here on the crossbench, but it is pulling the strings of those on the frontbench of the opposition. So we should not be surprised—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): Order, members, order!

Mr VORSTER:—thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, for your protection—because those opposite want to hide that dirty deal: a dirty deal to kowtow to the Greens political movement, denying them the ability to back in wholeheartedly the drilling, refining and storing of fuel in the state of Queensland before the upcoming by-election; a deal, I am sure, that has seen them walk away from victims in this state when they refuse to back Adult Crime, Adult Time. I raise all of this background because we have heard the member for Woodridge say, 'Preference this, preference that,' but preferences are a creature of the Labor Party dictated to it in a dirty deal done with the Greens and the crossbench. It has no-one but itself to blame for the current electoral situation.

Turning to my electorate—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr VORSTER:—I want to restate my absolute love—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr VORSTER:—of the people of Burleigh and the trust that they have placed in me.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr VORSTER: I will honour that trust every single working day.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members, order! Member for Jordan, member for Cairns, order!

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members, one moment please. Member for Jordan, I called the House to order and you continued. You are warned. Member for Cairns, I had called the House to order. You continued. You are warned.

Minister for Health; Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme

Hon. MC BAILEY (Miller—ALP) (2.14 pm): What a humiliating effort from an out-of-touch, arrogant, so-called health minister we saw today. The reality is that what was broadcast this morning was that the Metro North HHS CEO confirmed that ramping is actually up under the LNP—up. He also confirmed that, when it comes to the Prince Charles Hospital expansion timeline, scheduled and committed to by the former Miles Labor government, there was no timeline, no funding and no construction had started—in other words, it was cut. The LNP and Premier Crisafulli have ignored and undermined health services on the north side and now there is a by-election suddenly they are trying to cover up their cuts. I can assure the House that we will be telling the people of Stafford the truth.

I rise to call on the Crisafulli government to increase the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme—the overnight allowance and double the kilometre allowance—to give Queenslanders real help during the affordability crisis. Regional Queenslanders should be able to get the health care they need without being financially smashed just because they live outside of Brisbane. For many people in rural, regional and remote Queensland, which the government alleges to represent, this care means many hours on the road, repeated trips, nights or weeks away from home, time off work and extra costs. That is why it exists for such a large state and it is a barrier to health care. The former Miles Labor government increased the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme in 2023, and it needs a further increase now. It is now even worse with this fuel crisis due to the inaction of Premier Crisafulli on this issue. People in Brisbane notice it; in regional Queensland it can determine whether patients make the trip at all and whether they get health care at all.

The travel subsidy is 34 cents per kilometre and the overnight allowance is $70 while accommodation in Brisbane can be anywhere between $150 and $280 a night. The burden has not disappeared and the government has simply shoved it back on to the regional patient. That is what is going on. This comes on top of the government's widespread failures in health under this out-of-touch health minister and Premier. As I mentioned earlier, at the Prince Charles Hospital 93 beds have gone begging under the LNP, ramping is up 15 per cent from when Labor left office, the percentage of patients not seen within the clinically recommended times in the emergency department has blown out by 45 per cent since October 2024 and specialist outpatient waitlists have spiralled. This is the abysmal record of Premier Crisafulli and his out-of-touch health minister after a year and a half in power. Those opposite also cut the 150-bed Queensland Cancer Centre at the RBWH. They have cut, cut, cut, and the voters of Stafford will remember it.

Labor Party, Performance; Crisafulli LNP Government, Achievements

Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (2.17 pm): It is particularly galling to have to follow the shadow health minister when he stands in this place and thinks he knows about rural and regional Queensland. He is a former minister who sat around the cabinet table while failed health minister after failed health minister after failed health minister cut services to rural and regional Queensland. Those opposite cut maternity services. They were letting women give birth on the side of the road, and the member for Callide has talked about the maternity services in Chinchilla and Biloela. The gall of this guy to think he knows anything about anywhere outside of Miller! He has probably just found the Prince Charles Hospital, where he knows that the Crisafulli government is delivering the 93 beds—that would never have happened under the former Labor government. We know that the former Labor government was all talk and no action, and those opposite know that. It is a bit like those opposite who go outside this House and try to talk tough on crime. Well, we have seen it all today given there is a bill before the House that expands Adult Crime, Adult Time and importantly taking a strong stance on drugs, keeping Queenslanders safe, antisocial behaviour, giving our police—

Mr Furner interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I am more than happy to take that.

Mr Furner interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Yes, and Councillor Sanders just sent me a text message about what he thinks about our strong stance on crime. I cannot wait to tell him that that former failed agriculture minister voted against our tough-on-crime stance. That is what our community wants. That is what the community is calling for. After a decade of the jokers opposite in government, that is exactly what the Crisafulli government is going to do. Let's remember: in 2015, Labor made detention a last resort. In 2019, they abolished breach of bail as an offence. In 2024, they watered down drug laws.

Opposition members interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I hear the sighing from over there. I would be frustrated, too, if I had just voted against tougher crime laws. In 2024, when those opposite were in government, they voted to water down drug laws in this state. We are turning the tide on crime here in Queensland. It is only the Crisafulli government that is supporting our communities by keeping them safe.

Regional Queensland, Health Services; Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme

Mr SMITH (Bundaberg—ALP) (2.20 pm): I am a little bit sentimental. I have been missing the former member for Burleigh, Michael Hart, but after the performance we just saw I have a new favourite. Long may he stay the member for Burleigh.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr SMITH: We can have 92 seats; we have to leave one for them! On Tuesday I rose in this House to speak about the challenges facing regional Queenslanders—whether it be in their daily life or in running a small local business or tourism operation or whether it be just getting around the regions in the car. In that contribution I exposed how the LNP have been letting down regional Queenslanders in business and daily living. The LNP are also failing when it comes to delivering health care in the regions—failing to deliver health care both when people are at home and when they have to travel away for specialist care.

Bundaberg is a perfect example of this. In Bundaberg, the LNP have decided that their rescue plan will build half a hospital by 2031, with 100 fewer beds than what is currently in the Bundaberg Hospital. That is rescue plan 1. When will the second half of the hospital come? No-one can say. There is nothing in the rescue plan. When does that second half come? We will have half a hospital by 2031 and we do not know what will happen with the current hospital. How will people continue to get their care there? This means that more people across the region will have to go to Brisbane for care. That is where the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme comes in. The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme is not fit for purpose in the current climate.

Last term, I petitioned our government on the need to increase the PTSS and we were able to get a $70 million funding injection. I took it to the people, who signed the petition, and we lobbied our own government to ensure people had a better and fair go at the PTSS—and that was before petrol was $2.50 a litre and diesel was more than $3 a litre. What plan does the LNP have to ensure regional Queenslanders get the health care they need not only at home but also when they have to travel and that it is not effectively privatised by people having to pay hand over fist to get their health care?

Ms Grace: Where are all their regional members?

Mr SMITH: I take the interjection from the honourable shadow minister. Where is the member for Hervey Bay, standing up for his people? Where is the member for Maryborough, standing up for his people? The member for Hervey Bay wants to spend his time petitioning around electoral boundaries for the Hervey Bay Hospital but not actually for the people who have to travel from that hospital down to Brisbane to get the care they need. The member for Maryborough wants to do a petition about getting a blood bank back into his electorate—a fair call—but where is he when it comes to his constituents who are now paying hand over fist to come down to Brisbane because this LNP government is refusing to act on the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme?

Crime, Mandatory Minimum Sentencing

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (2.23 pm): Today Labor were asked a very simple question: do they stand on the side of victims or do they support offenders? Today the people of Queensland can see that this Labor Party has not changed. Today they voted against Adult Crime, Adult Time. Today they voted to stand on the side of offenders. Today they voted for weak laws. Today they voted against what victims of crime are calling for. This is a Labor Party that has not changed. They have not learned their lesson.

The people of Queensland gave us a mandate—a mandate to deliver stronger laws, a mandate to turn the tide on Labor's youth crime crisis, a mandate to deliver Adult Crime, Adult Time—and today the Labor Party turned their back on those Queenslanders and voted against Adult Crime, Adult Time.

What is more, our plan is starting to turn the tide on Labor's youth crime crisis. Victim numbers are down 7.2 per cent, after this Labor Party caused victims to increase 193 per cent. Serious repeat offenders are down 17 per cent, after the Labor Party saw serious repeat offenders increase 64 per cent in just five years. Is it any wonder how they voted today, when they were asked to support strong laws that Queenslanders backed, in light of their own Labor Party policy document for 2025, which was drafted by their candidate in Stafford? Luke Richmond drafted the Labor Party policy document that says they will increase the age of criminal responsibility and repeal mandatory minimum sentences for criminal offences—mandatory minimums that mean people who commit murder face a mandatory minimum sentence of life imprisonment. The Labor Party want to repeal that.

They showed their true colours today by voting down Adult Crime, Adult Time, voting against our strong drug laws and voting against laws that give police the powers to reduce antisocial and criminal behaviour in our communities and business precincts. This is a Labor Party that has not changed. This is a Labor Party that is clinging on for dear life, and the Leader of the Opposition knows it. He knows that the Stafford by-election is a test of his leadership. If he does not get a double-digit swing to him, he is absolutely cooked. His leadership is cooked and this Labor Party is cooked because the people of Stafford know that they do not support strong laws.

(Time expired)

Regional Queensland, Health Services; Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme

Hon. GJ BUTCHER (Gladstone—ALP) (2.27 pm): Every Queenslander deserves access to great health care when they need it, particularly in regional Queensland. It should not matter where you live. I would have thought the LNP regional members would understand that the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme was meant to make it easier for people in regional Queensland to not have to worry about travelling long distances to get the care they need—a system that supports them to get the care they need.

At the moment we are living in a cost-of-living crisis. The last thing that the people of Gladstone and regional Queensland need is to have to try to afford that extra fuel to make sure they get their care. The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme is a mile behind where it needs to be, particularly at this point in time when people are having to make a decision about whether they put fuel in their car to get to medical care or even to get the kids to school. This is a time of crisis and this is a time that governments should step up, lean forward and support people in regional Queensland.

I would be absolutely shocked if any LNP regional member said that no-one had walked into their office with a PTSS form and said, 'I need help. This is not going to cover the cost for me to get to Maryborough Hospital, to Bundaberg Hospital or even to Brisbane.' Overnight accommodation in Brisbane is averaging $150 to $240. After the $70 they get from the PTSS, people are digging deep in their pocket to cover the cost of accommodation. The best thing this government can do is listen to their own members from regional Queensland when they ask them if they have had people come into the office and beg for help and extra support to make sure they can get their loved one or themselves to the hospital to get the care they need. At the moment, we are seeing people in Gladstone making a decision as to whether or not they get care. When people wait to receive health care, their condition gets worse. That means our hospitals fill up. Patients are moving all around the state to find the support they need, but they cannot afford to do it.

I urge the LNP to make a decision and support regional Queensland, whose representatives should be speaking on this issue today. They should be putting this issue in their speech. If members have a speech prepared, they should change it and call on the government to raise the subsidy to make sure people can afford to get to Brisbane, Bundaberg, Mackay, Townsville or wherever they get sent to—they get sent all over the place—and are not out of pocket when accessing health care in Queensland under this government.

Burnett, Mr I; Philp, Mr B

Mr DILLON (Gregory—LNP) (2.30 pm): I rise to address the loss of a number of people in my electorate that has caused extreme pain. My electorate is in mourning. Recently we suffered the loss of a man and his grandchild; a man who would be known to many members in this House, a titan of

agriculture, Mr Ian Burnett; a former councillor, vice-president and president of AgForce. He served in that organisation for 30 years. He was a committed farmer, a devoted father and a loving grandfather to his multiple grandchildren. Unfortunately, since this House last sat, we lost Ian and one of his grandchildren in a tragic on-farm accident.

Ian was a multi-award-winning cotton farmer and cattle producer but, more importantly, the work he did in his community and with his family, both to raise the profile of farming, to support people through his two stints as chair of the local Rotary club and to work with people in this place and in this city to understand the important connection between agriculture and broader mainstream society, is to be commended. It is a huge loss. Our thoughts, and the thoughts I am sure of all in this place, are with his children and grandchildren, in particular Nigel, Ross, Leanne and Craig, but also with his partner, Julie. He is somebody whose footprint and shadow will last long after his tragic and untimely passing.

Unfortunately, in a matter even closer personally, this week in the central west we lost an angel in the sky—one of our helicopter pilots who has been instrumental in the recovery of Central, Western and Far Western Queensland, an integral business owner, a father and also a devoted husband in Brian Philp. A tragic, yet to be understood, accident has taken this quintessential Australian, great bloke, terrific pilot, terrific bushman, terrific cattleman, but, more importantly, devoted and loving husband, father, brother and son. Every day people in agriculture and mining and so many professions go to work and we all want them to come home. These pilots are literally the veins that carry agriculture, especially in terms of livestock, in our state. The loss of this young man, who had a young family, will reverberate and be tragically felt for decades to come.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): I pass on my sympathies for their loss.

Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme

Mr HEALY (Cairns—ALP) (2.33 pm): As many in this chamber would know, for many Queenslanders, particularly in rural, remote and regional areas, accessing health care is not as simple as just driving down the road. It requires long distance travel, overnight stays, time away from work and significant out-of-pocket costs. That is precisely why the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme exists and why it is vitally important. Under David Crisafulli's leadership that scheme has been ignored and left to wither.

Families are under pressure from rising costs of living and are being forced to make impossible choices: to put food on the table, to fill the car with fuel or to attend critical medical appointments. As we have heard, increasingly the answer is that appointments are delayed or cancelled altogether. That is not speculation; that is the living reality being reported across regional Queensland. This is how health-by-postcard becomes entrenched. Make no mistake about it, that is exactly what is happening under this government. Where you live is increasingly determining the level of access you have to health care.

This stands in stark contrast to the efforts of the previous Labor government to improve access. Additional funding was invested in this program, subsidy rates were lifted and barriers such as the outdated four-night rule were removed to expand eligibility. We knew more people needed access to this. It was vitally important. That is why we did something about it. Those were steps in the right direction. The reality is that cost-of-living pressures have since accelerated under the LNP government and the scheme has failed to keep pace with reality.

When individuals are forced to travel long distances for care, often at their own expense, it drains household finances, it reduces workforce participation, particularly in remote areas, and it places additional strain on communities already doing it tough. Health accessibility is not just a social good; it is imperative for regional sustainability and also for growth. What makes this failure even more concerning is that it comes in the face of clear, consistent advice from those who know the system best. The Rural Doctors Association of Queensland have been unequivocal: the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme is no longer fit for purpose. It has called for an urgent, independent review of subsidy rates, for them to be indexed to real costs and for a system that is fair, transparent and reflective of the realities faced by rural patients.

A government member: What did you do for 10 years?

Mr HEALY: I just told you what we did. Rural and regional Queenslanders are not asking for special treatment; they are asking for fair treatment. They are asking for a system that recognises the reality of distances. They are asking for support and they are getting nothing from this government.

Taroom Trough

Hon. A LEAHY (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (2.36 pm): I wish to associate myself with the words of the member for Gregory and extend my sympathies to the families that he has mentioned. In regional Queensland we have experienced some great losses.

The Crisafulli government is unlocking Australia's first oilfield in 50 years—the Taroom Trough—for future fuel security. The Taroom Trough sits to the south of Roma and Miles and runs approximately down to Moonie in my electorate, not far from the Moonie oilfields, which were known as the oil capital of Australia in the early 1960s. I was delighted to join the Premier, the Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, the member for Callide and staff from Shell and Omega as we visited wells being drilled and producing from the Taroom Trough. Right now there are wells producing condensate that is being trucked out to the oil refinery at Eromanga. That fuel is going into the fuel bowsers that are fuelling Queenslanders' vehicles at the present time. Around 200 barrels per day were produced from that well we visited. That well is expected to produce up to 400 barrels per day and there are more wells being developed as we speak.

Our government has announced it will streamline the roads and the trunk infrastructure under the new Taroom Trough Development Plan prepared under the works regulation overseen by Queensland's Coordinator-General. This will establish a whole-of-basin framework to guide the fast-tracking of the efficient and responsible development of the oil and gas resources in the region. We are calling on the federal government to recognise the Taroom Trough as a project of national interest and streamline the EPBC approvals under the National Interest Fast-Track Assessment Pathway which is already in place for other major projects. To realise the full development of the Taroom Trough, the federal government needs to make this change and they need to get out of the way of fuel security. The pathway will be removed that duplicated approvals already conducted at a state level, allowing oil to be produced without unnecessary delay.

Never again should we be left without the ability to generate domestic fuel supply. This is a generational opportunity to ensure we are not left at the end of the global supply chain. National fuel security is about drilling, refining and storing fuel locally for the refuelling of family cars, for transport businesses and for the harvesting of crops, and it is right here in Southern Queensland. Under Labor's decade of decline we were left with a legacy of red tape and delays. The Crisafulli government is backing our resources sector and unlocking this investment. As one long-term local said to me, they would love to see these local communities thriving again like they were in the 1960s. This is the fresh start that the Crisafulli government will deliver for the locals and for all Queenslanders.

Crisafulli LNP Government, Brisbane North

Mr MELLISH (Aspley—ALP) (2.39 pm): Every Queenslander deserves access to the health care they need when they need it. It should not be something that is determined by where you live or how much you earn. For my patch, that is the Prince Charles Hospital. Unlike the people on the north side, there are some who do not have a healthcare facility that is only a 10-minute drive down the road, but that should not stop them from getting the treatment they need. The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme is supposed to ensure that. With growing cost-of-living pressures and increasing fuel prices, the scheme in its current form is no longer fit for purpose. Labor expanded it and we committed to ensuring as many Queenslanders as possible could access the scheme when we removed the four-night rule in 2024; however, more needs to be done and this government needs to act now.

It is not only health care that is being ignored on the north side by this LNP government and their recycled Stafford candidate. There are major transport projects in Stafford that the LNP committed to at the last election and that they have walked away from. Along Hamilton Road, there is a dangerous entry to the Prince Charles Hospital that the Brisbane City Council and their former local councillor, Fiona Hammond, promised to fix for almost a decade. A nurse died at that intersection in 2018, and over the eight years since then Fiona Hammond has failed to fix the intersection, despite saying that she would.

It gets worse. Acknowledging her own failures, when she ran as the state candidate in 2024 Fiona Hammond made a state election commitment to fix the council road she failed to fix during her decade as the local councillor. I table a document showing the now Premier standing with Fiona Hammond, headed 'Fiona Hammond will deliver upgrades to Hamilton Road', and one from a couple of days later in which the Deputy Premier stated that the LNP will deliver upgrades to Hamilton Road.

Tabled paper: Extracts from social media, dated 20 October 2024 and 23 October 2024, featuring posts by Fiona Hammond regarding upgrades to the entrance of the Prince Charles Hospital [596].

The Premier loves a photo opportunity.

It gets worse. When you go down Hamilton Road you will see that nothing is happening. No detail has been provided on TMR or council websites. No shovels have hit the ground. It is a broken election promise from the Premier. It is clear that it was a dodgy election promise from the Premier. He had no intention of delivering it and it is a safety risk. A nurse died at the intersection in 2018 and still the LNP council and the LNP state government will not fix the intersection. That falls right at the feet of their LNP candidate for Stafford, Fiona Hammond. She is a shocker of a candidate. It is no wonder they could barely bring themselves to mention her name on Tuesday when they spent an afternoon basically accusing our fantastic candidate for Stafford, Luke Richmond, of being—wait for it—a member of the Labor Party. Well done to the tactical geniuses at LNP HQ for working out that Luke Richmond is in fact a member of the Labor Party. I can see why the Premier was in such a rush to call a by-election given that level of cutting messaging!

This Premier has only ever been about the photo-op, never the follow-through. That is why the LNP will not deliver for Prince Charles Hospital, they will not deliver for north-side roads and they will not deliver on the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme. There are local roads that they committed to upgrade and they have walked away from them. The Prince Charles Hospital upgrade to provide another 93 beds has been pushed out forever. It is never going to happen under this LNP government. It is clear that they do not care about Stafford and they do not care about the north side.

Adult Crime, Adult Time Legislation; Fuel Security; Allison, Mr R

Hon. AJ CAMM (Whitsunday—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (2.42 pm): Firstly, I place on record my congratulations to the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support on the passing of Adult Crime, Adult Time laws, particularly the changes she is making to the Youth Justice Act and her investment in prevention and early intervention, which is critical. It is critical for the children entering the child safety system who have been failed by the Labor government. It is also critical for consequences for actions. Implementing consequences for actions is having a tangible impact on driving down victim numbers. We know that we have a long way to go, but a 7.2 per cent decline is a dint.

A government member interjected.

Ms CAMM: It is a big start; I take that interjection. I also place on the record my thanks to Tourism Whitsundays, the Whitsunday Charter Boat Industry Association and the Queensland Tourism Industry Council for their efforts and their advocacy on our government's call to the federal government to deliver a national dashboard in light of the fuel crisis that is affecting every industry in my community: agriculture, commercial fishing, the tourism industry and the visitor tourism economy. Each and every day, it is having major impacts on families right across Mackay and the Whitsundays. For almost a third of jobs we rely on tourism, which is what our economy is based on. That is why we call on the federal government to support and deliver the fast-tracking of approvals for our investment in the Taroom Trough. We need to think ahead to ensure we have fuel security and fuel supply for our nation, because at the moment we are experiencing significant sovereign risk. I thank Canegrowers, the Resource Industry Network and all of our peak bodies that are engaging with my office and providing updates that we can pass on to our representative at the federal level.

Each Anzac Day we honour the courage, sacrifice and enduring spirit of those who have served our country and who gave their lives for our freedom. This Saturday we will take time to reflect upon that. As the Minister for Child Safety, I wish to honour the sacrifice of Mr Roy Allison, who served in World War I. After the passing of his mother, Roy was admitted to the care of the Queensland state children's department in 1906. During his childhood, Roy spent time placed with a foster carer in Albion, Elizabeth Price. In 1915 Roy enrolled in the Australian Army and was deployed to France. Following severe wounding, Roy was repatriated to Enoggera military hospital, where his former foster carer, Elizabeth Price, was with him when he died on 23 August 1919. It is because of Roy's sacrifice and service, and that of so many others, that our state and nation enjoy freedom. Roy's service is honoured on the Roll of Honour for the 41st Infantry Battalion at Anzac Square in Brisbane and the Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour in Canberra. My thanks go to the Care Leavers Australasian Network for their ongoing work and advocacy. We thank Roy for his service.

(Time expired)

Crisafulli LNP Government, Brisbane North

Ms BOYD (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.45 pm): My journey to this place commenced at the Prince Charles Hospital while an LNP government brought down some of the harshest health cuts in Queensland's history. Our hospitals matter. That is where we turn in our times of most need. My family has experienced life-saving care at the Prince Charles pediatric emergency department more than once. I have been the recipient of life-saving surgery there. I know that my dependence on our local hospital is not unique but is shared by thousands of other north-siders.

LNP health cuts cut deep. Health cuts come in all shapes and sizes. It can be the cutting of money through a budget, a hiring freeze, cutting back operating hours, stripping workers of pay or axing programs that deliver life-saving care. It can be leaving positions unfilled. It can be delaying critical infrastructure dressed up as a rescope, not building the infrastructure that our state needs. Haven't we seen the LNP engage in all of those dirty tricks!

Regional health worker incentives was the very first health cut, and next came all of Queensland. Under this LNP government, my north-side community and many others have been left in limbo for essential health service provision. At Charlies, 93 beds have been cut under this LNP government. Cranes have been packed down and the Redcliffe Hospital worksite is now dormant.

Local stories are harrowing and all too common. A young boy with a buckled knee was advised by orthopaedics that it was not worth his time to wait because the wait time was just too long. A frightened 76-year-old was unable to access dental surgery locally because the facility's accreditation has lapsed under the LNP. A father was forced to sit with his daughter with severe care needs who—

Mr VORSTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I seek your guidance, Mr Deputy Speaker. The member made a claim that has already been established to be incorrect.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): What is your point of order?

Mr VORSTER: Misleading the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member—

Mr VORSTER: I am seeking your guidance.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please cease talking, member.

Ms Grace interjected.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for McConnel and all members to my left, I could not actually hear what the member was saying. I do not think he has a point of order but I do not need your assistance. Please be quiet while I hear points of order and we will get through things quicker. Member for Burleigh, there is an established process if you think there has been a matter of privilege raised, which is to write to the Speaker and not to jump to your feet as you did.

Ms BOYD: A father was forced to sit with his daughter with severe care needs who was ramped for hours following an extended seizure—seizures that continued in a waiting room chair. The father said, 'With each hospital visit it is clear that resourcing in our hospitals has not kept pace with demand.'

The LNP have money to rebrand the state in blue, to put failed slogans on billboards, to pork-barrel in response to changing community sentiment and for jobs for their mates and renaming a facility. The LNP prioritise ideology over health care because that is the LNP's biggest care. Queenslanders have been misled. We were told a slick slogan by a clever politician that doctors would be back in charge, that ramping would decline and that investments would be made, but they have not been. What we have seen is all of that cast aside for LNP ideology. It is clear that health services for our north-side community are not a priority at all for the LNP. This is a sick joke.

Rockhampton Electorate, Tourism and Events

Mrs KIRKLAND (Rockhampton—LNP) (2.49 pm): We all know that in the north tourism and events are our lifeblood, so I want to share with the House today and put on record what has been happening in Rockhampton for the last couple of days. Last weekend, Rockhampton hosted the highly anticipated Rockynats 06, an annual event. Summernats partnered with the Rockhampton Regional Council, the state government and, of course, hundreds of volunteers. We saw record numbers attending. Over 65,000 people swooped in and attended ticketed venues. Indeed, Rockynats is now touted as the second largest automotive festival in Australia. It is also the largest street motorcade parade in Australia. We had a record 1,900 entrants in the parade this year, with 1,379 vehicles and

over 5,000 spectators. Last year, Rockynats 05 saw about 64,000 attend; this year it was 65,000-plus. Last year, it brought an injection into our economy of over $13.5 million. Whilst the numbers are still being crunched for this year, I expect it will be well in excess of that number. Motels, hotels, caravan parks and tent cities were all booked out. Cafes, retail outlets and restaurants all benefitted from the influx of visitors.

We must also emphasise that these events cannot happen without the hundreds of volunteers—volunteers who donned orange clothing to ensure they could be seen amongst the crowd for easy access and to direct traffic. This is a huge event with three distinct precincts activated right across Rockhampton. It is a family event, and young and old attended en masse.

I want to point out that we also encourage women's participation in motorsport. It is growing. I give a shout-out to Christina Vithoulkas, Australia's first female para drift driver. Can you believe it? As a paraplegic, she got out there in the drifts—amazing—showcasing her skill, holding her own, along with nationally recognised Mercury Lien, known as Mercurial Mouse, who was driving her distinct pink Nissan 350Z.

This is something for everyone. Rockynats 07 is officially slated for the 2027 Easter holidays, 2 to 4 April. Tickets are selling fast. Opposition, get yours now!

Health, Environment and Innovation Committee, Meeting

Mr J KELLY (Greenslopes—ALP) (2.52 pm): Today is the day that democracy died in Queensland. Today we learned that the health minister's office rang the Chief Executive of Metro North Hospital and Health Service on Tuesday night and advised them to attend a parliamentary committee on Wednesday, which we had not even voted on. We had not even had a meeting. I note that the original meeting was called during the time of the funeral of Jimmy Sullivan, a friend of mine. I would have liked to have gone to that funeral with a clear head and space to grieve for a friend whose death could only be described as tragic. Instead, my mind was mostly on the things I had to do in this place.

The meeting was rescheduled to today, and in absolutely disturbing news we learned that the health minister's office advised the Chief Executive of Metro North HHS the questions and topics that would be asked. This is outrageous. This is dodgy. This is political interference with the Public Service on steroids. The actions of the Minister for Health and his office are akin to the dark days of the Bjelke-Petersen era, akin to the actions that got me motivated to become a member of the Labor movement to fight against just this type of thing. We knew that the Crisafulli LNP government were bad, but today we learn that they are interfering with the independent Public Service, the service that they allegedly respect.

The Minister for Health has serious questions to answer about his conduct and the conduct of his office. The Minister for Health needs to stand in this chamber and answer why he has politicised the Public Service for a by-election purpose. Let's be under no doubt what is going on here. This a complete and utter abuse of parliamentary resources and processes to interfere in a by-election. There is nothing else going on. They called a 15-minute briefing with the intention to allow someone to make a political statement. I am pleased to say that at least the CEO of Metro North had some integrity.

The Minister for Health who claims to respect doctors, clinicians and health professionals today disrespected the Public Service, politicised them and took them away from their important job of running our healthcare system. The Minister for Health and his staff need to be investigated, and this matter will be referred to the Crime and Corruption Commission.

Primary Industries

Mr CHIESA (Hinchinbrook—LNP) (2.55 pm): I rise to speak on an issue that goes right to the heart of our regional communities and that is the need for Queensland and indeed Australia to become more self-sufficient when it comes to critical inputs that underpin our farming and primary production sector. What happens on our farms and in our fishing boats is of national importance. It flows through to our families, flows through to costs in the supermarket and ultimately impacts every household right across this state. In places like Hinchinbrook, I am hearing this firsthand.

Farmers are dealing with supply issues and rising fertiliser costs. They are dealing with high and volatile fuel prices and they are dealing with ongoing uncertainty around the inputs they rely on every single day. When those pressures hit our farmers and commercial fishers, they have to absorb those pressures and they flow right through the supply chain. The reality is we are too reliant on things we do not control. We are too reliant on imported products, we are too exposed to global supply shocks and when those shocks occur regional Queensland feels it first and feels it hardest.

The former Labor government was happy to sit back and watch this happen, but the Crisafulli government is starting to take the steps to address this. We are backing the Mount Isa copper smelter which secures the sulphuric acid supply to allow fertiliser to be produced at Phosphate Hill and used in farms right across Hinchinbrook. This is a practical example of how we can support fertiliser production right here in Queensland, and we need to do more of it.

The Crisafulli government's Energy Roadmap was another important piece because, for the first time in a very long time, we are starting to see downward pressure on power prices—10 per cent this year, after annual increases of 19.9 per cent under the former Labor government.

When it comes to fuel, the opportunity presented by the Taroom Trough and our broader refining capability is significant and one that I know gets people excited. Fuel security is not an economic issue; it is a national security issue. I am most certain the people of Hinchinbrook will join with me to call on the federal government to work with the Crisafulli government and fast-track this development.

Take yesterday's announcement: under funding from the Crisafulli government's Sovereign Industry Development Fund, the Ampol Lytton refinery will now produce 20 million litres of renewable diesel from 2028. Drill, refine, store. Say it with me: drill, refine, store.

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order, member for Pine Rivers! You are warned under the standing orders.

Mr CHIESA: We cannot stop there. There are more important steps, but the challenge in front of us is bigger. We need to continue building our sovereign capability when it comes to fertiliser, fuel and energy. We need to back our regional industries that add value here, not offshore, and we need to ensure our farmers, particularly in regions like the Herbert River district, Kennedy and Tully, the northern suburbs of Townsville and everywhere in between, have certainty about the inputs they depend on. It is not just about farming; it is about cost of living and regional jobs. We have the resources, we have the capability and we have the opportunity. Now the Crisafulli government, unlike Labor, will just get on with it.

Remote Gulf Communities

Mr KATTER (Traeger—KAP) (2.58 pm): I rise to speak about the adversity being suffered in remote gulf communities and more specifically Mornington Island. In this case, they have a population of around 2,000 people and have experienced seven suicides since Christmas. If you want to do the maths on that, that is an horrific result. Mayor Richard Sewter came down here last sitting week in great distress. There are things that can be done. The three things I want to talk about now are the AMPs—alcohol management plans—blue cards and title deeds—all those policy things that could be done to try to avoid outcomes like this.

After many years of work, an AMP was finally established on Mornington Island. This was a good result. Unfortunately, the use of drugs and home-brew escalated while there were complete bans in place, but once the AMPs came back in the use of home-brew and drugs went right down. Then they changed the conditions and the way it was distributed. Instead of doing a normal transaction at the canteens where you bought a beer with restrictions, you had to pay a day in advance and then collect the beer from the barge down near the docks. If nothing else, this is an occupational health and safety risk. It is a bit demeaning to buy beer like that, so a lot of people said, 'I may as well go back to home-brew.' There has been a reported rise in the use of home-brew and drugs in that period, and that needs addressing. The minister did have a good hearing and, as I understand, is working on that.

That is only part of the problem. What has been ignored in this place for far too long is the blue card issue. Salvation for a lot of these people is meaningful work and having a purpose in life. The biggest barrier to getting access to jobs in these Aboriginal communities is the blue card and the way it is applied. Quite frankly, almost nothing has been done. There was some advance in kinship care and the way that is applied, but this has had a massive cancerous effect on these communities and it remains unaddressed. It should be at the forefront of the mind of anyone who cares about these places and wants to make a change.

Title deeds are the last issue. There has been limited to no movement in that space—a tiny bit at Palm Island. These communities are still the only places in Queensland, perhaps even Australia, where you cannot buy a house. If you are trying to get people interested in working, saving money and aspiring to something but you enslave them in this socialist state where they cannot own anything, you cannot expect any improvement in these communities.

Far North Queensland, Crime

Ms JAMES (Barron River—LNP) (3.01 pm): For a decade the people of Cairns and Far North Queensland have lived with the consequences of a justice system that was watered down, weakened and softened, which created a generation of hardened criminals. For the past 18 months, those opposite have had the audacity to sit in this chamber and speak in our communities and complain about crime like it is something they did not play any part in.

Let's be very clear: crime did not happen overnight. For years, Labor weakened laws, reduced consequences and ignored the warning signs. When the system started to fail, they refused to act or even acknowledge there was a problem, saying it was just a media beat-up. That is the truth. Contrast that with the LNP Crisafulli government. We are not hiding from the problem. We are not excusing it. We are certainly not pretending it will fix itself.

Unlike those opposite, we also understand this fundamental principle: without consequences there is no deterrence. Fixing this is like containing a plague that was allowed to spread for too long. We cannot restore order with a single action; we have to isolate the source, strengthen the system and stay disciplined in the response.

Something pretty extraordinary happened here in the parliament today. One would think strengthening our crime laws would be something we could all agree on. One would think the member for Cairns would have voted for stronger laws to help the crime crisis we have in Far North Queensland, but, no, he did not. Labor did not either. They do not believe in tougher penalties for people who commit crimes. They do not believe that we need stronger antisocial behaviour laws when our city is under constant attack from disgusting behaviour. They do not believe that we need tougher laws on drugs. They do not believe that youth should be in detention. They believe that the age of criminal responsibility should be over the age of 14, which would have seen kids who had stolen a car and killed people in Queensland not charged. This would be an absolute disgrace.

We believe in tougher laws, and that is why we just passed these new laws in parliament today. I thank the ministers for listening to us and for acting. One would think that strengthening crime laws, giving police more tools and having tougher consequences and stronger protections for the community would be a basic point of agreement, but those opposite voted against it. They voted against stronger penalties, stronger enforcement and the very measures needed to restore order in our communities.

We will not be soft on crime. There will be more tough laws to come, and I am sure those opposite will not support them. Bail reform needs to happen. Too many youth offenders are getting bail and breaching it within hours and terrorising our streets because of Labor's failed soft laws. If someone breaches bail they should go to jail, no second chances. That is why, along with many of my colleagues from the Far North and North Queensland, I am pushing for hard bail reforms next.

I can assure the House that there is a lot more on my and the government's list. Our ministers are working hard, and I cannot thank them enough. Cairns deserves better than what the Labor Party ever delivered in Far North Queensland. Far North Queenslanders know that I have their back. The LNP Crisafulli government will continue to make the tough decisions required to make our communities safer.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMALL BUSINESS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Report, Motion to Take Note

Resumed from 26 March (see p. 872), on motion of Mr Lister—

That the House take note of the Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee Report No. 4, 58th Parliament—*Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland*, tabled on 18 September 2025.

Ms McMAHON (Macalister—ALP) (3.04 pm), continuing: Last week I started reviewing what was an initial volunteering inquiry. The work was done and then was completely discarded in order for us to do this all over again. Today I want to round off my contribution in relation to the volunteering inquiry and raise some of the very specific issues that the volunteers in my community, particularly those in relation to P&Cs, have been dealing with.

Very few of my schools actually have functioning P&Cs. They cannot find the volunteers to run the P&Cs. That means that vital funding for those small improvements within the school community—not necessarily those that meet SSIP requirements for schools or regional headquarters—are going unfunded. One particular school is a small school. The P&C volunteers do not even have kids enrolled

there anymore, yet they are still turning up to do their best to support the school that gave their kids a head start. They have told me about the annual governance issues of being in a P&C. They have to fundraise in order to afford the audit that they need to do to continue to exist. This is the definition of a self-licking ice cream. The P&C have to raise money to submit the report that keeps them a functioning P&C. They are not even able to raise funds for facilities in the school—a water bubbler, a shelter or some playground equipment. No, they are fundraising just to keep themselves afloat. My heart goes out to those P&C volunteers who are dealing with the governance issues.

Whether it is for sporting clubs or P&Cs, it is a big impost to find someone to do the treasurer role when they have no financial training whatsoever. Nowadays, running school tuckshops and uniform stores is a full-time job. In many cases it is being outsourced, and that means those funds are being lost to the school.

We have to make sure that the work we are doing in the volunteer space is meeting the needs not only of the schools but also of the volunteers. One of the primary reasons my P&Cs are not functioning is that they cannot get the volunteers. The volunteers do not feel comfortable with the amount of governance that is required for them just to function. I urge the government to look at some of these specific issues.

(Time expired)

Mr CHIESA (Hinchinbrook—LNP) (3.07 pm): I rise to speak in respect of committee report No. 4, *Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland*. Volunteering is the backbone of communities right across our state. It is the quiet force that keeps towns connected, services running and communities strong, and nowhere is that more evident than in regional communities like Hinchinbrook. Volunteers do not just lend a hand; they hold the communities together. Whether it is our SES crews responding to emergencies like floods, our rural fire brigades protecting lives and property, our surf lifesavers keeping our beaches safe or the many sporting clubs and community organisations bringing people together, these are the people who give their time, energy and passion, often without recognition, simply because they care.

Without volunteers, many of the services and opportunities we rely on every day simply would not exist. In Hinchinbrook, volunteering is not something extra; it is part of who we are. There are clubs, associations and community groups—they are the backbone of our community. They are centred around the three Ss—sporting, service and selflessness. In smaller communities like ours, if people do not step up things do not happen. It is as simple as that. From emergency services to sport and recreation clubs, service clubs, Lions clubs, Rotary, Scouts, RSLs and Volunteer Marine Rescue Queensland, volunteering plays a central role in community life.

I think it is important to acknowledge that, while I will not attempt to acknowledge the name of every organisation in Hinchinbrook, because there are a lot, I would like to mention a few that had a lasting impact on me growing up—the Forrest Beach Surf Lifesaving Club, the Herbert River Amateur Swimming Club, the Lightning Swim Club swim event in the northern suburbs of Townsville which I recently attended, and the Herbert River Junior Rugby League Club, the Herbert River Crushers. I was not a very good rugby league player. That is why I had to get into commentary!

These clubs were not just about sport; they were about community, learning discipline, building friendships and being part of something bigger than yourself. Behind each of those clubs are volunteers, coaches, community members, officials and parents who give their time to create opportunities for young people like me. That is the real impact of volunteering. It shapes communities but, just as importantly, it shapes people. Volunteers play a critical role in influencing our young people. They are mentors, role models and leaders. They teach values like commitment, teamwork, respect and resilience—values that stay with people for life.

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to attend the Lions Youth of the Year in Ingham—an outstanding speaking competition where I got to hear six outstanding young people speak with confidence, clarity and passion about their future. It was incredibly impressive. It was also a reminder of the role that community organisations like the Lions play in developing our next generation of leaders. Interestingly, I would like to note that the winner in 1996 was a young man by the name of David Crisafulli, who would then go on to become Premier of Queensland—so volunteers can have an impact on people. It shows that an Ingham boy can become Premier. That shows the lasting impact of these programs and the volunteers who make them possible. These are the outcomes of strong volunteering cultures in our community.

To every volunteer across the Hinchinbrook electorate, and right across Queensland, I say thank you. Thank you for the early mornings and late nights. Thank you for the weekends spent coaching, organising, fundraising and supporting others. Thank you for the countless hours of work that often go

unseen. You do not do it for recognition but you deserve recognition. The committee report rightly recognises both the immense value of volunteering and the challenges that come with it, whether they be time pressures, cost of living or declining participation rates in some areas. It highlights the importance of ensuring that we continue to support and strengthen volunteering across Queensland so that future generations can continue to benefit from the same opportunities that so many of us have had.

When we support volunteers, we support communities and, in places like my community of Hinchinbrook, that matters more than ever. I would like to acknowledge the work of Volunteering North Queensland, a wonderful organisation. Volunteering builds stronger communities, it builds better people and it creates opportunities that would not otherwise exist. In Hinchinbrook we are incredibly proud of our volunteers and we will always back those who give their time to make communities better.

Hon. GJ BUTCHER (Gladstone—ALP) (3.12 pm): Every community has its backbone—the people who quietly show up day after day, expecting nothing in return but the knowledge that they are making a difference in their communities. In Gladstone that backbone is our volunteers. We love our volunteers in Gladstone. Queensland volunteers are the social fabric of our local communities. In Gladstone that means our SES crews; our Rural Fire Service in Gladstone and surrounding areas; Meals on Wheels; our not-for-profit organisations; Not-For-Profit House, which was set up to assist the not-for-profit organisations and volunteers in Gladstone; our local sporting clubs; our P&Cs; our schools; our culture groups; and there are so many more. They are the ones who step forward in a time of crisis and they are the ones who keep our community connected in times of need. They are the ones who make Gladstone the place that we are so proud to call home.

Behind that generosity is a reality that we cannot ignore. In Gladstone volunteers are juggling work in heavy industry while running junior sports competitions. They are finishing long days on site and heading straight to committee meetings. They are trying to recruit new members while also navigating increasingly complex compliance systems. They are absorbing the rising costs of insurance and fuel through fundraising barbecues and selling raffle tickets at the local club just to keep their organisations going. I thank them.

I would like to acknowledge in the Gladstone community Kate Duffy, who is a disability advocate. In the Australia Day awards this year she was given the top award in her category. I also acknowledge two community champions who were awarded the mayor's prize—Bev Fellows and Gloria Holmes, who are absolute champions and well known in the Gladstone region. I thank you for your support and for volunteering in your organisations. They keep showing up. That is what makes a difference. That is what makes our volunteers so remarkable—not just their contribution but also their commitment.

Earlier this year, as we said, there were many other individuals who also received awards on Australia Day and they continue to outshine themselves in doing volunteer work in the region. They did not step back when things got tough; they stepped up. While it is important to recognise them, to thank them and to celebrate their service, we must also acknowledge that that recognition alone is simply not enough because volunteers do not just need our gratitude once a year; they need that support every single day.

This weekend right across the Gladstone electorate we will once again see the true spirit of volunteering on show. Our RSL sub branches will be busy on a public holiday ensuring that our Anzac Day services are run smoothly. I want to acknowledge the executives and the sub branch of the RSL in the Gladstone region for the continued work they do for the community and for returned servicemen. From early morning dawn services on Anzac Day to the marches and commemorations that follow, including the long lunch that happens at the RSL in Gladstone, these volunteers will be working behind the scenes to ensure that our community can come together and honour those who have served. They will set up before the sun rises, particularly the milk and the rum, and they will coordinate ceremonies with care and respect. They will do it not just for recognition but because it actually matters to people. They do it because communities matter.

The Gladstone community matters. Moments like these remind us that the work volunteers do in regional communities like Gladstone often goes unnoticed. It happens quietly, it happens consistently and too often it happens without the recognition it deserves. Today I want to take a moment to change that. To every volunteer in Gladstone, and to volunteers right across Queensland, I want to thank you for all that you do. Thank you for the hours that you give, thank you for the sacrifices that you make not only for yourself but for your families, and thank you for the resilience and generosity that you show time and again day in and day out. Our state would not be the same without our volunteers helping our communities. Our communities would not function without our volunteers. Quite simply, Gladstone would not be Gladstone without those wonderful volunteers. As the member for Gladstone, I have seen

firsthand the impact volunteers have. I see it on our sporting fields around the region, in our emergency responses, in our community organisations and in everyday acts of kindness that bring all of these people together.

Volunteers are the heart of our community and they deserve more than recognition. They deserve respect, support and real investment so that they can continue to do the incredible work they do. When we support our volunteers, we strengthen our communities. When communities are strong, Queensland is stronger and better off for it.

Mrs POOLE (Mundingburra—LNP) (3.17 pm): I too rise in support of the Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee report No. 4, *Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland*. From the outset, I would like to say a huge thank you to the minister for all the work that she has put in and that of the committee in preparing this report and for showing our community what our volunteers mean to us.

Mr Stevens: And the committee.

Mrs POOLE: I take that interjection. I thank the committee for all the work it has done and for listening to our community. I have to say a huge thank you to the committee for coming to Townsville. Never before has Townsville had such a strong voice than it has had since the Crisafulli LNP government has been in government.

Mr Stevens: We love the regions.

Mrs POOLE: I take that interjection. They love you too, Ray. When we are talking about our volunteers, we are talking about the lifeblood of our community. If we had no communities, I think every member in this chamber could agree that everything would grind to a halt. Our volunteers contribute $117 billion to our economy, but it is their time, their selflessness, that keeps our community heart beating.

Where does each and every one of us get our values from? We get our values from our parents and families, and that is where I learned the value of volunteering. I can speak from the perspective of not only being a volunteer but also managing volunteers. In Townsville, and I am sure across the greater community, people do not just volunteer for one organisation. Our amazing volunteers wear many hats, and you will see that across the community. When I was growing up my father was a volunteer coach for the Centrals ASA junior rugby league. I am not sure he was a very good coach—I do not ever remember them winning any grand finals—but he was there coaching twice a week, he was there every weekend and—

Mrs Kirkland: He showed up.

Mrs POOLE: I take that interjection; he showed up. He then went on to be a volunteer referee.

Mr Mander: A very intelligent man!

Mrs POOLE: Yes, and he was quite a high calibre of referee as well. I learned values from not only my dad's side but my mother's side as well. My earliest memories were of my mother volunteering at the Aitkenvale primary school tuckshop. I remember that half a pie and a chocolate milk cost 35 cents. You could earn that money by volunteering yourself as a school student in the tuckshop, so we learned from a very young age the value of our volunteers.

In my role in policing I had the pleasure of managing and steering volunteers through the Neighbourhood Watch program, a program that we all know very well. They were so very valuable in our Volunteers in Policing program as well. They worked alongside our amazing police officers and they assisted in so many community events. I am really proud to say that for 16 years I have been a volunteer for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. As we know, in this chamber we passed some really important legislation in relation to Daniel's Law the day before Day for Daniel last year.

I am also really proud to say that at the Townsville show every year we have a kids ID alert. It is affectionately known as the 'catch and release' program. On each and every child we put a band with an important number on the inside so we can reunite parent and child really easily. That program, which is celebrating 20 years this year, would not be possible without the hundreds of volunteers who have assisted over that 20 years. I take my hat off to our volunteers. They are the lifeblood and the beating heart of our community. On behalf of our government, the minister and I sincerely thank the committee for the work they have done to recognise the selfless work of our volunteers.

Dr O'SHEA (South Brisbane—ALP) (3.23 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the report titled *Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland*. The Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee was asked to investigate the current state of volunteering in Queensland, including: the value it brings to individuals and our local communities in Queensland; the barriers and challenges faced by individual volunteers and volunteer organisations; the extent, effectiveness and efficiency of

support provided to Queensland's volunteer sector by government; and proposals for addressing the challenges faced by the volunteer sector and opportunities to improve the volunteering experience. I thank the many Queenslanders who contributed to the inquiry for their thoughtful submissions and their time.

Volunteering Queensland, the peak body for advancing and promoting volunteering in our state, defines volunteering as time willingly given for the common good without financial gain. That very definition sums up the selfless attitude of our wonderful volunteers freely giving of their time to help their communities.

The inquiry found that Queensland volunteers make a tremendous contribution to our state, their work benefiting and enriching our society through providing essential services to individuals and communities, particularly during times of natural disasters. In the report *State of volunteering in Queensland 2024*, Volunteering Queensland found that an estimated 2.8 million Queenslanders volunteered in the 2022-23 financial year, with an economic value of over $117 billion to our state.

My community of South Brisbane is fortunate to benefit from the hard work and commitment of our many volunteer organisations, including groups such as Emmanuel City Mission, Community Friends, Rosies, Orange Sky Laundry and St Vincent de Paul which assist vulnerable community members and people experiencing homelessness by providing nutritious food, clothing, laundry facilities and vital social connection. Then we have our many parents and citizens associations, whose volunteers work tirelessly supporting our students and raising vital funds for our school communities and sporting clubs like the Kangaroo Point Rovers and Eastern Suburbs Football Club, which are sustained by the hard work and passion of so many people giving up their evenings and weekends to coach and train the young members of our community. I sincerely thank them for their contributions.

With the devastating floods in North Queensland earlier this year we are reminded once more of the vital role volunteers play in our disaster management, particularly in the rural and regional areas of our state. I take this opportunity to thank the SES volunteers and all of the community members who gave their time and energy to support their community in flood impacted areas. Their commitment to their community at a time of great trauma speaks volumes about their compassionate focus on others and their needs, often to the detriment of their own.

Given that volunteer participation rates in Queensland are falling, with a decline of more than 10 per cent between 2020 and 2023, equivalent to a loss of about 200,000 volunteers, investment in volunteer management, infrastructure and organisational capacity is urgently needed. Rural and regional volunteer groups in particular are under significant financial pressure and face unique geographic challenges. Individual volunteers and volunteer organisations consistently report that onerous bureaucracy is acting as a barrier to the recruitment of volunteers. Addressing these challenges requires practical reforms and long-term financial investment from the state government to deliver tangible outcomes.

As Queenslanders look ahead to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to revitalise our state's volunteer culture. That support and funding must extend far beyond the games. It must include our community services, our emergency and disaster response organisations and the thousands of local groups that sustain our volunteering sector across Queensland.

Hon. AC POWELL (Glass House—LNP) (Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation) (3.27 pm): At the outset I acknowledge my colleague the member for Warrego, the Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers, for her referral of this inquiry to the Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee in the first place. We have all spoken of the importance of volunteering. We all know many of the challenges we have heard anecdotally from our volunteers. It was very timely that the minister provided the committee with this referral and I thank the committee for their consideration and their report.

I rise today to acknowledge that report and extend my heartfelt thanks to the many amazing volunteers across the Glass House electorate for all they do. From our local community groups and sporting clubs to our dedicated emergency services personnel, who step up in times of fire, flood and storm, your service underpins the strength, resilience and spirit of our region. We are forever grateful for your commitment and care.

I rise today to recognise and celebrate a remarkable group of people who form the backbone of every community across the electorate of Glass House. Our volunteers are individuals who give their time, energy and compassion, not for recognition or reward but because they believe in the strength and spirit of community. They are the quiet achievers who step forward when help is needed and remain long after the spotlight has moved on.

We see volunteers in our local schools mentoring young people and helping shape the next generation. It is in that spirit that I want to make special mention of Megan Holznagel from the Peachester P&C. In a small, close-knit school community of around 40 families, Megan has been the heart of the P&C and a dedicated volunteer for more than 11 years. She is someone who never complains, who is always the first to put her hand up and who quietly keeps things running behind the scenes without ever seeking recognition. Megan juggles work and the busy extracurricular lives of her three children, yet she still finds the time to give so much back to her school community. Her ongoing commitment, kindness and unwavering community spirit make a real and lasting difference. She represents the very best of what it means to be a volunteer.

I would also like to acknowledge Kirsty Levis who works with the Uniting Church and beyond. Kirsty is deeply committed to her church, including her involvement with the Girls' Brigade. At the Upper Caboolture Uniting Church's 150th celebration in November last year, she played a key role in organising the Girls' Brigaders, who did a fantastic job managing parking for the event and ensuring the whole day ran smoothly. In addition to this, Kirsty serves as the church treasurer—a role she undertakes with diligence and care. But, wait for it, she does much more. She also serves on the Beerburrum School of Arts Association, the Caboolture Community Action group and the Glass House Mountains Rural Fire Brigade as well as supporting the Glass House Mountains Community Collective. Without her, the communities around Beerburrum, Glass House Mountains, Upper Caboolture and Caboolture more generally would all fall in a heap. Thank you, Kirsty.

Then there is Vicki Heading, our current Glass House District Tennis Club president. Vicki has been involved in tennis for many years. When she lived in Maleny, she was heavily involved in the then Maleny Swimming Club as well as giving 25 years to Maleny Quota. She was an instrumental member at the Maleny and District Tennis Association. After she retired and moved back to the Glass House Mountains, she recognised the need to revive the local tennis club. Thanks to her dedication and leadership, she now serves as president of the newly re-established Glass House District Tennis Club, which is now an incorporated association affiliated with both the Glasshouse Mountains Sports Club and Tennis Queensland.

I also want to acknowledge Lynda Burgess, the President of the Maleny Show Society. She has been a member of the Show Society for over 21 years and has stepped into the role of president. Lynda demonstrates her deep love and dedication to her community through the countless hours she has devoted to making local events such as this an outstanding success. Her contributions extend well beyond the showground. She was named the 2020 Zonta Woman of Achievement, a testament to her tireless service and leadership. Like Kirsty, she has been actively involved in so much more. She is part of the Witta Recreational Club, the Maleny Hospital Auxiliary and the Maleny District Senior Citizens' Club, and she has also helped to run Muscle on the Mountain.

To every volunteer across our region—whether your contribution is seen by many or known by only a few—please know that your efforts matter. You are making a real and lasting difference. Finally, I want to acknowledge the many community organisations across Glass House that are strengthened, sustained and often entirely powered by volunteer effort. These organisations are the backbone of local connection, opportunity and care, and they simply could not function without the volunteers. On behalf of the Queensland parliament and the people of Glass House, I extend my sincere thanks. Your dedication, generosity and community spirit embody the very best of who we are. Thanks to all the volunteers.

Ms PUGH (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (3.32 pm): I rise to speak on the inquiry into volunteering. First and foremost, I want to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution volunteers make across our state and our nation. I have been privileged to attend the Queensland Volunteering Awards in years past and hear just a few of the stories of Queensland's volunteers. To be in their company was incredibly uplifting, but they do not do it for the awards or the clout, as the kids would say. They do it because without them our communities would not be the connected and supportive places that my community certainly is.

When I think of volunteers, right now I think of two very special people in my life—firstly, my dad Dave, who has recently retired and has signed up to coach ladies soccer at St Cats, the over-35 Cougars; and, secondly, my husband Talbot, who has signed up as the P&C treasurer for our little girl's school, Middle Park State School. I also want to mention my sister's mother-in-law, although she is not a Queensland volunteer. She has been recognised as the Tweed Local Woman of the Year, which is quite a significant acknowledgement. Her name is Deb Hunt, and some of the work she does services that border community, connecting new mums and bubs. I give a big shout-out to Deb who is a relative of mine. Tonight I will be hosting some of our amazing P&Cs here at parliament to thank them for what they do in our community, so this debate is very timely for me.

All members of this House know what every single volunteer in Queensland gives. I have our wonderful men's sheds at Centenary and Oxley. I have three fantastic RSLs—Sherwood, Darra and Centenary—which have put hundreds of hours into organising this weekend's Anzac Day services. One of my RSLs has four Anzac Day services which they organise on their own. I am blessed in my electorate to have a huge number of Probus and Rotary clubs. I think I may have more than any other member of parliament but I am happy to be proven wrong. I have Sumner, Jindalee, Mount Ommaney, Centenary and Sherwood, with Chelmer just outside the electorate. I think I might have the most but, again, I am happy to be proven wrong.

We also have volunteer groups that organise our Christmas carols every year, and one of them receives over 5,000 attendees. I would like to take a moment to thank our faith-based volunteers who cook meals and take food around. They do a wonderful job. Just this weekend past I celebrated the 100th birthday of one of our most prolific community volunteers, Dorothy Russel, a member of our Catholic parish who was recognised with a certificate from the Pope. She is an outstanding volunteer in my community and I want to recognise her here today.

We have some incredible multicultural events, like Sri Lanka Day, which is organised by our local Sri Lankan community powerhouses. On the weekend just past, the Vietnamese Women's Association organised the Trung Sisters Commemoration, which is quite similar to our Anzac Day celebration. They also assisted the Sri Lankan community to set up a similar group—the Sri Lankan Women's Association—to assist their women to come together to discuss issues that matter to them.

When you think about the number of volunteers that I have in my electorate alone, it is quite breathtaking. I will leave the last word on volunteers to Brian Tovey, who was one of just three finalists in the Queenslander of the Year senior category a few years ago. He is a justice of the peace and he volunteers for a P&C, the Sherwood Meals on Wheels and the local tennis club, to name just a few of the things he does.

I am concerned that this inquiry was a bit of a missed opportunity for our volunteers because I cannot really see what more it has delivered for them. It should have built on our former Labor government's Volunteering Strategy through to 2032. It was a whole-of-government strategy released just a few weeks before the Crisafulli government announced it was proceeding with its own volunteering inquiry. This inquiry was an opportunity to make progress and build on that foundation; instead, it has reinterrogated a lot of those same challenges that were raised. The majority of the committee's eight key recommendations reaffirm or replicate a lot of the work we had already done. I think we can all agree that our volunteers do so much for our communities. We have all spoken passionately and in a bipartisan way about that in this place. I think they deserve better than government reviews that replicate each other.

Mr STEVENS (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (3.37 pm): At the outset, I congratulate the minister, the member for Warrego, from beautiful Roma—with the Roma Turf Club and the Roma Clay Target Club, as well as the other wonderful volunteer venues out there—for instigating this wonderful inquiry. I congratulate the committee members for doing a wonderful job and travelling the length and breadth of the state, particularly into the regions as we heard earlier.

I am very proud to have the Volunteering Gold Coast premises situated in Miami in the electorate of Mermaid Beach. The man in charge is a wonderful fellow and the sexiest man alive, Brad Cooper—well, that is his namesake anyway. They run a wonderful volunteering effort supplying transport for people who need help. Volunteers are the backbone of our Gold Coast society. The council estimates there are over 60,000 volunteers through all the different groups. We have got all different clubs: from PCYCs to Meals on Wheels to race clubs, including our fabulous turf club volunteer organisation, which I was deputy chair of for a while. Volunteering is the backbone of great communities and we see it right across the state. Without those volunteers, the youth today in particular would have nowhere to go except into bad behaviour, which is what we were trying to arrest earlier today with our legislation that passed.

This is a wonderful recognition of those volunteers. I have some very close relationships with a couple of clubs that I have worked hard with. There is the Gold Coast Lapidary Club. It has been there for 53 years and has over 400 members, who built the premises themselves. Bruce Harle, the president, has been negotiating strongly with the Gold Coast City council. I have assisted wherever I could to help with upgrades of their facilities.

One of the things—the previous speaker also spoke about this—I am very close to is the men's shed at Pizzey Park in Burleigh. They do a wonderful job and help a lot of men with some difficulties and fractured personalities, particularly a long-term great footballer and personal friend of mine. People

such as Ray Deverson, president Warren Robotham, secretary Jim Caswell and committee members Stuart Kapper, Don McMahon and Peter Quirk are a classic example of volunteers in our community who are doing a great job.

We could not pay for the volunteers who help us in all our wonderful areas. It does not matter whether it is the Burleigh Bears football club or the Broadbeach Cats, there are volunteers in their droves helping out in the Mermaid Beach electorate. I thank them and thank all members involved in that inquiry for highlighting the importance of their work. The minister obviously recognises that they need all the support we can give, and that will be the case. I heard earlier from another member that more financial matters might be arising, but that is not what they are after. They are after regulatory support and breaking down of any barriers they have. There have been barriers over the years in terms of their set-ups related to limited liability et cetera that have been impediments for some of the clubs, particularly when they are driven by people who are not experts in financial or legal matters.

Whatever we can do to support our volunteers—as I said, there are 60,000 of them in the Gold Coast area alone—we are totally supportive of. I thank all volunteers for their wonderful work. I thank again the committee for recognising the need for this and I thank the minister again for her inquiry, which was extensive. It took quite a while, and that is the only way a proper inquiry gets done. I certainly welcome the recommendations and the advices received in this report.

Mr KING (Kurwongbah—ALP) (3.42 pm): I rise today to speak to the Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee's report No. 4, *Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland*. I acknowledge the amazing amount of work that has gone into this inquiry across some 15 public hearings around Queensland. I thank the more than 500 stakeholders who took the time to make a submission. It is staggering, though not surprising, to hear the committee's finding that, based on 2022-23 figures, volunteering in Queensland returns around $117 billion to our economy every year. There are more statistics that the committee highlighted. In the 2022-23 period an estimated 64.3 per cent of Queenslanders, or 2.8 million people, volunteered. These Queenslanders gave approximately 719 million hours of their time in volunteering, and for every dollar invested in volunteering $4.70 was returned.

I will take a moment to give a shout-out to the awesome volunteers across my electorate of Kurwongbah who are doing their bit to make Queensland a stronger, more social, more civic and more prosperous place to live. These awesome volunteers include our hardworking P&Cs, sports club executives, the volunteers at Park Run—and I give a special shout-out to the Petrie Park Run, where we recently celebrated 10 years—and the Moreton Bay Meals on Wheels team. I love going out on guest driver days at Meals on Wheels. They really do make a difference every day for so many locals.

I also give a shout-out to all the Scouts and Guides groups in my patch where the volunteering ethos has been passed down through generations of Scouts and Guides families. I have been a strong supporter of these organisations since my election to parliament. I am always proud to help them out with donations and by attending their events.

I want to thank the volunteers in our CWA groups who can always be relied on for a scone and a sandwich at local events like the Pine Rivers Show. They taught me the valuable lesson that you do not take jams to a CWA event as a raffle prize. They make better jams themselves, as they let me know in no uncertain terms. I thank local progress and community associations for identifying the local issues and lobbying for improvements in our suburbs. I give a shout-out also to the new Moreton Bay Women's Shed on the edge of my electorate in Lawnton, a great new group for our community.

From the locals who join Lions and Rotary clubs, Probus and Zonta, RSL and RAAF to the local businesses that put up their hands to serve on chambers of commerce, the number of unpaid voluntary hours they give in service of communities is so appreciated. To our JPs, Cdecs, our volunteers in church groups and community activists that run The Man Walks and Silver Fox Initiatives I say: thank you for your service. For those who volunteer with the SES and rural firies—and my wife was one for many years—I say: thank you for putting your life on the line for Queenslanders. I am hopeful this report will bring further changes to assist them in their activities.

I know that this report recognises the decline in Queenslanders volunteering their time and I am sure we can all see this in our electorates—schools that cannot fill P&C positions, seniors groups disbanded when essential volunteers fall ill for long periods, sport clubs in decline due to rising costs of insurance and fees, and fewer drivers doing more and more runs for Meals on Wheels. I am not on the committee that conducted this inquiry, but I am grateful for the work of our colleagues. I do, however, echo the concerns expressed by the Labor committee members in the statement of reservation that

this inquiry, and indeed the LNP government before the inquiry was initiated, failed to consider the work Labor had already done in developing a Queensland Volunteering Strategy and Action Plan. If the LNP are not handing in our homework, they are reinventing the wheel.

Volunteers need to be supported in far more practical ways. I hope the government has the grace and fortitude to do this when it responds to what are some pretty disappointingly lacklustre recommendations. The government could do a lot more to support volunteers instead of looking like a bunch of snollygosters.

Mr CRANDON (Coomera—LNP) (3.46 pm): It gives me great pleasure to rise to talk to this report—and what a great report it is and what a great subject: volunteers in our communities. We all take the time to talk to them. I thank the minister for coming up with the idea and I thank the committee members for the hard work they put into this. The committee travelled right around the state—to 15 different locations, as I understand it. There are so many volunteers who do so much for the northern Gold Coast, but I will start with just a few of them.

There are the four local rural fire brigades looking after our communities on the northern Gold Coast. There is Rocky Point out there in the canelands which has been there forever. It kicked off back in 1979. Then there is Cedar Creek-Wolffdene to the west of the electorate. It is shared between Logan City and the Gold Coast, so it is looking after both cities in that regard. Ormeau is just down the road from my place and I drive past it every day coming in and out of the area I live in. They are doing some wonderful work in and around the area. I get to know about the amount of training undertaken by the Ormeau rural firies because they are very local to me. Then there are the Wasp Creek rural firies. Although they do all of their training in my electorate, they do most of their work on South Stradbroke Island, which is in the electorate of the Premier of Queensland. They have a boat that takes them over there, where they have vehicles, and they do some fantastic work looking after the people of the South Stradbroke Island community.

Quite randomly, I will go to the Rotary Club of Pimpama. Among other things, they recently assisted two of our rural fire brigades—Rocky Point most recently and Ormeau before that—with the funding of their new command vehicle. Without the Rotary Club of Ormeau-Pimpama, neither of those rural fire brigades would have their command vehicles. As I said earlier, Rocky Point kicked off in 1979. Their vehicle had a total cost of $82,500. I recall that on the night we were delivering it to them they said it would have taken several more years of fundraising if not for the Rotary Club of Ormeau-Pimpama. I think they put something like $36½ thousand towards that $82½ thousand. Let's not forget the other aspects of the Rotary Club. They did a fantastic job with the amazing Teddy Bears Picnic that saw thousands of locals come out and have a lot of fun just down the road in Ormeau.

The other day at the Ormeau Little A's award ceremony it was great to see that it had its second largest number of subscriptions in its history—161 sign-ups this last year. With the Olympic and Paralympic Games coming, I have no doubt that we are going to see a lot more growth there. The wonderful amount of work that the volunteers do—and it is not just the president and the vice-president but it is all of the trainers, the coaches and all of those people—is also worth acknowledging.

North East Albert Landcare is an amazing organisation. It was first established in 1992, and over the last 25 or so years it has protected and enhanced flora on the northern Gold Coast. Most recently they discovered 1,000 small and large suckers of the Ormeau bottle tree, so that has taken away some of the concern they had. It started out in the canelands. It has replanted and protected tens of thousands of trees and shrubs along the Pimpama River and continues to do so much more to protect the green inside the northern Gold Coast. There are so many other volunteers and volunteer groups on the northern Gold Coast going about what they are doing very quietly like Gold Coast Storehouse, which is headed up by Kahui Dickins. Kahui is a very down-to-earth individual who provides low-cost food items and other items for the local community in Coomera. She is doing a wonderful job.

(Time expired)

Hon. ML FURNER (Ferny Grove—ALP) (3.51 pm): I rise to make a contribution on report No. 4 before the House today regarding volunteering in Queensland. As a member of the Labor opposition I want to put on the record our support and acknowledgement of all volunteers across this wonderful state of Queensland. Today we have heard from many speakers about the communities that they represent and the volunteers in those communities. Volunteers are the salt of the earth when we consider the commitment, the selfless hours and, beyond that, the many contributions they make to the organisations that they support. I also want to put on the record my recognition of the member for Algester and former minister, the Hon. Leeanne Enoch, for the work that she did with regard to the Queensland volunteering strategy and the volunteering strategy action plan—the foundations of what

this inquiry heard about after the good work that the former Labor government did with respect to inquiring into volunteers. There was an opportunity for the current government to build upon those foundations and deliver more support for volunteers.

As a supplementary member to the inquiries in Gympie, the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane, we heard firsthand from witnesses the things they wanted—very simple things such as assistance with a little bit of money towards the fuel that they provide in order to transport patients in various parts of their communities. We heard that in Gympie. People want support with regard to the next phase that is ahead of us in six years time for the Olympic Games. There was an emphasis on the fact that there is very little support required, but the current government has left them wanting in terms of providing that support. I encourage the minister to ensure that in any future inquiries we look to deliver those sorts of initiatives for the people who selflessly provide assistance in our neighbourhoods and in our communities.

My origins in volunteering started when I was a surf-lifesaver with North Burleigh lifesaving club. I remember the days of going into the Orient Hotel and working with the senior selling tickets in chook raffles and then ending up at the Mount Gravatt Showgrounds and hitchhiking from there on a Friday night to the clubhouse and volunteering down there and serving that part of the world on the Gold Coast to ensure that people were safe on the beaches. I have done work for the Cancer Council. What a great organisation that is in terms of raising funds to eliminate cancer in our society. I worked with it on the Relay for Life for over 10 years to raise funds.

I have also volunteered for the Samford Rural Fire Brigade. The one person who taught me a lot out there was Mark Orreal, who is the Brisbane North District President of the RSL. Mark taught me how to hold a hose. When I worked there at the rural fire brigade I did controlled burns and prepared those sites. One of the contracts it had was the Enoggera Barracks, which is in my electorate now, where we would do controlled burns in the bushland at the back of Keperra and preparing that for those burns. A lot of work goes into that. These are men and women who go out there on weekends. They give up their weekends and give up their spare time and put the effort into ensuring that those controlled burns do not get away from them.

Currently, as most people who know me would know, I have a direct focus on seeing the elimination of domestic and family violence. For the last several years my focus has been working with the Red Rose Foundation and putting red benches into my community of Ferny Grove. Last year it was Ferny Grove State High School's turn and we worked with the students there to raise funds towards Red Rose and installing a red bench at the school. This year we are working with Mitchelton State High School with the same concept of raising funds through a raffle to get a red bench at the Mitchelton State High School. I am very encouraged by the students, who have gone out of their way. Their enthusiasm to raise funds for the Red Rose Foundation is outstanding. I want to put on record my appreciation of their commitment. The bench at the Mitchelton State High School will be installed towards June this year. Once again, well done to all of the volunteers in the state of Queensland for the work that they do.

Mr BENNETT (Burnett—LNP) (3.56 pm): The parliamentary inquiry into volunteering in Queensland is timely and necessary. It recognises something that regional Queensland has always known: volunteers are not an optional extra; they are an essential infrastructure in our community. Across our state millions of Queenslanders volunteer their time. They serve in sporting clubs, charities, faith groups, community organisations and emergency services. They strengthen our regions, support people in need and build social connection. In Bundaberg and Burnett we have seen that spirit in droves over recent months. As flood recovery continues across our region, our community's willingness to step up and lend a hand has been front and centre. We have seen neighbours helping neighbours, local businesses stepping up without hesitation, farmers and our agricultural industry clearing out each other's properties, sporting clubs opening their doors and volunteers giving their time, energy and resources to support complete strangers. That willingness to help without a second thought defines our region and makes me very proud to represent it.

Our emergency service volunteers have once again shown why they are the backbone of disaster response in regional Queensland. Our SES volunteers work around the clock in uncertain conditions, conducting rescues and clearing debris. Reports provided to this parliament make it clear that these volunteers are highly trained, deeply committed and increasingly relied upon as natural disasters become more frequent and complex. These are volunteers, but they carry a professional level of responsibility. To SES director Angela Everist, Kieran Galey and the many local unit volunteers who worked long hours in tough conditions this month, we thank you. Our rural fire brigades at Gin Gin,

Branyan and across the region also stepped up during the clean-up phase. Like the SES, these are volunteer-based services that train to a high standard, maintain equipment, respond at short notice and put themselves in harm's way to protect each other and their communities. To our police and in particular Chief Inspector Grant Marcus, who worked extraordinarily long hours and was there every step of the way through to response and recovery, thank you to Chief Inspector Marcus and his entire team.

The inquiry also, and rightly, recognised that volunteering is broader than just our emergency service response. Behind every uniform is a wider network of community volunteers who provide the wraparound support—the people filling sandbags late at night, the people delivering meals, the people cleaning out homes who have never stepped foot in there before, the people providing a listening ear. To Alive Church, led by Joey and Adam, thank you for opening your doors and mobilising volunteers so quickly. To the mud army volunteers who turned up with shovels and wheelbarrows, you have our thanks. To Jamin Fleming of Oztech Drones who delivered medicines and essential supplies to isolated families and then assisted our growers to assess crop damage once the water had receded, a big thank you to you and your team for the skills and the benefit you provided to others.

I give a shout-out to and thank Bree Watson and the Bundaberg Fruit & Vegetable Growers group who helped coordinate support for our agriculture sector experiencing immense pressure and Tanya Howard from Canegrowers for standing shoulder to shoulder with our primary producers. These volunteers are what community looks like. I also want to acknowledge the Bundaberg Regional Council and the Gladstone Regional Council and their disaster management teams, who coordinated volunteers, emergency services and recovery operations. It was a whole-of-community effort.

Our volunteers have been invaluable during recent weeks and it is no secret there is a growing demand on volunteers and emergency services. Volunteer fatigue is real, training obligations are increasing, and insurance and compliance costs are rising. Many organisations rely on an aging volunteer base while also trying to attract new and younger members who have competing work and family pressures. If we want services like the SES and Rural Fire Service to remain strong in the future, we must listen carefully to what volunteers are telling us, and that is what this inquiry did.

Back in the Burnett, the Crisafulli government has prioritised getting practical support out the door quickly to flood-affected homes, businesses and primary producers. I want to remind people that the recovery grants of up to $50,000 have been increased for small business. I give a shout-out to the minister, who comes to Bundy regularly to support our businesses and our community. That $50,000 is important for not-for-profits as well. Primary producers can access up to $75,000 in freight subsidies. Clean-up efforts for sporting clubs can get $5,000 for immediate recovery. Government support matters, infrastructure matters and funding matters, but without volunteers recovery simply does not happen.

Volunteers do not seek recognition; they simply get on with the job. To every SES volunteer, to every rural fire brigade member and to every quiet helper behind the scenes I say thank you. Our communities are stronger because of you. In the 22 seconds I have remaining to me I will do a quick shout-out to the Rotary Club of Bundaberg Sunrise, of which I have been a member now for 26 years. They do great work in our community. We are incredibly well led by Deneita, who is a great president. With 59 members, we are really proud of the work we do as volunteers in our community.

Debate, on motion of Mr Bennett, adjourned.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (4.01 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until 9.30 am on Tuesday, 12 May 2026.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

HOME OWNERSHIP AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (4.01 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Duties Act 2001, the First Home Owner Grant and Other Home Owner Grants Act 2000, the Land Tax Act 2010, the Payroll Tax Act

1971, the Taxation Administration Act 2001 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Home Ownership and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 [597].

Tabled paper: Home Ownership and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026, explanatory notes [598].

Tabled paper: Home Ownership and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026, statement of compatibility with human rights [599].

I am pleased to introduce the Home Ownership and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. The bill includes several amendments to home ownership and other related legislation administered by the Queensland Revenue Office, with the amendments being necessary to ensure their continued proper operation and preserve the integrity of state revenue and grant administration. The amendments further support the rollout of the Crisafulli government's key home ownership election commitments: Boost to Buy and axing the tax on first home buyers purchasing or building a new home. As our state's first ever Minister for Home Ownership, I am determined that this government will pull every lever at its disposal to drive up home ownership after a decade of decline under Labor in which our state languished at the bottom of the national home ownership ladder and a generation of young Queenslanders lost hope.

This bill amends the Duties Act 2001, the First Home Owner Grant and Other Home Owner Grants Act 2000 and the Land Tax Act 2010 to confirm their operation for participants in the Queensland Boost to Buy and Commonwealth Help to Buy shared equity programs. On 15 December 2015, this government opened the first round applications for our Boost to Buy home ownership program, followed by the opening of the second round just a few weeks ago. Our $330 million Boost to Buy program is a nation-leading initiative grounded in the simple but powerful belief that home ownership should not be reserved for the few but available to the many. Through Boost to Buy, eligible participants can receive an equity contribution from the government of up to 25 per cent of the purchase price of an existing home or up to 30 per cent of the purchase price for a new home. By enabling first home buyers to enter the market with as little as two per cent deposit, Boost to Buy is opening doors that were previously closed for so many.

On 5 December 2025, the Commonwealth government opened applications for its national Help to Buy shared equity program. The amendments in the bill confirm that participation in Boost to Buy or Help to Buy will not affect treatment for transfer duty, grants and land tax purposes. This will ensure participants can access transfer duty home concessions, the first home owner grant and land tax home exemptions for homes purchased under a Boost to Buy or Help to Buy arrangement in the same way as other homebuyers. These amendments will take effect from the dates Boost to Buy and Help to Buy first opened for applications. This will ensure that all participants can access relief available under revenue and grants legislation, subject to meeting the relevant conditions.

These necessary amendments have also been made by other states in support of the national scheme. Unlike Queensland, those states introduced these amendments alongside the required legislation to refer legislative power to the Commonwealth to deliver the scheme. The Help to Buy (Commonwealth Powers) Bill introduced by the former government and passed in June 2024 was brought forward before the details of Help to Buy were finalised. The former Labor government's bill failed in their attempt to wedge the then LNP opposition on shared equity schemes ahead of the 2024 election. All of the other mainland states sensibly waited until the Commonwealth finalised the detail of their scheme and referred constitutional powers alongside the required revenue legislation amendments in a single bill.

Labor's stunt did not work, and not only is this government enabling Help to Buy; we are leading the nation through our even more comprehensive Boost to Buy scheme. More than 1,500 appointments have been exhausted in both round 1 and round 2 of the Boost to Buy program across the south-east and right around regional Queensland. Where the former Labor government waited until its 10th budget before giving any tax relief to first home buyers, the Crisafulli government axed the tax on first home buyers building new homes within 10 sitting days.

Since 1 May 2025, first home buyers building or buying a new home have not paid a cent in transfer duty. This includes relief for first home buyers who purchase vacant land on which they will construct and occupy their first home. Currently, the definition of 'vacant land' requires that there are no existing structures on the land when it is acquired. This bill amends the Duties Act to expand the concept of vacant land to include land that has certain existing structures on it such as sheds. This will enable eligible first home buyers purchasing land with uninhabitable structures to access the savings—a small but important change to expand the number of circumstances where this relief applies and where new homes for first home buyers can be delivered. Since last May, our policy has helped over 2,600 first home buyers move into home ownership.

The First Home Owner Grant and Other Home Owner Grants Act 2000 provides for payment of a grant to eligible first home buyers in certain circumstances. Among other things, applicants are required to satisfy residence requirements. The Commissioner of State Revenue has the discretion to vary or exempt an applicant from these requirements if there are good reasons to do so. The bill will restore the intended policy and practice of 'good reasons' following a Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal decision that expanded the scope of these discretions beyond their intended operation. The amendments will clarify that 'good reasons' means circumstances which are outside the applicant's control preventing compliance with the residence requirements. This will support the effectiveness of the residence requirements and the integrity of the first home owner grant program, promoting fairness and equal treatment for all those who seek to access this grant.

In a similar vein, the bill also amends the Taxation Administration Act 2001 to ensure the tax assessment dispute provisions operate as originally intended. The amendments will clarify that taxpayers seeking an appeal or review of related tax matters can proceed to either the Supreme Court or QCAT but not to both. This is consistent with the original intention of the provision and will protect the intended operation of the appeal and review framework for disputing tax assessments.

The Duties Act provides vehicle registration duty relief for former members of the Defence Force who are entitled to certain concessional registration fees for a vehicle. The bill amends the Duties Act to expand the scope of this duty relief to include current Defence Force members as well, bringing the duty provisions into alignment with the settings for vehicle registration fees. This will mean the relief will be available to current Defence Force members in the same way as former Defence Force members, subject to meeting the relevant eligibility requirements.

The bill legislates two measures which are currently being administered by the Commissioner of State Revenue under administrative arrangements. Administrative arrangements allow legislation to be administered on a particular basis, generally pending legislative amendment. These arrangements are only implemented in relation to taxpayer beneficial changes and allow the government to deliver these benefits to taxpayers in a timely way. Administrative arrangements are usually published when they are made to provide transparency, and legislative amendments from the date the arrangements took effect generally follow to provide greater certainty for taxpayers.

Firstly, the Payroll Tax Act 1971 will be amended to confirm that the Commissioner of State Revenue may exclude two or more persons from a group for payroll tax purposes. Secondly, the definition of a 'new home' in the First Home Owner Grant Act will be amended to include homes that have previously been sold under certain builders' terms arrangements. Under these arrangements, a builder contracts to buy land from a developer but is permitted to build a home on the land before settling on the land. As the home forms part of the land at the time the land is transferred from the developer to the builder, this constitutes a sale of the home. The amendments will enable eligible first home buyers who purchase such homes to access the First Home Owner Grant. The bill also makes a similar amendment to the definition of 'new home' in the Duties Act to enable eligible first home buyers of homes that have previously been sold under certain builders' terms arrangements to access the transfer duty first home (new home) relief.

Finally, the bill contains amendments to the Duties Act, Land Tax Act, Payroll Tax Act, Taxation Administration Act and the Taxation Administration Regulation 2022 to reflect changes to other legislation, address cross-referencing issues and remove obsolete references. These amendments will ensure the currency of this legislation and that it continues to operate as intended. This bill contains several important revenue measures to support the government's commitment to deliver a place to call home for more Queenslanders, and to make other amendments that are necessary to support the administration of Queensland's revenue and grants legislation. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (4.11 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

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

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to Governance, Energy and Finance Committee

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

Portfolio Committee, Reporting Date

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (4.12 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That, under the provisions of standing order 136, the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee report to the House on the Home Ownership and Other Legislation Amendment Bill by Friday, 12 June 2026.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

EDUCATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction

Hon. JH LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Minister for Education and the Arts) (4.13 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017, the Education (Capital Assistance) Act 1993, the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, the Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2017, the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005, the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Regulation 2016, the Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014, the Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Regulation 2025, the Libraries Act 1988, the Public Sector Regulation 2023, the Queensland Art Gallery Act 1987, the Queensland Museum Act 1970, the Queensland Performing Arts Trust Act 1977, the Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970, the Working with Children Check Act 2000 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes.

I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Education, Arts and Communities Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Education and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 [600].

Tabled paper: Education and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026, explanatory notes [601].

Tabled paper: Education and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026, statement of compatibility with human rights [602].

I am very pleased to bring the Education and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 to the Queensland parliament. The proposed reforms in the bill build on legislative reforms successfully delivered by the Crisafulli government last year. The proposed reforms will provide further opportunity to deliver on our government's commitment to enhance regulatory settings and reduce burden, support re-engagement of students and deliver continuity of quality education. The bill amends various Queensland education statutes and the five Queensland arts statutory bodies acts. The Crisafulli government is delivering on its commitment to ensure that Queensland students can succeed no matter where they live.

In March we launched the new education framework, *Brighter futures: delivering excellence in every state school, for every student*. This framework provides the building blocks for a world-class state education system. It will empower every student of every background, ability or culture to realise their full potential by delivering excellence through shared priorities of high expectations, local decision-making, digital innovation and a confident, professional state school workforce. As part of this commitment to deliver Queensland's future through education, the Crisafulli government will also continue with the red-tape-reduction plan for teachers, the $100 Back to School Boost for every primary school student and anti-bullying strategies so all teachers and students can work and learn in safe environments for decades to come. The Queensland government is delivering 15 new schools in our record $21.9 billion education budget, which includes new primary schools in Caloundra South and Ripley Valley and six special schools to provide choice to parents and help all students reach their potential.

The Crisafulli government is also delivering a plan for the future of Queensland's vibrant arts sector, having recently invested nearly $1.8 million through the inaugural Queensland Arts Project Fund which is aimed at supporting arts groups, organisations and individuals across the state. Intersecting with education, one of the 37 successful applicants to receive funding this year is Ms Kirtley

Walker-Halstead, a violinist and schoolteacher in Far North Queensland. This funding is all part of the Crisafulli government's plan to grow the state's vibrant arts scene ahead of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games through our 10-year arts strategy, Queensland's Time to Shine.

The bill I am introducing today will deliver a brighter future for Queensland by providing key reforms that reduce regulatory burden, strengthen governance, improve educational outcomes, support re-engagement of students and continuity of education and improve the administrative efficiency of operations for education and arts statutory bodies, freeing up the workforce to focus on delivering outcomes for Queensland. The key education reforms in the bill will—

1. deliver risk-based quality regulatory frameworks, improve legislative clarity and enhance governance for the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board and the non-state schooling sector;
2. clarify and facilitate delivery of re-engagement supports for children and young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengagement from their education;
3. clarify the legislative status of education and training centres operating in youth detention centres and working with children check requirements for approved teachers working in these centres;
4. implement operational and governance improvements for the Queensland College of Teachers;
5. expand the model for international delivery of the Queensland Certificate of Education by allowing eligible Queensland non-state schools to partner with overseas schools; and
6. improve the governance of arts statutory bodies which are the Queensland Performing Arts Trust, Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland Museum, State Library of Queensland and the Queensland Theatre Company, providing for administrative efficiencies and arrangements that best support their operations.

I note that the arts amendments were introduced previously by the former government on 11 September 2024 without the time required to process through committee and debate, therefore lapsing with the dissolution of the previous parliament in September 2024. Reflecting the need for these amendments and the efficiencies that they will provide, I support these amendments being brought forward again as part of this bill.

I will now take the House through each proposal one by one, starting with the education legislation reforms. In relation to the non-state schools accreditation framework and the board, the first set of education legislation reforms will deliver amendments to the Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act 2017, the non-state schools act, which administers Queensland's non-state schooling sector and establishes the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board, which I will refer to as the board.

In 2023, an independent review of the Queensland non-state schools accreditation framework was completed. The reforms in the bill will respond to two recommendations from the review by supporting a more proactive, risk-based regulatory approach and addressing operational issues for the board. Specifically, review recommendation 2.3 dealing with a risk-based approach for assessment of accreditation attributes and recommendation 4.2 dealing with delegation powers will be addressed in full or in part.

First, regarding the change in accreditation attribute, non-state schools sometimes need to change an accreditation attribute such as adding year levels or introducing boarding facilities. The current approach requires governing bodies of non-state schools to apply to the board for any change in their accreditation attributes. Regardless of the type of change requested, the board must undertake a full accreditation assessment rather than being able to undertake a targeted, risk-based approach to accreditation assessment that is proportionate to the change in attribute. Thus, amendments in the bill introduce a risk-based assessment process allowing the board to choose either: a simple assessment focused on the proposed change in attribute for low-risk changes, such as a change in the student intake day; or a full assessment of accreditation for more significant changes, such as the addition of a boarding service at the school.

The bill also clarifies that the accreditation of the school does not lapse whilst the board is continuing an application for a change in attribute. This reform will streamline the process for changes to accreditation attributes while ensuring the board's assessment effort is proportionate to risk. This change will support more efficient decision timeframes by the board and avoid an unnecessary administrative burden for the board and non-state schools, relieving all parties from the unnecessary assessment of unrelated aspects of a non-state school's operation. The reforms will also remove operational uncertainty for non-state schools about their accreditation status while the board considers their change request.

Regarding use of temporary sites, as we know, in Queensland events such as natural disasters may result in schools needing to temporarily relocate. It is important that the delivery of education to Queensland students continues in those circumstances. Currently, under the non-state schools act, non-state special assistance schools can use temporary sites, provided they comply with temporary site criteria. However, this framework does not currently extend to other non-state schools. The non-state schools act is also unclear whether a special assistance school's accreditation status continues while the board makes a decision about an application to change the site attribute for the school to include the temporary site.

Reforms in the bill extend the existing temporary site framework so all non-state schools can operate from a temporary site when affected by an emergency event and clarify that the school remains accredited during the board decision-making process. These amendments will better support continuity of education for non-state school students and provide certainty for schools planning short-term delivery arrangements. The bill also makes a consequential amendment to the Education (Capital Assistance) Act 1993 to ensure the existing policy that capital assistance cannot be provided to a special assistance school for a capital project for a temporary site also applies to the expansion of a temporary site used by a non-state school.

Regarding power to delegate functions, the bill also takes steps to provide for a contemporary delegation model, allowing the board to choose to delegate certain functions or powers to an appropriately qualified officer of the department. Currently, the board does not have a clear power to delegate routine administrative tasks, which can limit its operational flexibility and efficiency, slowing down routine regulatory processes and reducing the ability of the board to focus on strategic priorities. Reforms in the bill will reduce the board's administrative and regulatory burden by giving it the power to delegate routine or procedural functions. Examples of functions the board may decide to delegate include approving changes to student intake days, managing administrative aspects of compliance programs and appointing authorised persons following a board decision to do so.

The board will continue to make regulatory decisions in relation to certain fundamental functions. For example, accreditation decisions, decisions about eligibility of a governing body for government funding and advice to the minister will not be able to be delegated. Importantly, the delegation of a function or power does not eliminate the delegator's obligation to ensure that the function or power is properly performed or exercised. Additionally, if the board has any concerns about the performance or exercise of a delegated function or power by a delegate, it may, despite the delegation, perform or exercise the power or function.

I turn now to the ministerial statement of expectations. The bill provides an additional reform enabling ministerial expectations to be communicated. The Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Act does not currently provide a mechanism for the minister to clearly state performance and strategic expectations for the board. This type of mechanism is common across statutes for boards. Whilst direction powers exist, they are not designed to set routine operational expectations and performance priorities.

The bill will introduce a ministerial statement of expectations mechanism to improve clarity about expectations for the board's performance and alignment with government priorities, operating alongside and separately from existing direction powers. This reform will align my ability as minister to issue a statement of expectations to the board with that of other education statutory bodies such as the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority. This reform will not impact the board's independence as a statutory body.

Regarding information sharing between the board and the Department of Education, the bill will allow the board to provide information about decisions the board has made, which is currently shared with me, with the Department of Education. Where the board's regulatory decisions intersect with the role and functions of the department, it is important that information is shared in a timely way.

While the board shares some information with the department to support the administration of funding, it does not currently provide updates on regulatory actions such as show cause notices issued to non-state schools or cessation of a non-state school's accreditation. This significantly limits the department's ability to perform its functions effectively, including administering Queensland government funding to non-state schools, providing timely advice to me on emerging issues and providing coordinated responses and risk management planning where non-state schooling continuity may be disrupted. The reforms in the bill will provide for timely information sharing from the board to the Department of Education about its decisions that impact accreditation and governing body eligibility for government funding, accreditation surrender and show cause processes.

I note the importance of maintaining the board's independence and ensuring the scope and purpose of these changes are clearly defined and understood. Like other non-state school acts amendments, these commence on proclamation. This allows time to work with key stakeholders and supports a smooth transition and the clear communication of reforms, ensures continuity of education and improves legislative clarity.

The next suite of proposed reforms relate to continuity of education and improved legislative clarity. The bill contains reforms in relation to the re-engagement of children and young persons in education, training and employment through amendments to the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, the E(GP)A, and the Working with Children Check Act 2000. These reforms deliver on our promise to help kids catch up, keep up and stay in school. The bill supports young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengagement to re-engage in education, training or employment and achieve their full potential by delivering reforms that improve legislative clarity and ensure continuity of education, supported by appropriate information-sharing provisions. Currently, a child of compulsory school age is required to be enrolled at and attending a state or non-state school and a young person in the compulsory participation phase is required to participate in school or another eligible option.

The Department of Education and select non-government providers currently deliver a range of non-school-based programs referred to as education re-entry and transition service programs. These programs are designed to re-engage children and young people experiencing, or at risk of, entrenched disengagement and who need extended support to address barriers for their engagement with education, training or employment pathways. Examples of these programs include department-led individualised case management and specialised alternative learning programs delivered by non-government organisations.

Currently, the legislation does not provide an explicit framework for these re-engagement programs where a child or young person is not immediately capable of staying in or transitioning back into a school environment or another eligible option to meet compulsory schooling and compulsory participation requirements. Reforms in the bill provide that the Department of Education and prescribed non-government providers may support and manage participation of children and young people in re-engagement programs until they are ready to transition back into school or another eligible option. The bill also provides for information sharing between the Department of Education and prescribed non-government providers of re-engagement programs to enable referral into and out of these programs.

Children and young people with, or at risk of, entrenched disengagement are more likely to have complex needs, backgrounds and behaviours which have contributed to their disengagement from education. Having necessary information about the child or young person's circumstances will facilitate successful referral to an appropriate re-engagement program that meets the child's or young person's particular needs and increases the likelihood of success of their participation in a program and continuity of education. The bill provides clear parameters and confidentiality for this information sharing which are not intended to conflict with or override other information-sharing laws. This reform supports the intent of recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse about the importance of sharing certain information when a vulnerable student or student with a complex background commences at a school.

An additional reform in the bill is also targeted towards supporting continuity of education, engagement and improved educational outcomes to deliver a brighter future for Queensland children and young people. Education and training centres provide education to young persons in youth detention settings, staffed by approved teachers employed by the Department of Education, and these centres have unique characteristics, including shorter enrolments and tailored delivery. While the legislation currently provides for the establishment of state schools and other state educational institutions, it is not sufficiently clear if education and training centres fall within the legislative framework. The bill supports continuity of education by explicitly recognising education and training centres as state educational institutions, providing clearer authority for their existence and the delivery of education programs in youth detention centres.

The bill will also amend the Working with Children Check Act 2000 to align blue card and exemption card requirements that already apply to teachers approved by the Queensland College of Teachers working in state educational institutions with the requirements for approved teachers working in education and training centres. The reform will remove unnecessary regulatory and administrative duplication for teachers working in education and training centres.

Further reforms in the bill improve the efficiency of operations of the Queensland College of Teachers, which I will refer to as the QCT, through amendments to the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005. The QCT is a statutory authority responsible for regulating the teaching

profession in Queensland. The QCT Act establishes the Office of Queensland College of Teachers which is made up of the director and staff. The director is the head of a public service entity prescribed under section 16b of the Public Sector Act 2022. The role includes exercising functions and powers like those of a departmental chief executive.

Other comparable education statutory bodies, such as the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, use the title 'chief executive officer' instead of the title 'director'. This inconsistency can have operational impacts and reduce clarity of authority in day-to-day administration and communications for the QCT. The bill, therefore, amends the QCT Act to update terminology, replacing the title of 'director' with 'chief executive officer' to align with contemporary governance standards, consistent with other education statutory bodies.

I now turn to financial year and reporting changes. The QCT Act currently sets the QCT's financial year as 1 January to 31 December. The timing of the QCT's annual report is linked to the act's definition of 'financial year' with the reporting currently due to be provided to me by 30 April each year. The QCT has found that this cycle is not operationally efficient as it does not align with the standard 1 July to 30 June financial year used across government. To support the QCT with improving the efficiency of its operations, the bill changes the QCT's financial year and associated reporting to commence from 1 July instead of 1 January. The bill also includes transitional provisions to support the QCT with implementing this reform.

I now turn to expanding offshore education delivery for non-state schools—international delivery of the Queensland Certificate of Education. Moving now to our educational exports internationally, an additional reform in the bill provides for expanded offshore delivery of the Queensland Certificate of Education—QCE—through amendments to the Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Act 2014. These amendments allow non-state schools to have the same opportunities as the Department of Education for the international delivery of the QCE.

Since 2011, the Department of Education, through the Department of Education International, has worked with the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, which I will refer to as the QCAA, to deliver the QCE in recognised overseas schools. Under the current model, the department undertakes due diligence, monitors performance, facilitates school reviews and provides professional development and training for recognised overseas schools. Independent Schools Queensland, as the peak body for independent non-state schools in Queensland, has advocated for the opportunity to partner with overseas schools to deliver the QCE. The current legislative framework does not provide a clear pathway for this to occur, so I am pleased to provide reforms to support this opportunity for the non-state sector.

The bill enables an expanded offshore delivery model so non-state schools, including grammar schools, can partner with overseas schools in delivering quality Queensland education programs. To strengthen governance and oversight, the bill makes the QCAA the authorising entity responsible for assessing and approving overseas schools and partnership agreements with both state and non-state schools in Queensland. The bill also provides for the QCAA to charge fees where necessary to offset costs of providing services under its functions. Fees will be stated in authorising agreements between the QCAA and partnering state or non-state schools and will be subject to indexation in accordance with the Queensland government's principles for fees and charges.

The bill also provides minor and technical amendments across the entire legislative package, including correcting typographical errors and updating outdated references to ensure the proper operation of legislation. Some provisions relating to enrolment of international students in state schools have been moved from the regulation to the E(GP)A to ensure an appropriate head of power, but the purpose of these provisions remains unchanged.

Further, minor amendments included in the bill, aimed at reducing unnecessary administrative burden, will modernise the criminal history check fee publication requirements. The E(GP)A requires a criminal history check for mature age students. Similarly, the QCT Act requires a criminal history check for teacher registration and eligibility declaration. Currently, criminal history check fees set by the Queensland Police Service—the QPS—are prescribed in regulations as dollar values and require regular updates via an amendment regulation when the QPS adjusts the fee. This creates unnecessary administrative burden, and any delay in legislative amendment can result in inconsistencies between the criminal history check fee that the department and the QCT can collect and the actual fee charged by QPS. The bill provides for a contemporary approach for the collection of the criminal history check fee by shifting the criminal history check fee publication out of the regulations and onto relevant websites instead. The criminal history check fee will remain set by QPS, and those currently subject to this fee remain unchanged.

Finally, turning back to the arts statutory bodies reforms I mentioned earlier, this bill will amend the Queensland Art Gallery Act 1987, the Libraries Act 1988, the Queensland Museum Act 1970, the Queensland Performing Arts Trust Act 1977 and the Queensland Theatre Company Act 1970. The amendments will improve the performance of the arts statutory bodies and reduce regulatory burden to deliver operational efficiencies, close gaps in governance functions and remove inconsistencies for outdated provisions. Some of these amendments relate to: providing for temporary leave and temporary appointments for chief executive officer positions and temporary leave of board members; enabling external persons to be part of board subcommittees to create consistency across the arts statutory bodies; providing civil liability protections for board subcommittee members; and streamlining reporting by removing extraneous requirements which are redundant and inconsistent with other acts such as the Financial Accountability Act 2009.

One of the more significant amendments relates to ticket scalping. Unauthorised reselling of tickets is an issue for the Queensland Performing Arts Trust with respect to financial loss, consumer disappointment and reputational damage to the venue. This will assist the Queensland Performing Arts Centre and hirers to deter scalping of tickets for performances. The introduction of these provisions is in line with those within the Major Sports Facilities Act 2001 and Major Events Act 2014 to maintain policy and legislative consistency across sport and major events ticket-reselling provisions. More broadly, these amendments as a whole will help our arts statutory bodies to operate more effectively and bring their legislation into the 21st century and ensure they are in line with our government's policies.

This bill will: reduce regulatory burden, deliver risk-based regulation, improve legislative clarity and enhance governance for the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board and non-state schools sector; support continuity of education by clarifying the status and facilitating the delivery of re-engagement programs for children and young people who are disengaged, or at risk of disengagement, from education; clarify the legislative status of education and training centres in youth detention settings and working with children check requirements for approved teachers working in these centres; reduce administrative burden through operational and governance improvements for the Queensland College of Teachers; expand the model for international delivery of the Queensland Certificate of Education by allowing eligible Queensland non-state schools to partner with overseas schools; and modernise arts statutory bodies' governance and operational arrangements to reduce regulatory burden and improve probity and efficiencies.

This bill continues the Crisafulli government's positive legislative reform agenda across the education and the arts sectors aimed at reducing unnecessary red tape, fostering a vibrant arts scene and supporting excellence in every school for every student. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. JH LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Minister for Education and the Arts) (4.42 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

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

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to Education, Arts and Communities Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Whiting): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Education, Arts and Communities Committee.

Portfolio Committee, Reporting Date

Hon. JH LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Minister for Education and the Arts) (4.42 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That, under the provisions of standing order 136, the Education, Arts and Communities Committee report to the House on the Education and Other Legislation Amendment Bill by Friday, 12 June 2026.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) (SUPPLEMENTARY 2024-2025) BILL

APPROPRIATION (SUPPLEMENTARY 2024-2025) BILL

Second Reading (Cognate Debate)

Resumed from 26 March (see p. 913), on motion of Mr Janetzki—

That the bills be now read a second time.

Hon. G GRACE (McConnel—ALP) (4.43 pm): I rise to speak on the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill and the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill. The first bill seeks approval for $5.4 million for unforeseen expenditure incurred by the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service. I can understand this, with the building work happening around the parliament at the moment. It would be nice to see our walkway from the Parliamentary Annexe to Old Parliament House finished, but we understand the difficulties in today's world of obtaining materials and skilled workforces that it takes a lot longer than we would like. I know that the Parliamentary Service is working hard to get that done. The second bill seeks approval for $5.7 billion for government departments across the spectrum.

Our Constitution provides that these amounts can only be paid from the Consolidated Fund under an act, so any unforeseen expenditure must be formally approved by the parliament via appropriation bills. The payments made to the agencies are authorised by the Governor in Council and, obviously, now must be formalised by the parliament. These bills, of course, meet the requirements so they can be formalised by the parliament. We did that when we were in government. These are the day-to-day operations of government. The opposition understands that. For that reason, of course, the Labor opposition will be supporting the supplementary appropriation bills.

I do note that there was some commentary around some previous supplementary appropriation bills. With the cost-of-living difficulties that we are experiencing today, particularly with the war in Iran and the impact that is having not only on Australia but also on the rest of the world, it was disappointing that the Treasurer spoke about the bill that happened to fund the $1,000 universal electricity rebate for households and the $300 rebate for small businesses. We understand that there was no need for a bill in relation to what we are debating this afternoon because those rebates have been scrapped and the government has not put in anything to replace them.

When you look at the bills that we had and the cost-of-living supports that we were providing when we were in government—it beggars belief that, because of the fuel crisis, it is estimated that the LNP Crisafulli government will be raking in something like up to $2 billion in extra royalties, which could be used to target cost-of-living relief for families and industries suffering from the fuel crisis that is due to the war in Iran. Although the federal government has put in some relief measures, this government has done absolutely nothing to assist families with cost-of-living relief.

There is one issue out there, and any member worth their salt will hear about it when they are talking to their constituency: the cost of living. It is right across Queensland. In my electorate we have seen housing costs and rents go up. They are still going through the roof. The costs of doing everyday family general business, what they would normally do day to day—going shopping, dropping the kids off to school, buying groceries, buying essential items and paying rent—are skyrocketing. It would be absolutely wonderful to see the government's backflip to not provide cost-of-living relief to Queenslanders reversed as a result of this windfall. We call on the government to do it. It is just not good enough.

There are many regional members of parliament in here, and health is one of those essentials that we need to make sure we are delivering for Queensland. It is the single biggest bill, and it breaks my heart when constituents ring to tell me about delays in getting specialist appointments. I had one recently from a great-grandmother about their great-granddaughter. It is disappointing to see these figures coming through about health care.

Labor has a proud track record of investing in health care. We continued to put record budgets and finances into that area. They speak about different things that are happening, but look at what was delivered. It is absolutely ridiculous to think that any government is going to solve every single problem across every single area in every single town with a magic wand. You have to methodically work through all of this. There are a couple of things you do not do when you want to help families. You don't not build the essential hospitals that we need today. You do not delay the beds that those families need today with some bogus report with ridiculous and nonsensical arguments that a certain hospital did not include this or that sort of service. We did not build one hospital that did not have those services in them. It is absolutely ridiculous to suggest that.

At the end of the day, you have to sustain those services in those areas. To sustain them, you need staff and you need to pay them well. You need qualified staff in those hospitals. Anything less than that and you are putting patients at risk. It is ridiculous to hear what they are saying.

Mr Head interjected.

Ms GRACE: I am ignoring him and not taking those interjections. I refuse to answer ridiculous, nonsense questions asked by the member for Callide. We see ballooning specialist outpatient waitlists.

Mr Head interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Whiting): Member for Callide, cease your interjections.

Ms GRACE: There are hundreds of thousands of Queenslanders who are waiting in the queue at the moment. It is a disgrace. Wouldn't it be nice to have some of that money going into servicing that waitlist? There are more than 346,000 on it, in fact. I believe there is even a waiting list for the waiting list. That is a tricky little thing that this government did when they were in government last time under Campbell Newman. Patients know when that is happening. They know when there is a waitlist for a waitlist. What a disgrace that 346,000 are on the waitlist!

It is the regions that are suffering. In Mackay I understand that there are 12,464 patients on the waitlist. That is a 22.3 per cent increase in the last 12 months. In North Queensland around Townsville there are 21,896 patients waiting for a specialist appointment. That is up 10 per cent in the last year. These are the actual figures. Central Queensland has seen a marked increase with 18,486 patients waiting to see a specialist. That represents—wait for it—a 40 per cent increase. Those opposite talk about delivering in those areas, yet these are the figures! They stand in here and boast about what they are delivering. Let me tell them one thing: patients know they are waiting. I am getting the calls. Members on this side of the House are getting the calls. There is no doubt that those in government are getting the calls as well. We need the beds and we need the beds now.

With this fuel crisis, we also need the government to show some sympathy and increase the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme. They are paying huge fuel bills at the moment. We increased the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme.

Mr Head interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Callide, next time it will be a warning.

Ms GRACE: We were always open to doing that when there was a crisis. We now have a fuel crisis due to the Iran war, which is not something we started. It is happening in the Strait of Hormuz. We are all impacted by that. We all know that. We are doing the best that we can. Every other state is taking action. Every other state is doing something. All this state can do is blame the Albanese Labor government. It is always somebody else's fault. It is never something that they can take responsibility for and actually deliver.

There are a lot of things we can do to help people when it comes to housing, health and cost of living, but this government is doing absolutely nothing. When it comes to long-term fuel security, instead of bringing in a jar of crude oil and kissing it, why not bring the formal proposal on that into this House so we can all have a look at it?

Mr BENNETT (Burnett—LNP) (4.53 pm): The purpose of these appropriation bills is to provide for supplementary appropriation for unforeseen expenditure that occurred in the 2024-25 financial year. At the outset, I want to remind the chamber of one simple fact: our budget measures are delivering. We are delivering record funding, targeted investments and measurable outcomes for Queensland's farmers, fishers, foresters, miners and regional communities. The payment of unforeseen expenditure must be formally authorised under an act of parliament in accordance with section 66 of the Constitution of Queensland 2001. The process of supplementary appropriations is a normal function of government.

What Queensland and the Treasurer have uncovered little by little since coming to government is the deception of the former Labor government, and the numbers make very clear just how deceptive they all were. The Labor government hid their project blowouts from the people of Bundaberg and Burnett. They underfunded critical frontline services relied on by my constituents. Their budget was designed to make it through the four months to the October election, not a full financial year. Like we saw in Bundaberg, there was nothing in the forwards for the hospital, the levee or the dam construction. Labor's budget was part of a short-term cynical political strategy, not a long-term agenda to improve the sustainability of our state's finances, deliver better services or build the new infrastructure our region needed after suffering a decade of decline.

In the short time since the election of the Crisafulli government, the Treasurer has uncovered many hidden cost blowouts and critical frontline services facing funding cliffs because of the decisions made by the Labor leadership. Others, including the Treasurer, have raised in their contributions the

previous government's mismanagement of the finances. Some examples have been provided in other contributions, but it is important to remind the House, as referenced in the Consolidated Fund financial report, that this bill factors in $461 million that we provided to Child Safety. Without the Crisafulli government stepping in to fund the services, the vulnerable children living in residential care would have been stranded without carers to help them and without a roof over their heads. We know that funding would have ceased in months and dozens of frontline safety officers would have been laid off. It is this government that provided employment certainty for those frontline workers in Child Safety.

We had to throw in over $200 million in net unforeseen expenditure across the Department of Housing and Public Works in 2024-25. This includes nearly $120 million for previously unfunded housing and homelessness services and $62 million for unfunded essential social housing maintenance. When it comes to delivering for those who need public housing in our state, we can never again take the member for Bundaberg seriously.

Other examples in the bill include $118 million in previously unbudgeted funding which was required to provide financial assistance to victims of crime to help them recover from the physical and psychological effects of being a victim of crime. This bill also reflects the actions we took to fully fund the delivery of the Crisafulli government's permanent 50-cent fares. That applies in Bundaberg, where they are utilised and people are very appreciative.

There is over $2 billion in unforeseen expenditure for Queensland Health. We could talk all afternoon about the problems with the Bundaberg Hospital. In fact, we had to have a rescue plan because we were only ever going to get a shell of a hospital. It was never budgeted for and there was no money in the forwards. We had to fund the Surgery Connect Surge to urgently address the elective surgery waitlist, which was out of control and Labor's decade of decline was certainly biting locally. Thanks to our government's efforts, we have stabilised that waitlist.

There is funding for black holes and cost overruns in hospital maintenance, refurbishment and infrastructure delivery funding. We have now provided that funding, thankfully, as part of our comprehensive Hospital Rescue Plan, which I mentioned previously. Those opposite, including the member for Bundaberg, spin stories and spread mistruths about their failed Bundaberg Hospital delivery, but I assure everyone that work is truly underway. The hospital will be bigger and better. We are going to provide more beds than were previously promised. There is no half a hospital. There is no nonsense. We are the ones who will deliver it. We also have provided pathways for health service delivery in Childers and Agnes Water—something that they have been waiting for for a long time.

I can tell you, Mr Deputy Speaker, how devastated people in my region are when they are reminded of the extra funding required for Cross River Rail. I explain to them that it was originally to cost $5.4 billion but now it will cost $19 billion. One question I cannot answer is: why is someone not in jail over this debacle? A businessman who I trust in town asked me the other day about Labor's signature policy of BPIC, Best Practice Industry Conditions. I explained we had got rid of this insidious policy, and that was welcomed. Then he asked about Labor's stance, and I unfortunately had to concede that all of the members over there cannot wait—in fact, they are frothing—to reintroduce the CFMEU tax. For Labor to now suggest that our process lacks accountability is nothing more than political theatre, designed to undermine confidence and continue their scare campaigns.

Our strong budget commitments allow the recruitment of 100 new biosecurity officers. It is this government that has invested to protect our state from invasive pests and diseases. I am glad we did not allow Labor's mismanagement of fisheries to delay implementing onboard monitoring and fisheries regulations. We got on with the job. I have told this House many times how much I love Spanish mackerel. These reforms, as well as the changes to the scallop quota, would never have happened under those opposite. Fisheries are now starting to come back on track.

Under those opposite we had regulatory policy chaos which confused everyone, alienated industry and left stakeholders uncertain. The government's reforms are steady and evidence-based. Labor still questions whether Queensland can reach its $30 billion primary industries output target by 2030. We need to be clear: under this government, we are already on track and forecast to exceed $24 billion in 2025, despite challenges. The opposition's views are nothing new. They doubt, they criticise and they undermine, but they never offer solutions. When in power they presided over stagnation in the very primary industries they now claim to champion.

I talk about agriculture because I am proud to be part of the Primary Industries and Resources Committee. The work that we do is truly protecting what should be—and what can be—a great industry going forward again. Labor raises concerns about balancing agricultural land with other uses, yet it is this government that has introduced statutory protections, engaged with stakeholders and prioritised long-term sustainability.

I have listened to the contributions from those opposite. It is a political attempt to rewrite history—and no doubt we will hear it all again tonight—and an attempt to deflect from their failures over the last 10 years. Where confidence is needed, Labor seeks to cast doubt and scare Queenslanders to score cheap political points. Queensland's farmers, fishers, foresters, miners and regional industries deserve more than whingeing from the opposition. We have a responsible, forward-looking plan that strengthens our industries, protects our biosecurity and secures jobs for regional Queensland.

We have to talk about good stories that have occurred since the last election, and one of those good stories is finally providing housing solutions. The Department of Primary Industries has been allocated a significant investment that has laid the foundation for the prosperity and resilience of our state's agricultural sector. We talked about the Shark Control Program—and how good is the shark drone program that has been rolled out? The manufacturing sector has been supercharged right across the state. We talked about resources and exploration—drill, baby, drill—and I acknowledge the gas and oil wells. We must accelerate mineral exploration in order to get ourselves in a better position. We should also remember the resource projects, the oil and gas. You do not have that bottle there for me, Minister? I digress.

A government member interjected.

Mr BENNETT: Indeed. Nature conservation has also been a big winner, with $120 million-odd over four years to boost natural resource management and biosecurity programs. This investment underlines our commitment to sustainable projects.

I commend the rigorous work of our committee. It is important to reflect on some other great work since the last election, including: Mon Repos; Brave Brothers, our local mental health group; Burnett Bowls Club; Childers heritage grants; and it was good to work with the member for Hervey Bay to finally get the artificial reef underway. There is more: the Walkers Point boat ramp—finally after 10 years we got that going—and the McCarthy and Goodwood Road intersection is looking good. We got rid of the insidious MDL 3040 over in North Bundaberg. It took that mob over there 10 years to do nothing. We did it within the first couple of months.

There is still more: the intersection of Telegraph Road and Ring Road; Bundaberg netball finally got some love; the Regional Reset program, which has been a real issue since taking a tough stance on youth crime; we finally got into those illegal tobacco and vape sales; the Wide Bay Sports Academy is up and running; the Bundaberg Race Club has some exciting announcements coming up; the Gateway Marina; the Isis Highway, $40 million; and after ambulance upgrades, stations are now going 24/7 in both Agnes and Childers. The Buxton intersection project has been hanging around for 15 years. Thanks to the minister's leadership, that project is now underway.

A few other projects include: the Bundaberg railway station upgrade; the Impact Community Academy, $1 million; Moore Park beach erosion and surf club; Bargara police station; Rocky Point boat ramp; Woodgate beach erosion; and flood mitigation is again being progressed. We have great changes to water policy. I will close out with the great announcement of free swimming lessons right across the electorate.

We have to tell good stories about what we are doing as a government. It has been a long time coming. People are cynical about government, but one thing they are not cynical about is when they see real delivery on the ground from a good government. Let's not forget great statements like 'a fresh start for Queensland'.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Marr): Before I go to the next speaker, there was a lot of chatter in the room just then, making it very difficult to hear. I ask you all to keep that down, thank you.

Hon. LM ENOCH (Algester—ALP) (5.03 pm): I rise to speak on the appropriation bills before the House. These bills fulfil the legislative requirement for parliamentary approval of all appropriations. The opposition, as we have already heard, will support them. It is the role of a responsible opposition to ensure the machinery of government continues to function. Support for the bills does not mean support for the priorities, the failures or the consequences of this government's decisions. Queenslanders know—because they are living it every single day—that the choices made by the LNP are making life harder, not easier.

In his introduction the Treasurer took the opportunity to attack Labor for the use of supplementary appropriation bills. He wants to rewrite history. He wants Queenslanders to forget what those appropriations actually delivered, so let's remind the House. One of those supplementary appropriations delivered something very real, very tangible and very necessary: $1,000 electricity rebates for Queensland households and $300 rebates for small businesses. It was practical cost-of-living relief at a time when families, like so many in my own electorate of Algester, needed it most.

What do we see now under the LNP? Affordability has not improved; it has deteriorated. The latest Consumer Price Index data tells the story: Queensland now ranks second in the nation for inflation; electricity prices have surged by 43.1 per cent; rents are up 4.9 per cent; housing costs have increased by 7.4 per cent; and insurance costs have risen by four per cent, double the national average. These are not just numbers on a Treasury spreadsheet; these are the bills sitting on Queensland kitchen tables. These are the choices families are making between groceries, power, rent and insurance. What has this government done in response? They walked away from meaningful cost-of-living relief. They have turned their backs on the very measures that kept Queensland households afloat.

We also need to inject some honesty into the discussion around so-called unforeseen expenditure. Treasury's own advice is clear: not all unforeseen expenditure is unbudgeted. It simply means spending that exceeds what was originally appropriated to a department. That can include outcomes from enterprise bargaining agreements. It can include centrally held funding and, importantly, it includes funding for this government's own election commitments. When the Treasurer tries to frame unforeseen expenditure as some kind of fiscal mismanagement from the past, he conveniently ignores the reality that his own government is now driving that very expenditure. They cannot have it both ways. They cannot campaign on promises and then complain about the cost of delivering them. That is not fiscal discipline; that is political convenience.

Let's turn to one of the central pillars of this government's economic credibility: their promise to rein in spending on consultants. Queenslanders were told that this government would deliver discipline; that they would cap consultant spending at $3 billion in 2024-25; that they would find almost $7 billion in savings. In fact, that promise was the cornerstone of their election costings. It was the reason they claimed their books were balanced. But what has happened in reality? The Queensland Audit Office has revealed that they have already blown through that cap by $1 billion—$1 billion—so the very mechanism that underpinned their claim to fiscal responsibility has collapsed within the first year. If that saving does not materialise, and clearly it will not, then where does the money come from? Budgets do not fix themselves.

When governments fail to deliver promised savings they are left with only two options: cut services or increase costs. Queenslanders are already seeing both. Nowhere is that more evident than in health. While this government talks about fiscal restraint, Queenslanders are experiencing the consequences in their hospitals, in their emergency departments and in their access to care. Today we heard from the CEO of Metro North HHS, where the seat of Stafford is located. He confirmed that ramping is up under the LNP, there is no timeline for the Prince Charles Hospital to be delivered and no construction is underway. We are seeing pressures build across the health system, with longer wait times, stretched staff and growing demand without the corresponding investment.

Let's be honest about what that means. When you cut, when you delay planned infrastructure that would deliver more hospital beds or fail to invest adequately in health, it has real-world consequences for patients. It is the family waiting longer in an emergency department; it is the elective surgery that gets pushed back; it is the healthcare worker asked to do more with less. At the same time as cost-of-living pressures are rising, Queenslanders are being asked to pay more and wait longer for essential services. That is the double hit of this government's approach: higher costs and fewer supports.

Hovering over all of this is a warning sign that should concern every member of this House: the state's credit rating. Under Labor, Queensland's credit rating was affirmed at AA+ with a neutral outlook in September 2024. That reflected stability, discipline and a clear fiscal strategy. Under this Treasurer that outlook has now been shifted to negative. That is not a technical adjustment; it is a signal from the market that confidence is slipping.

What did S&P Global say specifically? They made it clear that the government's promised savings on consultants would be crucial to maintaining the AA+ rating. Those savings are not being delivered, so the question is obvious: what happens next? When a credit outlook deteriorates, it drives up borrowing costs, and when borrowing costs go up taxpayers pay the price. That means less money for hospitals, less money for schools and less money for the very services Queenslanders rely on. Again, it feeds directly back into cost-of-living pressures.

This is the pattern we are seeing from the LNP: they promised savings that are not materialising, they are presiding over rising costs for households, they are allowing pressure to build in essential services like health, and they are putting the state's financial position at risk—all while trying to deflect blame onto the past. Queenslanders, like the good people of the Algester electorate, are not interested in political excuses; they are interested in what is happening right now—on their power bills, in their rent, at the supermarket and in their local hospital. Right now, they are worse off.

The opposition supports the bills because we believe in the proper functioning of government, but let us be equally clear. We do not support the direction this government is taking Queensland. We do not support a government that abandons cost-of-living relief while prices surge. We do not support a government that makes promises on savings and then fails to deliver them. We do not support a government that allows pressure to mount in our health system while Queenslanders struggle to access care. We do not support a government that risks the state's credit standing through poor fiscal management.

Queensland deserves better than this. Queenslanders deserve a government that understands that budgets are not just numbers on a page but a reflection of priorities, and right now this government's priorities are not aligned with the needs of Queenslanders. We will continue to hold this government to account—for the rising cost of living, for the pressure on our health system and for their failure to deliver on the promises they made to the people of this state.

Miss DOOLAN (Pumicestone—LNP) (5.11 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the cognate debate on the appropriation bills. This bill tells a very clear story—a story of a former government that hid the truth, underfunded essential services and left Queenslanders to pick up the pieces. What we are dealing with here is not routine. This is $5.7 billion in unforeseen expenditure—a staggering figure, representing 6.3 per cent of the original budget. Let's be honest. This did not happen by accident. This happened because the former Labor government designed a budget to survive an election, not to serve Queenslanders for a full financial year. That is not respecting taxpayer money, and Queenslanders deserve better.

Across critical areas of health, housing and child safety, we are uncovering the consequences of that decision. More than $2 billion had to be poured into Queensland Health just to stabilise the system, and there was a $461 million black hole in child safety funding in one of the most vulnerable areas of government responsibility. These are not just numbers; these are real Queensland families, children and communities who rely on essential services. I see the impact of this mismanagement firsthand in my electorate of Pumicestone. In communities like Bribie Island, Beachmere and Ningi, people do not talk about budget papers; they talk about whether they can see a doctor, whether they can afford rent, whether their kids are safe. For too long, those opposite failed to deliver.

This bill is not just about the failures of the past; it is also about the responsibility of the present and the opportunity to deliver on the commitments we made to Queenslanders. While we are fixing Labor's mess, we are also delivering a fresh start. In Pumicestone that means delivering on real, tangible election commitments. It means permanent 50-cent fares—a policy that is already putting money back into the pockets of local families and helping them get to work, school and appointments without the financial strain. I spoke with Ningi local Evie, who takes a train to university, and she is very grateful for the 50-cent fares, but Evie is not the only young person who relies on public transport to get to uni. I only graduated recently, and I remember a time when I was paying an extraordinary amount every week to get to my uni classes. Thankfully, I had a family who supported me during my studies, but not every young person in Pumicestone has this so making 50-cent fares permanent makes a world of difference to the lives of young people.

We are investing in transport and infrastructure, ensuring growing communities like ours are not left behind. We have just finished the Bribie Island Road upgrade from Old Toorbul Point Road to Saint Road. We are continuing to work on this critical upgrade with the next section in the detailed design phase which will improve safety and reduce congestion for thousands of locals who rely on it every day. For my community, infrastructure is not abstract; it is about getting home safely at the end of the day.

This government is also delivering on commitments to support young people. In Pumicestone I meet young families every single week who are doing everything right but are feeling the pressure. That is why programs like Back to School Boost and Play On! vouchers matter—so kids in Beachmere can play rugby league with their friends and kids on Bribie can play soccer with the Bribie Island Tigers Football Club. That is why our investment in youth programs, community organisations and education is so important—because we believe in backing young Queenslanders, not leaving them behind.

We are also addressing one of the biggest challenges facing our communities: housing. In my community I want to give a shout-out to the East Pumicestone Community Support Association and St Vincent de Paul, who are fighting to have more accommodation for women escaping domestic and family violence. Labor left behind a system that simply was not keeping up. Over $200 million is required for housing and homelessness services that should have been funded in the first place. Those opposite pretended that their housing crisis did not exist. Under their watch, housing lot approvals fell by 29 per cent. A $2.2 billion black hole in trunk infrastructure was left behind, leading to record low vacancy rates

and a social housing waitlist jumping 77 per cent across Queensland. That is why this government is investing in housing supply, unlocking land and supporting pathways to home ownership—because every Queenslander deserves the security of a roof over their head.

This bill also reflects a government that is putting victims first. Funding included here supports financial assistance for victims of crime, something that those opposite failed to prioritise. They prioritised the rights of offenders over the rights of victims. In communities like mine—where residents have felt the impact of youth crime—supporting victims matters. Good government is not just about balancing the books; it is about keeping people safe.

The reality is this. The level of supplementary appropriation we are seeing, even at 6.3 per cent, is still historically high, and that is entirely due to the mismanagement of those opposite. They left behind rising debt, growing deficits and underfunded services, but Queenslanders made a choice. They chose a government that would restore discipline, a government that would respect their money and a government that would deliver—and that is exactly what we are doing. We are methodically working through the fiscal mess left behind, we are restoring accountability to the budget and we are delivering real outcomes for communities like mine in Pumicestone

This bill is not just about approving expenditure; it is also about acknowledging the truth and taking responsibility for fixing it. While those opposite may want to avoid scrutiny, this government will not. We will face the challenges head on, we will deliver on our commitments and we will ensure every Queenslander—no matter where they live—gets the services and support they deserve. I commend the bill to the House.

Hon. MC BAILEY (Miller—ALP) (5.17 pm): I rise to speak on the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill. Labor will not oppose the bill because supplementary appropriation bills serve a formal purpose, but Queenslanders are entitled to judge the priorities of the government behind the bill. After all the promises made before the last election and not kept after the election, what do Queenslanders see from this Crisafulli LNP government?

They see Premier Crisafulli who promised no health cuts in this very chamber but is delivering health cuts. They see a government that before the election promised 2,200 beds by 2028 but then dumped that promise in their very early days in office. They see a government that now spends bucketloads of taxpayer funds on ads, billboards, YouTube and at cinemas—in all kinds of ways to promote themselves and cover up that broken election promise—but is not delivering health services. They do not deny that they will target the Stafford by-election with taxpayer propaganda, as evidenced in question time today. They see a government that promised doctors and nurses would be back in charge and ignored them as soon as they won power whenever the advice did not suit their outdated LNP ideology. They see a government that promised transparency and then ducked, weaved, hid and abused parliamentary process again and again, and this week was one of the most obvious examples of that. They see a Premier who is good at the photo-op but never at the follow-up.

We had record ramping under Minister Nicholls and Premier Crisafulli last July. The health system is going backwards under Premier Crisafulli and his so-called health minister, Nicholls—with record ramping last July and a self-inflicted, botched flu season because they did not promote the flu jab, with the Premier and Deputy Premier refusing to back vaccination and give the usual support that leaders should show in health. Who can forget the botched CHO appointment? We look forward to the corruption watchdog's report on their investigation into that debacle last year which was a reflection on not just the minister but the government.

Hospital expansions have been cut, pushed back and shoved off into the never-never with no timelines, no certainty and no honesty about what is really going on. The Prince Charles Hospital expansion, which was committed to by the previous government, and the new Queensland Cancer Centre should be under construction right now, but they were cut by Premier Crisafulli. In a growing state with rising demand and a health system already under enormous pressure, that is reckless. It is short-sighted. It is also in the LNP's DNA.

There is currently a big, seven-storey building standing empty, waiting for the construction of the Queensland Cancer Centre. It would have had a year of construction under its belt right now if the current government had kept to the commitments made by the previous government. However, they have kicked it off into the never-never and cut it. We have seen this with the Prince Charles expansion and its 93 extra beds. As evidenced in the committee this morning, there is no funding and no timeline and construction has not started. It is something that has been cut by the government. The people of Stafford will no doubt judge this government and their record of cutting north-side services in a couple of weeks time.

When governments cut hospital expansions, of course it is the patients who suffer. Ramping worsens. The specialist outpatient appointment waitlist in Queensland has surged under this government by double digits. This health minister's eyes are totally off the ball when it comes to outpatient specialist appointments. There is absolutely no prioritisation going on there whatsoever. There are blowouts right across the state—right across regional Queensland and regional cities that are now represented by LNP members who have nothing whatsoever to say about those outpatient lists that are putting pressure on people. The reality is that a lot of them are waiting beyond the clinically recommended time. That means suffering for them. Frontline staff are left dealing with even more pressure in a health system that is already stretched to the limit. It is the staff who are really holding the system together.

Healthcare workforce morale is through the floor right across the state, with nothing but contempt for the health workforce being shown by their reviled Minister for Health, who has even attacked nurses during the enterprise bargaining process.

Mr O'CONNOR: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. I ask you to bring the member back to the long title of the bill.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Marr): It is an appropriation bill. I have given you some leniency. Please bring it back to the bill as much as you can.

Mr BAILEY: Madam Deputy Speaker, I certainly take your guidance. Of course, Queensland Health makes up the largest part of this appropriation, at over $2 billion. How else would you describe threatening to cut radiation therapists' pay by 25 per cent? They are radiation therapists who deliver cancer treatment for Queenslanders during some of the hardest days of their lives. Patients rely on them when they are sick, when they are frightened and when they need care, yet this minister's answer is to threaten to slash their pay by one-quarter. What kind of health minister does that in the middle of a global and national health workforce shortage and rising demand for cancer treatment?

Ms BATES: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. Can you please ask the member to return to the long title of the bill? That has nothing to do with this particular bill.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will get everyone to stay seated and I will take some advice. We have had a look at the bill. It contains health, but I would ask you to remain relevant to what is in the bill.

Mr BAILEY: Absolutely, Madam Deputy Speaker. What we are seeing here is a government that does not have its health costs under control. They promised they would fund it by cutting a couple of billion out of consultancy expenditure, but they have failed to do that. That is very clear and it has been very widely acknowledged. There has been a failure of leadership in terms of managing the Queensland health portfolio and we can see that in this very bill. I note that the bill has had a very broad interpretation. What we are seeing here again is a government that is being evasive, weak and cold. They often will not answer questions about health in this chamber. That is simply the case. Anyone who is in question time can see that.

Government members interjected.

Ms Bates: The member for Miller has had to correct the record a couple of times. I think he's doing it again.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members to my right.

Mr BAILEY: Those opposite can interject all they like to try to prevent me from speaking the truth, but they will get more of it. I assure them that they will get more of it. I note that one of the interjectors was the former shadow health minister, who has been denied and kept away from that portfolio in government. One can only imagine how big that $2 billion figure for Queensland Health would be if the member for Mudgeeraba was actually the minister. It would be even worse than under Minister Nicholls.

Government members interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Miller, you did ask for some of that, so can you return to the bill? Thank you.

Mr BAILEY: Absolutely, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am happy to speak about the health record of this government.

Mr Mickelberg: Tell us about what happened when the CFMEU stormed the TMR building while you were the minister, mate.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members to my right.

Mr BAILEY: 'Bumbling' Brent.

Mr Mickelberg interjected.

Mr BAILEY: 'Bumbling' Brent. How is the speeding going, mate? Any speeding fines lately?

Ms Bates interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please stop the cross-chamber chatter.

Mr BAILEY: What I would say is that, while this Appropriation Bill is about expenditure that has already been made, it also tells us a great deal about the government's priorities. They always seem to have money for taxpayer-funded propaganda, whether it is the *Village Voice*, newspapers across Queensland, YouTube, bunting or ads. Why is that money not going into health services? They say they do not have enough money for radiation therapists or for nurses. They plead poor, yet we see so much going into their own self-promotion rather than public health. Queenslanders were promised higher standards by this Premier, but what they got from this Premier and his so-called health minister is simply broken promise after broken promise.

We also need to see the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme updated. We saw an increase in 2023 under the previous government. We need to see another increase to deal with the cost-of-living pressures that are really biting Queenslanders and their budgets hard right now. That is what we need to see. The opposition leader, Steven Miles, is very clear in his support for reform in terms of funding for regional Queenslanders. If the current government's regional members will not stand up for regional Queenslanders, the Labor opposition certainly will to ensure they can get the healthcare treatment they deserve.

Queenslanders are really starting to see this government for what it is. We have to ask the question: who can imagine any other premier calling a by-election before a deceased MP's family and friends could say goodbye? I cannot think of any. The standards—

Mr Stevens: Seriously?

Mr O'Connor: Seriously? You announced your candidate before us, mate. How about that?

Mr BAILEY: I hear interjections from people who have cut social and affordable housing. That is their record. The member goes around cutting ribbons on projects that Labor funded. He is a vacuous minister who stands for nothing and is a well-known lightweight around the place and in the media.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Direct your comments through the chair, thank you, member for Miller. You have 11 seconds left. Please put all your comments through the chair.

Mr BAILEY: Absolutely. I will wrap my comments up. I note that the interjections from some of those opposite show how lightweight they are.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Redlands, as a courtesy I would like to remind the House of those who are currently on a warning. They are the members for Miller, Jordan, Cairns and Pine Rivers.

Mrs YOUNG (Redlands—LNP) (5.29 pm): Today I rise to speak about the simple truth that the people of Redlands know all too well: for years they were let down—let down on safety, let down on health, let down on schools and let down on planning and completely overlooked when it came to the basics of transport and access for our island communities. Labor did not just miss the mark in Redlands; it walked straight past it, and our community has been left dealing with the consequences ever since. Nowhere was this failure more evident than on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands. For too long residents were treated as an afterthought. Parking was inadequate. Costs continued to rise. These are not luxuries; they are essential to these islands, and for years island residents were left to manage on their own. Since the 2024 election there has been a clear shift from delay to delivery, from neglect to action. I have listened to my community and I have delivered.

We made 50-cent passenger ferry fares permanent, we introduced a 50 per cent vehicle ferry subsidy and we delivered a 30 per cent bay island car share subsidy, creating more choice than ever for residents living on the SMBIs, and now we have stepped in to take control of the Weinam Creek PDA precinct, removing all delays and getting on with the job of delivering a much needed multistorey car park. This car park is not the end goal, but it provides the foundation. We are ensuring the entire precinct is planned and delivered properly for the long term. Alongside this, we are upgrading the Springacre and Boundary Road intersection to improve safety and traffic flow as new housing gets underway for Redlanders in the Southern Thornlands. We also secured $100,000 for the future of Coochiemudlo Island's Emerald Fringe—proper planning.

The Crisafulli government is also taking real action on youth crime. One former Labor MP in the Redlands called youth crime a 'media beat-up'. I would not call a 193 per cent increase in victims of crime a beat-up; I would call that a failure by those opposite. Alongside tougher laws, we are backing early intervention and I proudly delivered funding for the Top Blokes program in my first 12 months, supporting young people with a better path. Just last week it became the 50th Kickstarter early

intervention program we have supported in Queensland, helping at-risk youths get back on track through mentoring, education and support, because addressing youth crime is not just about consequences; it is also about prevention.

We are restoring confidence in planning. We are progressing the Southern Thornlands PDA with proper infrastructure and where proposals did not stack up we acted, revoking the Broadwater Terrace SFD to ensure the right outcome. We are also investing in the future of Redlands, including a marine centre of excellence for the Southern Moreton Bay Islands, creating jobs and training opportunities locally and removing those barriers for our young people to be educated on the islands.

Nothing matters more than safety, because when people do not feel safe in their own homes nothing else works. Under the former government, youth crime escalated, communities felt ignored, victims were treated as an afterthought. Redlanders were not asking for excuses; they were asking for action, and that is exactly what this government is delivering by strengthening the law through Adult Crime, Adult Time, Jack's Law and Daniel's Law. We are backing our police and we are putting victims first—where they belong—because community safety in the Redlands is not negotiable.

I turn to the Redland Hospital. A growing community needs a hospital that keeps up with demand, but under Labor demand increased while support failed to keep pace. Those opposite planned a new ICU without properly budgeting for staff or equipment. Staff were stretched, patients waited longer, families were left frustrated. That is not good enough, and we are fixing it. Redlanders deserve access to quality health care close to home. We have announced a new MRI machine, and it is on its way; an expanded transit lounge, which is now under construction; and a properly funded—and staffed and opened—ICU is now in operation.

Education is fundamental, but in the Redlands investment in schools did not match the pace of growth. Infrastructure lagged behind. Under the former government the answer was always 'later', but for a growing community later is too late. Through the 2025-26 state budget we have delivered record investment in schools, including new amenities and learning spaces at Redland Bay State School, new roofing and a new accessible toilet at Victoria Point State School, new buildings at Redland District Special School and a second stage of the new Scenic Shores State School. Planning under Labor was reactive and not proactive. Growth occurred without coordination, development occurred without the necessary infrastructure and confidence in the system was lost. That is what happens when planning is not done properly, and that is what we are fixing. We cancelled a state facilitated development that failed community expectations and we are delivering the Southern Thornlands PDA alongside the roads and infrastructure needed for long-term growth.

The contrast is clear. The former government delivered delay; this government is delivering progress. The former government ignored concerns; we are acting on them. The former government failed to plan; we are planning for the future. Redlanders expect fairness, they expect action and they expect delivery, and that is exactly what we are providing.

Mr HEALY (Cairns—ALP) (5.35 pm): The appropriation supplementary bill before the House is, at its core, a procedural necessity. It fulfils the legislative requirement for parliamentary approval of additional expenditure incurred over the financial year. The opposition obviously supports the passage of this bill, but let us be clear: supporting the machinations of government is not the same as endorsing the performance of this government. When we examine the context in which this supplementary appropriation arises, a far more troubling picture emerges—one of fiscal mismanagement, broken promises and a government that is failing Queenslanders in the midst of a deepening cost-of-living crisis. This LNP government came to office promising discipline, promising savings and promising relief. Instead, what we see is a government already missing its own targets and already scrambling to account for decisions it has claimed were fully costed. Its much vaunted commitment to cap spending on consultants was not a minor measure; it was central to its claim of economic credibility, underpinning $6.8 billion in projected savings over four years, yet within the first year it is already on track to blow that cap by $1 billion. This is a fundamental failure of fiscal management and the consequences are real.

Under the Treasurer, Queensland's credit outlook shifted to negative. It reflects diminished confidence in this government's ability to manage the state's finances. Beyond the balance sheet, the real story here is the lived experiences for Queenslanders. While this government struggles to maintain its own numbers, households across the state are struggling to make ends meet. We know the facts: electricity prices have surged significantly, housing costs are up, rents are rising, insurance is climbing. These are the pressures felt around the kitchen table every single day, and what has been this government's response? Where is the relief? Where is the plan? When Labor was in government we understood that cost-of-living pressures required direct, meaningful intervention, and that is why

supplementary appropriations were used to deliver $1,000 electricity rebates for households and $300 for small businesses. It is why we delivered targeted relief on car registration. It is why we introduced the game-changing 50-cent public transport fares—practical measures that put money back into people's pockets and made a tangible difference. In contrast, this government has offered rhetoric without relief and announcements without outcomes, and nowhere is that failure more evident than in regional Queensland. In Cairns and across Far North Queensland communities are not just dealing with rising costs; they are being denied opportunities. We are seeing a pattern of delay, inaction and, more importantly, neglect.

Critical infrastructure projects, ready with matched federal funding, are sitting on the table. They are desperately needed but are just sitting idle. The duplication of the Cairns Western Arterial Road, a vital corridor carrying tens of thousands of vehicles daily, remains stalled. All we hear is talk—absolutely nothing. Projects that would drive jobs, improve safety and strengthen disaster resilience are simply not progressing. The expansion of the Cairns Marine Precinct, an opportunity to cement the region as a national leader in marine and defence industries, is dragging, despite significant financial investment from the federal government—nothing from the state government. The proposed North Queensland Cowboys community development and high-performance centre—a project with enormous potential for sport, for jobs and for community wellbeing—is languishing without urgency. It is absolutely disgraceful. This is not a funding problem. There is funding there. Funding has already been allocated by the federal government and, in some cases, the regional council. This is a failure of leadership and it extends beyond infrastructure.

At a time when regional Queensland is crying out for skilled workers, this government has failed to support training and education. Fee-free TAFE places are being funded by the Commonwealth, yet the state is stepping back, cutting programs, creating uncertainty and limiting opportunities. In regions like Far North Queensland, it is not just short-sighted; it is economically reckless, because without training there are no workers, without workers there is no growth and without growth regional communities fall behind.

The same story is playing out in health care. Queensland is the most decentralised state in the nation. Distance is not an inconvenience; it is a defining reality, yet under this government the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme has been left stagnant. Subsidy rates have not kept pace with rising fuel and accommodation costs. No meaningful reform has been delivered and, as a result, we are seeing the emergence of what can only be described as 'health by postcode'. Those in metropolitan areas, with ready access to hospitals and specialists, are largely insulated, but in regional and remote communities people are being forced to delay and forgo care because they simply cannot afford the journey. It is the very definition of a false economy because when people delay treatment conditions worsen. What could have been addressed early becomes acute, complex and far more expensive. Hospital admissions rise, emergency departments come under greater pressure and long-term costs increase. This government is not saving money; it is shifting costs into the future and onto the shoulders of those least able to bear them.

The supplementary appropriation bill reflects more than unseen expenditure. It reflects the unforeseen consequences of poor planning, broken commitments and a failure to understand the realities facing Queenslanders. It reveals a government that is out of touch with the pressures on households, disconnected from the needs of regional communities and unwilling to act where it matters most. Queenslanders deserve better. They deserve a government that not only manages money responsibly but also understands that budgets are about people. They deserve a government that invests in regions, not ignores them. They deserve a government that delivers real cost-of-living relief, not just talks about it. They deserve a government that recognises that in a state as vast and as diverse as Queensland fairness is not automatic; it must be activated and it must be delivered. This bill may pass, but the verdict on this government's performance is far from settled. Right now, Queenslanders are paying the price.

Mr HUTTON (Keppel—LNP) (5.43 pm): I am incredibly impressed to see that, after just 18 short months in opposition, slowly wisdom is appearing—wisdom that accepts that, yes, this state needed a government for the regions. This state needed to change the trajectory on health which had seen so many of us in rural Queensland suffer under the tyranny of a government that worried about the cities and forgot about us—a government that had forgotten we exist and was not delivering for regional Queensland. If anything, I think we could describe it as a government that promised and promised. We all know that there is a play around promises, but what Queenslanders needed to see—what they wanted to see—was a government that delivered, and this government is delivering for the people of Keppel and for the people of regional Queensland.

I would like to share just a few of the amazing ways that this budget is ensuring people in regional Queensland—people in my part of the world, in Central Queensland—are benefiting from a government that not only plans but also plans to deliver and is going through and following up. That is what Queenslanders deserve and that is the contrast that really needs to be painted.

I start with our commitment to giving more Queenslanders a place to call home. Under this government we have seen that, through RAF round 1, projects have allowed over 3,600 new parcels of land to be opened up for homes in Central Queensland. This is boots on the ground. This is infrastructure in the ground, which means that more Central Queenslanders will have a place to call home. It is adding diversity to a marketplace that needed change but it also making sure that, in a market that had some land banking occurring from developers, there was a push to drive them further. One of the great projects that is achieving that is the East West Connector road. Part of the blueprint put forward by the Livingstone Shire Council, the East West Connector road means that more than 3,000 blocks will be opened up over the next decade, providing for acreages and residential accommodation and ensuring that more people who live on the Capricorn Coast can live close to town and have access to all of the facilities they need in terms of health care and education but still have that lifestyle that so many of us want to enjoy, with space for a shed, a pool or just a place to call home.

This is no accident. This investment is because the Crisafulli government's budget has made a commitment to this. It needs to be followed up, because we are not going to have more homes unless we have the tradies in place to build those homes. In Central Queensland we have a deficit in tradies, so the investment of $61.1 million for the new TAFE precinct, the Rockhampton TAFE Excellence Precinct at Central Queensland University, backs the land we are opening up with the tradies we need. It is going to generate some 200 tradies a year with a range of skills bases and it means we will have more tradies on the tools in CQ, as well as more young people having a chance to get their first job back in our communities. They will not have to move away from home to start their careers, which is a really exciting opportunity in CQ.

This is followed up by investments by the Minister for Housing: some $95 million is being invested in more social and community housing. Right now on Queen Street, Yeppoon we can see the first set of houses being delivered—the first of some 147 social homes that are under construction or under contract. This is a step towards delivering our ambitious goal of having 53,000 social and community homes by 2044. These investments are how we are making sure more Queenslanders have a place to call home.

If we look to how we are healing the health crisis, Rockhampton Hospital was considered by some doctors to be the equivalent of Gaza without the bombs—that is a direct quote from one of our doctors—and it has required significant investment. It has also needed the support infrastructure in place that, over time, will change the life trajectory of regional young people. A young person who has never seen a local become a doctor does not believe they could do so, but we are providing for that aspiration. We are providing an opportunity for them to see that in their own community through the $95 million investment in the health sciences academy. This complex means that young people who have an interest in working in the health space will have an opportunity—whether they live in Yeppoon, Parkhurst, The Caves or Keppel Sands—to go to a place of higher learning where they can engage in a range of both tertiary and further academic studies and have that foot in the door in the health sciences space. This means that more local kids will engage in health sciences, which means that we are creating the workforce we need to staff the Rockhampton and Capricorn Coast hospitals for the next generation. That is incredibly important because we know that our population is aging and growing. We can put money into physical resources—and there are investments in that space as well—but we need to have the workforce to support that.

In Central Queensland we want legacy infrastructure from the Olympics. In conjunction with the Rockhampton Regional Council we are investing $47 million in the Rockhampton sports precinct. In stage 1 there will be 16 new outdoor netball courts as well as a clubhouse and changing room facilities. The old facilities were outdated. They were past end of life. They needed the funding and the support of the government and the Crisafulli government stood up for the young people, in particular the young women, of Rockhampton who engage in the sport of netball. The Rocky netball club has grown dramatically in this short period. We have also seen an investment of $900,000 in the Bluebirds United Football Club based in Glenmore so that they can have a clubhouse. They have had some very small investments over the last decade in lighting and other things, but what they really needed was new change room facilities. As the number of females in their footy club has grown, they do not have the facilities required. Juniors had to wait until the seniors had come out to go in and change. It was very awkward; it was uncontrolled. This means that everyone is safer, clearer and well set up. The Bluebirds United Football Club are benefiting from that sports legacy in CQ.

We are making investments on Great Keppel Island. For three elections in a row commitments were made in relation to Great Keppel Island yet never delivered. In this term of the Crisafulli government we will have expended $25 million. Before the end of this year we will have come out of the ground and completed the arrivals plaza on Great Keppel Island, with new bathroom facilities, new commercial opportunities, as well as a first aid room, which has been called out for on the island again and again. As well there will be more shade spaces for families during the heat of the middle of the day, providing safe access to what is the jewel in the crown of Great Keppel Island—Keppel Bay. That means all Central Queenslanders can enjoy our own backyard. The added works going on on Great Keppel Island include pathways being built and a signage project. In the last couple of years we have had an increasing number of tourists travelling to the island and finding that the signage was getting old, was out of place and, as it was falling down, not being replaced. This partnership project with Livingstone Shire Council means that there will be signage across the island to help guide people and ensure they are safe.

These projects are all part of our plan to ensure that Central Queenslanders have a place to call home, have the sporting facilities and recreation opportunities they are looking for in their own backyard and when they are out in our public spaces they are safer. The investments we are making in the crime prevention school in Rockhampton, the investments we are making in the Rocky ring-road project, the investments the transport minister is putting into projects on the Bruce Highway, both to the north and the south and on the beef roads out west, ensure when people from my part of the world in Central Queensland travel to the mines where they work or travel to ensure we are getting food in and out of our regional centres, they have the support they need, the roads they deserve and are safe. As the member for Gregory said earlier today, we want to ensure everyone returns home safely when they are working hard for our community.

We are also seeing investment in a Regional Reset program, the first stage of which was started at the PCYC at Yeppoon. This program provides for young people across Central Queensland and gives them a chance to reset the conditions of their life. It is an important space. The PCYC has been working in conjunction with the Department of Justice. The Seeonee Park Campsite, a facility loved for decades by Central Queenslanders, has seen an investment of $80,000. That is an awful lot of chook raffles or an awful lot of days doing meat raffles at the pub. That $80,000 has meant that they can buy a tractor to better maintain the many acres of land they have where they have scout camps, where they currently have an archery club, where they also have a medieval club that is using it on weekends. These facilities are vitally important to my community. That is just the start. We are making investments in the designing, engineering and planning for future projects. Through QCoast2100, we are making investments in Emu Park Main Beach, Putney Beach on Great Keppel and Muskers Beach at Zilzie. I support the bill.

Ms PUGH (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (5.53 pm): We debate this appropriation bill in the shadow of a cost-of-living crisis that is being compounded, as others have spoken about, by a fuel crisis. The opposition will support this legislation, which is the right thing to do to ensure good governance. I caught up with some friends over the weekend. These particular friends have two small children. Both of their small children are still enrolled in early education and have not yet started primary school. They commented to me—and I hear this a lot these days—that it has never been harder or more expensive to raise a family, even in outer suburban areas like ours in Brisbane which were often considered a cheaper place to buy a home or rent a house and raise a family.

When we were in government we addressed these concerns with initiatives like free kindy, giving people money off their rego and, of course, a massive chunk off people's power bills, not to mention 50-cent fares, which I will turn to later.

My community is in many ways divided by the Centenary Motorway. It extends from inner western suburbs like Corinda, which make up the more eastern part of my electorate and are well serviced by public transport, all the way out to the southern Centenary suburbs of Riverhills and Sumner. These are the last suburbs before you get to Ipswich. As I said, the eastern parts of my community are well serviced by train stations and public transport. It is a wonderful place to live. If you want to use public transport there is a train station per suburb running through the spine of that part of the electorate, but to the west it is a very different story.

It is so good to see Labor's 50-cent fares included because this is important to my community. Many Centenary residents were already driving to the closest train station in Darra, which they are able to do much more easily thanks to the Sumners Road overpass upgrade that we funded a few years ago. Anecdotal reports from people who already used that train station are showing that more and more people are flocking to that train station to use public transport and a lot of our local community are

expressing to me that is because of the price of fuel. If 50-cent fares were not reason enough for them to adopt a public transport mentality, certainly the price of fuel has been the final push that a lot of people have needed to ensure that they now get on public transport. It is about 25 minutes into the city from Darra. I speak often about what a fantastic bit of public transport we have with the Darra park-and-ride that we also upgraded a few years ago.

As I have doorknocked over the years I have had lots of locals talk to me about the amount of money that reduction in fares has been saving them. There would be people, now that those fares have been in place for well over a year, who have saved well into the thousands. Some people are saving more than $1,000 a year, especially in the southern end of my electorate. We previously had zones in public transport. It is easy to forget that it was the outer suburban people who were penalised for catching public transport because the further out from the city you live, which is where a lot of people were commuting to, the more you paid. My inner suburban residents were paying less than my outer suburban residents. The 50-cent fares have been such a game changer in so many ways. I think when I leave this place that will be what I will be most proud of that our government did. It has given people a genuine choice in how they move around.

I heard the interjections from the member in front of me about 'your 50-cent fares'. Let us be real. Those opposite can take credit for our 50-cent fares, but never in a million years do I think the LNP would have done that first. It is all the more important because we are still waiting to hear about the next stages of the Centenary Motorway. The bridge that our government funded is well and truly underway. It is looking absolutely fantastic, but I am keen to hear from the minister about the next steps because obviously the Centenary Motorway is a public transport corridor in its own right. It takes lots of people on buses every single day and those buses are trapped in congestion unless we see upgrades to the Centenary Motorway. We need to continue to see that upgrade roll out. That motorway is currently taking just a shade under 100,000 commuters every single day. That number is set to grow exponentially.

There was a time when the Centenary Motorway was taking less traffic than the Ipswich Motorway. I understand that those numbers are much closer now. The people in my community, whether they use the Ipswich Motorway or the Centenary Motorway, want to see those upgrades come to fruition. It is not just the residents who live there, it is the businesses out west in the Ipswich corridor that so desperately rely on it. The Ipswich and Centenary motorways are the corridors for those businesses through to the airport and to the Port of Brisbane.

In this appropriation bill I would like to have seen a lift in wages for our hardworking Queensland teachers. Unfortunately it does not have that, and I feel that is a missed opportunity. Our teachers do such a wonderful job and we want to see them get the nation-leading wages and conditions that they were promised by the Crisafulli government before the election.

We in this place all know how hardworking our teachers are. Today my daughter's prep teacher was a florist, because she had to put together the floral tribute that the children will lay at the Anzac Day service. In a few weeks she will be an event coordinator for Mother's Day. She will organise a special event for us preppy mums. Teachers wear so many hats. At rallies I have attended, some of the teachers had made signs explaining all of the different roles they play: counsellor, support person, behaviour manager, florist, event planner, graphic designer—and the list goes on and on. Did I mention that, in the midst of all of that, they actually teach our children and give them a world-class education? They deserve the wages to match.

I want to talk about an issue that is very dear to my heart and that has been raised with me by some fantastic dance mums in my community. They want to see the FairPlay or Play On! vouchers extended to include more dance schools. Parents and dance schools in my electorate have contacted me about the fact that some dance schools and dance academies are included in the voucher scheme and some are not. A lot of parents have told me that they find the criteria to be quite confusing and difficult to understand. While it is mainly girls who enrol in dance, I give a shout-out to the growing number of boys who participate in dance. It is wonderful to see the growing gender equality in dance. I have met a number of young male dancers in my electorate. It is important to see gender equality going both ways. It is great to see more girls getting involved in sports such as soccer and football and it is great to see more boys doing dance.

For parents of young boys and girls looking to do dance, it is difficult to work out which dance schools will take the vouchers and, more importantly, what exactly the criteria might be. I have written to the Minister for Sport asking for an explanation and whether more dance schools can be included. What I would like to see is that if a parent enrols their child in a community dance academy they are able to apply for those vouchers easily. Right now, we have parents who have enrolled their children in

dance, which is incredibly expensive. I hear that it can run into thousands of dollars a year. It is pretty much year round, from what I understand. My daughter did dance for one year and I have to say that the schedule of rehearsals nearly broke me. It was pretty much a full-time job just to get her there. I know that the wonderful parents whose children are involved in dance really want it to be easy for all children to enrol.

This issue was first raised with me by a wonderful local mum, Lucy from Jindalee. Since I have raised it, lots of other parents have also raised it with me. The Centenary Dance Academy have said that they would really like to be able to take those vouchers. Critically, small businesses are missing out on money they could receive because they are not able to take the vouchers, which means that parents might send their children elsewhere. I think we can all agree that we do not want hardworking, honest small businesses missing out on the opportunity to train young students. The last thing we want is parents to be $200 out of pocket because they cannot apply for the FairPlay vouchers, especially if that is the only sport activity their children do. Dance is demanding. It is a really physically intensive and elite form of movement. I want to ensure that all young dancers can access the vouchers. It is something that my community are really crying out for. I really hope that the minister lets us know what is happening with that soon, because we are keen to see those vouchers more fulsomely included.

Ms HATCHER (Caloundra—LNP) (6.03 pm): Tonight I rise to support the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-25) Bill 2025 and the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill 2025. These bills are important because they do more than simply authorise unforeseen expenditure. They tell the real story of the financial position this government inherited and they show the work the Crisafulli government is doing to clean up Labor's mess while continuing to deliver for Queenslanders. That matters because Queenslanders voted for change. They voted for a fresh start. After a decade of decline under Labor, they voted for a government that would be honest with them, responsible with their money and focused on delivering the services and supports they rely on. That is exactly what this Crisafulli government is doing.

When we look at these bills, it is important to be very clear about what they represent. This is not a case of this government somehow losing control of the budget. This is a case of the new government having to step in and deal with what the former Labor government left behind: unfunded commitments, hidden blowouts and serious budget black holes in areas that matter most to Queensland families. Their final budget was a budget built to get them through an election. In doing that, they failed to appropriately provide for key frontline services and they failed to level with Queenslanders about the true state of the books. When the Crisafulli government came to office, we were left with the job of confronting reality and fixing the problems. That is what responsible governments do. They do not pretend everything is fine when clearly it is not. They step up, make the hard decisions and ensure Queenslanders are not left paying the price for political convenience.

The supplementary appropriation before the House totals $5.7 billion. Even as we work through the fiscal mess they left behind, this government is already restoring greater discipline and greater control. We are making progress, we are moving in the right direction and we are doing it while still delivering the services that Queenslanders need. That is the difference. We are interested in fixing problems and delivering outcomes.

For the people in my community of Caloundra, government expenditure is critically important. Why? The answer is twofold. Firstly, our community had been largely neglected for 30 years and, secondly, we are a fast-growing community. With well-known and planned growth, largely due to the Aura master planned community, comes increased pressure on services, infrastructure, parks, roads, sports clubs and everything in between. I take our local sports clubs as an example. Caloundra has benefited from government expenditure not only through the Play On! vouchers, which are helping families with the cost of sport, but also through our election commitment to provide additional or new lighting for four Caloundra sports clubs.

The Baringa Football Club is a great example. Almost from the inception of the club, the existing facilities were outgrown. Earlier today members may have heard me reference this area as one of the fastest growing areas in the state, and it blows my mind that the former government did not invest in our local clubs when that growth was planned growth. At the time of the 2024 election, Baringa Football Club had seven adult teams in divisions 1, 2, 3, women's, over-35s and FPQL 3. This meant they had reached capacity for training nights and field availability. For our growing community, thank goodness we have a Minister for Sport who actually loves, breathes and understands grassroots sport and its impact on our community. This deliverable for lights was also granted to Caloundra Rugby Union, Caloundra Sharks Rugby League Football Club and Pelican Waters Bowls Club—a combined benefit impacting thousands of locals.

Speaking of thousands of locals, when specifically talking about government expenditure let us talk about the Bribie Island breakthrough. How much is too much to save an entire town of houses and businesses, to preserve our beautiful marine passage, to support our coastguard and to protect our beautiful Caloundra? This government has a deputy premier who was not willing to watch Caloundra wash away, given the very real threats it faced. If the former government had listened to the community at any point over the past 20 years, the opportunity to act earlier would have been far easier and far cheaper but they did not.

Recently, the Minister for Education and I turned the first sod on our brand new primary school located in Banya. Why is it so important that we get on with building that school? After all, it was delayed and put on the backburner by the former government. The closest school in our fast-growing community has over 800 enrolments after only being opened for just over three short years. Caloundra needs this school now.

We have also turned the first sod on the new fire station at Beerwah after it being neglected for many years. This new purpose-built facility will house both the Queensland firies and the volunteer Rural Fire Brigade, securing their future for generations to come. What a wonderful job they do keeping our communities safe.

I am incredibly excited for our entire community about the work being done on the Caloundra Congestion Busting Plan, one of the biggest transport projects the coast has ever seen—only about 20 years overdue, but it is coming, so desperately needed and wanted by the entire community.

Of course, there is also government expenditure for our brand new Caloundra TAFE which is a TAFE centre of excellence and the first of its kind in Queensland. This TAFE is particularly special because it has a focus on construction trades, skilling the next generation and generations to come for the trades that we so critically need.

Between additional school crossings, supporting local kindergartens, adding additional police, Behaviour Boost funding in schools, early intervention programs and much more, Caloundra is finally being heard.

Focusing on fixing the healthcare crisis, the youth crime crisis and the housing crisis, Queensland could not have been in a worse position. Change does not happen overnight. It happens carefully in a considered, reasonable approach with a fundamental respect for the money that belongs to the Queensland people. Queenslanders want to know they can live in a safe place and access health care and housing in the Queensland they have always loved. They want to know that when they or a loved one need care, the system will be there for them. This government is ensuring it is. Queenslanders want to know that children at risk will have protection, that families in crisis will have support and that workers in these systems will have certainty. The Crisafulli government is providing this certainty because protecting vulnerable children and looking after Queenslanders is not optional; it is one of the most important responsibilities that any government has.

In housing and homelessness, too, we are seeing the same story. This bill includes over $200 million for housing, including $120 million for unfunded housing and homelessness services and $62.5 million for unfunded essential social housing maintenance. Again, these are not extras; they are essential services. They are real needs in our communities.

When Labor failed to properly fund them, it fell to the incoming LNP government to step in and ensure that support continued. That is what we have done because, for us, government is actually about service. It is about ensuring Queenslanders are not let down.

This bill also includes $118 million in financial assistance for victims of crime. This is important because behind every line item is a human story, a Queenslander who has been harmed, a family trying to recover or a victim looking for support, dignity and justice, and for too long Queenslanders felt their concerns about crime were not being heard. The Crisafulli government is changing that.

I also want to note the funding for the LNP's permanent 50-cent fares. I take advantage of this system by catching the train to parliament each sitting week, and I love it. It is great to see so many Queenslanders being able to alleviate some of the cost-of-living pressures by utilising the LNP's permanent 50-cent fares. It is just another clear example of the difference between this government and the one before it. We made a promise to Queenslanders: practical, cost-of-living measures that help workers, students, families and seniors, and we are delivering them.

(Time expired)

Ms PEASE (Lytton—ALP) (6.13 pm): I rise to speak on the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill and the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-25) Bill. These bills seek to authorise a total of $5.746 billion in unforeseen expenditure incurred during the 2024-25 financial

year, including just over $5.4 million for the parliament and $5.74 billion across government departments. I wonder how much the rebranding of all the government logos, changing it from maroon which is the Queensland colour, to blue caused this blowout.

As members know, the consideration of supplementary appropriation bills is routine but an important process. Under Queensland's constitutional and financial framework, expenditure from the Consolidated Fund must be formally authorised by this parliament, even where the spending has already occurred. So, as is appropriate, the opposition will be supporting these bills. However, supporting the mechanisms of appropriation does not mean that we ignore what these figures reveal.

When you look closely at the $5.74 billion, what stands out is not what is included but what is starkly missing. What is missing is real, tangible cost-of-living relief. Where is the support for Queensland households? Where is the support for those trying to get into the housing or rental market? Where is the support for those patients on the waiting lists or those lying on a ramp at the hospital? Where is the support for the regional patients desperately needing to get treatment? Where is the support for small businesses? Where are the energy rebates that help families get through the worst of the pressures? Where is the support for tourist operators who cannot afford fuel? Where is the support for sectors like tourism, fishing, agriculture and trucking which are being impacted by the rising costs of fuel? Well, it is not in these bills, that is for sure. Gosh, I could actually go on and on, for example, recognising our world-class teachers and paying them an appropriate wage, or reducing the radiographers' pay by 25 per cent or keeping our train platforms fully staffed and safe.

At a time when Queenslanders are really doing it tough, this government has walked away from meaningful cost-of-living relief for all Queenslanders, and that is a central failure exposed by these bills. While nearly $5.7 billion is being approved, families in my area and across Queensland are still struggling at the checkout. Small businesses are still struggling with fuel costs and households are still struggling with power bills. Tourist operators are closing their doors. Farmers are unable to plant their winter crops.

The reality is this: Queenslanders are paying more but getting less. We know the pressures people are under. We see the data. We hear it in our communities. Electricity prices are rising sharply, housing costs continue to climb, rents are increasing and insurance premiums are going up. In electorates like mine, across the bayside, families are feeling every one of these pressures. Small business owners right across Queensland are telling me the same thing: fuel costs are really biting, operating costs are rising and confidence is falling. They are not asking for handouts; they are asking for a government with a plan. Instead of relief, they are getting cuts. Instead of support, they are getting absolute silence. It is clear—

Ms BATES: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I would ask you to get the member to address the long title of the bill. This is about unforeseen expenditure in the period 2024-25, and I ask you bring her back to the bill.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Marr): I will get some advice. Member for Lytton, I ask you to ensure you keep your contribution relevant to the bill. I will let you continue. I did miss some of that, so I will be listening closely.

Ms PEASE: Thank you very much, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am obviously upsetting the member for Mudgeeraba. So, what, you are just trying to break my stride?

Ms Bates: No, you don't bother me at all, Joan.

Ms PEASE: That is okay. I have plenty more to say.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Excuse me, members, there will be no chatter across the chamber. Thank you, member for Lytton, please continue.

Ms PEASE: I will remind everyone. In electorates like mine, across the bayside, families are feeling every one of these pressures as indicated in the long title of the bill. Small business owners right across Queensland are telling me the same thing: fuel costs are biting, operating costs are rising and confidence is falling. It is a story of priorities that are out of step with the reality facing Queenslanders. If they can find billions in funding for the additional expenditure that is in these bills, surely they can find support for families. If they can allocate billions across departments, surely they can deliver relief where it is needed most. This government has chosen not to do that.

There is a bigger issue: the government's economic credibility. Before the election we heard huge promises—promises that hundreds of millions in spending would be offset by savings, promises of discipline, promises of better financial management—but what has happened? Those promises are

unravelling. The government's so-called savings measures, particularly around consultants and contractors, are under pressure. The numbers are not stacking up. The commitments are not being met. When a government's only plan for saving fails, the consequences are real. It means higher debt. It means higher borrowing costs. Ultimately, it means less capacity to invest in the services that Queenslanders rely on.

This is not a political argument. Ratings agencies are worth watching. They are looking closely at whether this government can deliver on its commitments. When confidence starts to slip, Queensland pays the price. A downgrade would not be abstract; it would mean higher interest costs, less funding for infrastructure and less investment in our schools, hospitals and frontline services. That is a risk that this Treasurer is running, and it is a risk that Queenslanders should not have to bear.

What is most concerning about these bills is what they reveal about this government's approach. There is no clear plan for cost-of-living relief. There is no clear plan for supporting small business. There is no clear plan for managing the state's finances sustainably. Instead, we have seen reactive decisions, broken commitments and a government increasingly focused on managing headlines rather than delivering outcomes. Queenslanders deserve better than that.

We know what effective government looks like. Targeted cost-of-living relief, responsible financial management and investment in the services that matter—that is what Queenslanders expect. That is what those opposite promised they would deliver, and it is yet to be seen. That is not what we are getting in any way, shape or form now. Whilst the opposition will support these bills because the parliament must do its job and because these appropriations must be formalised, let's make no mistake that this $5.7 billion tells a story. For those over there who are desperately trying to intervene in my comments, it tells a story of missed opportunities. It is a story of misplaced priorities. It is a story of a government that has walked away from Queenslanders when they need it the most.

At a time when families are struggling—yes, they are struggling—and at a time when small businesses, which everyone on that side constantly says are the backbone of the Queensland economy, are under immense pressure, what is the government doing to support them? Nothing. They are doing nothing. At a time when Queenslanders are crying out for leadership, this government is failing to deliver. That failure is written all over these bills.

Mr HUNT (Nicklin—LNP) (6.23 pm): I rise to support the appropriation bills and to highlight what this funding means on the ground in the electorate of Nicklin. Budgets are not just numbers; they are statements of priority. They show what a government values, whom it is listening to and whether it is prepared to tackle real community problems with practical solutions and put them in the budget.

In Nicklin, these bills and the broader funding commitments they reflect show a government focused on the things that matter to local people: safer streets, better roads, stronger schools, more support during a housing crisis, help with the cost of living, better training and job pathways and practical investments in the services that communities rely on every day after a decade of decline. This is what good government should do. It should not just announce ideas; it should put money in the budget for them, like our permanent 50-cent fares. I can see the transport minister over there. Congratulations on making those 50-cent fares permanent in an LNP budget. That is how you do it.

One of the clearest examples is our commitment to community safety in the budget. People right across Nicklin want to feel safe when they go to town, when they are shopping, when they are walking the streets and when they are enjoying our public spaces with their families. That is not an unreasonable expectation. It is a basic expectation. That is why the funding of our election commitments for the police beat in Nambour and upgraded CCTV was so important. That allocation of $3 million for the police beat and the CCTV upgrade sends a very clear message that this government is serious about restoring community confidence and responding to local concerns about safety and antisocial behaviour in Nambour particularly.

The allocation of funding for the extra police officer position in the police beat has seen Senior Constable Aaron Caldwell appointed permanently to that role. He is doing a marvellous job. I give him a shout-out. Positions like that require a certain type of police officer—one with good community skills, relationship-building skills and a knowledge of their local patch, which Aaron has in spades. We are currently working on the CCTV project with the funding provided to upgrade the network in Nambour and provide police with live-feed CCTV information, which will be invaluable in resolving crime and, importantly, deterring bad behaviour in our community. Confidence is returning to Nambour.

These important government investments have seen record private investment coming into our town, which is great. We have also put important investments into infrastructure in the CBD of Nambour, with around $2½ million to support the Sunshine Coast Council's delivery of the Nambour Place Plan intersection works in Currie Street. I give another shout-out to the transport minister for providing that important funding because it will make Nambour more accessible and more functional as the heart of the hinterland. They are investments that support the local economy, support walkability and support confidence in our town centre.

Road safety and transport connectivity are another major focus. The $2.5 million for the Diddillibah Road and Nambour Connection Road intersection upgrade is another example of this government responding to known local pressure points with real dollars. There is also funding for our election commitments for business case and design works to improve the Palmwoods rail overpass intersections and Cooroy intersections. These upgrades matter because people in our community are entitled to roads that are safer and better suited to current demand. I thank the transport minister again for supporting these long-neglected local projects. The former Labor member for Nicklin, under a Labor government, did nothing. These are long-term issues.

Importantly, government spending in this budget also reflects the reality of the housing crisis and the pressure it is placing on families and vulnerable people. We have seen the results of the housing crisis after a decade of decline under the former Labor government. The crisis seen in Nambour has developed over the last decade with people sleeping rough in our community. I was pleased to have Minister O'Connor respond quickly to this local crisis. He increased the presence of HOME teams doing outreach in the local parks, and they have already found accommodation options for 22 homeless individuals and assisted dozens more. He has recently announced an injection of $1 million to increase the outreach of IFYS as well, which will assist greatly, along with funding allocated to a social housing project of eight units on Carter Road, Nambour—that is one of about 300 projects across the coast—and a 20-unit supported accommodation project, also in Nambour. I thank the housing minister for responding so quickly to the crisis left by the decade of decline.

Housing pressure is not a talking point in communities like ours. It is real. It is visible. It affects older women, young people, families escaping difficult situations and workers who simply cannot find affordable accommodation. This investment is the kind of targeted local solution that can make a real difference.

We were also pleased to support in the budget the funding of $1.9 million to endED's tiny homes project in Woombye for short-term accommodation. I was pleased to welcome the Premier there a couple of weeks ago for the opening of this great facility, and I say thanks to Mark and Gay Forbes, who founded and run this fabulous community organisation to assist people suffering from eating disorders.

On cost-of-living relief, I was pleased that we were able to fund $1 million to The Everyday Foundation in Nambour for the expansion of its low-cost supermarket. We have members over there bleating that we are doing nothing for cost-of-living pressures. This is real money in Nambour to support people in their grocery bills. It is an outstanding example of government partnering with a trusted community organisation to relieve cost-of-living pressures in a direct and meaningful way. When households are struggling with grocery bills, rent, fuel and power, support like this matters. It stretches family budgets. It helps dignity. It supports people before they reach crisis point. It is a practical investment in compassion and common sense.

There is also good news for education and local families. Woombye State School has received $1 million for accessibility upgrades to its school entrance. That matters for students, parents and carers, especially those living with disability or mobility challenges. Inclusive access should never be an afterthought. This funding ensures that a local school is safer and more accessible for the whole community. We also see support for capital works at Kairos Community College in Nambour, with $2.15 million for the construction of new learning areas and associated facilities.

Sitting suspended from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Mr HUNT: Our government's financial commitments in the appropriation bills also show the government backing emergency services and community resilience. There is funding for the Kenilworth SES replacement vehicle and a new purpose-built emergency response vehicle for the Nambour SES, which I was pleased to visit last weekend as they held their open day, encouraging people to join them. They are a great organisation. We relied heavily on them during our flooding events over the last couple of years. We know they will be there for us and we are pleased to be supporting their great work in our

budget. Those commitments recognise that, in regional and hinterland communities, emergency preparedness is not optional. Whether it is storm season, flood events or local emergencies, these services need the equipment and support to respond.

There is $1.5 million for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation—one of my favourite organisations. There is also an important investment in child safety and prevention. It reflects a government prepared to support organisations that do vital work protecting children and educating families.

Taken together, these allocations tell a bigger story. They show a government that understands local needs and is prepared to fund local solutions. When people in Nicklin say they want safer streets, this government is putting money into police, CCTV, walkways and town centre improvements. When people say housing is in crisis, this government is backing practical accommodation solutions, as I outlined before. When families say the weekly grocery bill is too high, this government is supporting community-based cost-of-living relief through the Everyday Foundation in Nambour. When communities say they need better roads, safer intersections and more accessible schools, this government is investing in exactly those priorities.

Nicklin has done well from these commitments—finally. I remember getting nothing for Nicklin when I was in opposition. More importantly, local people can see what the money is for. They can see safer streets. They can see better facilities. They can see investment in schools, emergency services, skills and community support. They can see a government trying to solve problems after a decade of decline.

There is a lot more work to do, a lot more money to spend and a lot more commitments to make for the Nicklin electorate. We are getting there. I am proud to be part of a government that is finally listening and acting for the people of Nicklin.

Hon. DE FARMER (Bulimba—ALP) (7.33 pm): I rise to speak to the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill 2025 and the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill 2025. These bills seek approval of $5.4 million for unforeseen expenditure incurred by the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service, and $5.7 billion for government departments. As has already been stated, the Labor opposition supports these bills as they fulfil our responsibilities for payment of unforeseen expenditure.

I have a few things to note about these bills, including what the Treasurer said about them in his introductory speech. I note that the Treasurer attacked Labor, which they do, for introducing multiple supplementary appropriation bills. What he did not mention—and I can understand why he would not—is that one of those bills was used to deliver our universal $1,000 electricity rebates for households and $300 rebates for small businesses which, of course, the LNP cancelled.

Telling everybody what those bills were about would only highlight how poorly this government has performed in recognising what an issue cost of living is. I have been listening to some of the members. They have been talking about all of these wonderful cost-of-living measures that have been put in place. I am scratching my head because, aside from claiming that 50-cent fares was theirs—which is absolutely laughable, and there is not a person in Queensland who would actually think it was an LNP initiative. Cost of living is the No. 1 issue being raised with all of us. I cannot imagine that constituents are different in the LNP electorates. It is made even worse by the fuel crisis. People are really suffering.

The Premier made such big promises to Queenslanders about addressing cost of living, saying before the election, 'But the difference between what I'm offering and what the Premier is offering'—referring to the now opposition leader—'is I'm offering real change and a big picture vision to do something about the underlying costs that are dragging people down.' No wonder they call him all photo-op and no follow-up. Here we are now with affordability so much worse than it was at the last Labor budget.

ABS data for the 2025 calendar year shows that electricity prices have gone up by 43.2 per cent, rents have gone up by 4.9 per cent, housing costs have increased by 7.4 per cent, insurance costs have increased by 4.4 per cent and annual CPI has increased by 4.3 per cent. In annual terms, Brisbane had the second highest inflation rate of all capital cities in Australia. There are so many promises in their cost-of-living relief LNP party platform. We have been talking a lot about party platforms this week, so I thought I would run out the LNP's. This one is about cost of living. I know they like to say who signed it. Apparently the Premier signed it, just so everybody knows. There are some very interesting promises in there.

Mrs Nightingale: It is very thin.

Ms FARMER: It is quite thin and it has very big type, too. I want to read out some of the promises in this document and then tell the House what the actual situation is. The Premier says they 'will ease pressure on car, home and business insurance'. Meanwhile, ABS data shows insurance costs have increased by 4.4 per cent. They 'will ease pressure on rents and mortgages by delivering more housing supply'. Meanwhile, they have cancelled affordable housing projects and scrapped housing targets, putting significant pressure on the capacity of this state to provide roofs over people heads. Also, house rents increased in Brisbane by 3.1 per cent in the December 2025 quarter. That is the steepest rise in quarterly rents for any capital city in Australia. The QCOSS report shows that low-income households are spending up to 48 per cent of household income on rent. OzHarvest, in a report they released today, say that 74 per cent of people experiencing food insecurity, which is the highest it has ever been, is caused by housing affordability and access.

All of these increases show that the LNP government has not only done absolutely nothing but is actually causing havoc to Queensland families. These are not just statistics; these are real people and we are seeing them every day. One of the other things in this lovely document—I should table it, as the parliament should have a copy of it.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Cost of living' [603].

One of the other things the Premier says in this document is that they 'will ease pressure on transport and insurance costs'. I have talked about them saying that 50-cent fares are their idea. The biggest travesty is what this government is not doing about the fuel crisis. Cost of living was already shocking, but the fuel crisis is pushing people over the edge. This government is the only government in Australia not doing anything. New South Wales is rolling out live fuel tracking and prioritising supply where it is needed most. Victoria has activated an emergency government response and is developing continuity plans across energy and agriculture. All this Premier is talking about is setting up a dashboard—said no person ever when they were talking about whether they could give their children three meals a day.

Do you reckon that the couple I spoke to, who go without meals every night so they can give their kids three meals a day, said, 'Di, can you make sure we get a dashboard? That would really help.' No person said that ever. The people at Foodbank do not want a dashboard either. Foodbank is based in my electorate.

Foodbank, which feeds hundreds of thousands of people every single week, and the community organisations that sometimes drive hours from their electorates to come and pick up food for vulnerable people, are now having to make decisions about fuel costs and whether they can afford fuel or food to give to people. Those people do not want a dashboard. They do not want to know about some oil refinery that might happen in three years time. They want action right now and they want this government to look like they care.

I do not know if anyone over there has read the OzHarvest report that came out today. They interviewed almost 1,000 frontline charities and the stories are just shocking. Stepping Stone North, one charity interviewed, said—

I've noticed even that $5 meal is becoming a little bit expensive for people if they're coming in regularly. We heavily rely on that weekly donation (from OzHarvest), and we get it Thursday and it's gone ... by Friday.

That is one in eight households in Australia—one in three single-parent households—and 70 per cent of the respondents reported an increase in all of the charity groups seeking assistance in the last 12 months. They do not want a dashboard. I will tell you what OzHarvest says all of those organisations that are keeping our most vulnerable people going want. They are keeping people from going hungry. They say they want urgent government action. The most common government action sought was increasing funding to fuel relief. This Treasurer is getting $150 million in a fuel tax windfall. They were going to give it to cost-of-living relief and then they changed their minds, so where is that money going for these nearly 1,000 charities that are trying to help people put food on their table?

Families and schools are just trying to make sure that children start school with food in their bellies. Parents are devastated that they cannot give their families enough food to eat and they are going without. There are people on the streets who go for days without any food. Instead of this government talking about how good they are, how about they show us how good they are? How about they not be photo-op but follow-up. How about putting your money where your mouth is and stop telling us you are giving us cost-of-living relief when in fact there is nothing happening whatsoever? Queenslanders need that help now. They need this government to step up and do what they promised they were going to do.

Ms MARR (Thuringowa—LNP) (7.42 pm): I rise to speak in strong support of the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-25) Bill and its companion parliamentary bill. This legislation is not some dry accounting exercise; nor is it simply a routine adjustment of the state's books. In reality, it is the necessary clean-up of a decade of Labor failures—a decade defined by promises made, funds allocated on paper and far too little delivered where it matters: on the ground, in our communities and in the daily lives of Queenslanders.

The former Labor government has left Queensland taxpayers with a troubling legacy. It is a legacy of cost blowouts that spiralled out of control, stalled and abandoned projects, underfunded frontline services and a mountain of unforeseen expenditure that this LNP government must now responsibly authorise and fix. These are not abstract figures in a ledger; they are real consequences that have impacted real people. Nowhere is this record of non-delivery more glaring, more frustrating and more deeply felt than in my electorate of Thuringowa. Thuringowa families have waited long enough. For 10 long years they were asked to be patient. They were told help was coming. They were promised improvements to health, safety and infrastructure, yet year after year they watched as Labor talked big but delivered little. While glossy announcements and ribbon cuttings seemed concentrated in South-East Queensland, North Queensland, especially communities like mine, were left with excuses, delays and too often silence.

Well, the excuses have run out. This supplementary appropriation represents the bill that must now be paid because of Labor's mismanagement and incompetence. More importantly, it represents a down payment on real delivery—delivery that the people of Thuringowa are finally beginning to see under this LNP government. Let me begin with the issue that weighs most heavily on the minds of local families: health.

Townsville University Hospital sits at the heart of our region. It is a critical piece of infrastructure not just for Thuringowa but for all of North Queensland. Under Labor, however, it became a symbol of neglect and mismanagement. Expansion projects that were promised with great fanfare sat idle for years. Waiting lists grew longer and longer, patients faced unacceptable delays and frontline healthcare workers were pushed to their limits. Lives were put at risk due to poor planning and chronic underfunding. Doctors, nurses and allied health professionals were left to shoulder an unsustainable burden, often without the support they desperately needed. Labor's own health workforce reports made the situation clear. They had no credible plan to recruit or retain the thousands of healthcare workers required to meet the growing demand in North Queensland. The pipeline of skilled professionals was left on life support. That is not poor governance; it is a fundamental failure of responsibility. This supplementary funding is a crucial step in fixing that mess. It allows us to progress the hospital expansion that was stalled for far too long. It enables the recruitment and retention of a healthcare workforce that Labor failed to secure. Most importantly, it helps deliver the level of care that the people of Thuringowa and greater Townsville both expect and deserve.

Health is only one part of the story. Community safety is another issue that strikes at the core of daily life in Thuringowa. It is an issue I hear about constantly from families in Kirwan, residents in Upper Ross and business owners in Heatley. For a decade Labor's approach to youth crime failed these communities. Under their watch Townsville and Thuringowa became known as youth crime hotspots. Residents lived with growing fear and frustration. Families were reluctant to let their children play outside. Cars were stolen and homes were broken into. Small businesses bore the financial and emotional toll of repeated offences. Steven Miles eventually admitted what the community had known for years: they had got it wrong and dropped the ball. By the time those admissions came, the damage had already been done. Labor failed to act decisively. They failed to properly back our police. They failed to implement measures that would keep repeat offenders off our streets. Instead, what we saw was more bureaucracy, more delays and three local Labor MPs unwilling to stand up for North Queensland and our region of Townsville. It is no surprise that the people of Thuringowa decided enough was enough.

This LNP government is taking a different approach—one that prioritises victims, supports law enforcement and demands accountability. We are delivering tougher laws, investing in monitoring technologies and ensuring that frontline resources are properly funded. At the same time, we recognise that prevention matters. That is why investment in early intervention and rehabilitation are part of our solution to break cycles of offending before they take hold. Our investment of $560 million in early intervention and rehabilitation has been well received by all Queenslanders. The supplementary appropriation before the House today helps cover the cost of addressing the consequences of that crime wave. It is about moving from inaction to action, from excuses to outcomes. There is still more to do, but we do not shy away from that. We are committed to restoring safety and confidence in our communities.

Beyond health and safety, there is the matter of basic infrastructure—the everyday facilities and services that communities rely on. For too long, North Queensland saw projects announced with great enthusiasm only for them to be quietly shelved or indefinitely delayed. Meanwhile, billions were directed towards projects elsewhere, usually in the south-east, leaving our region feeling overlooked and undervalued.

What a difference a change of government makes. Take Jabiru Park as an example. For eight long years the local community advocated with Labor for upgrades—basic improvements like proper facilities and female dressing rooms. Their calls were ignored. It was only during the election campaign in 2024, when I committed $1.25 million to the project, that there was a sudden shift in attention. We know the pattern under Labor: big announcements followed by little or no delivery. Under the LNP, that pattern ends. The funding for Jabiru Park has been delivered.

The same can be said for Thuringowa State High School. Labor promised a modern, multipurpose, air-conditioned hall, but after mismanaging the budget they quietly walked back that commitment, deciding the hall would not be air-conditioned after all—once again, a promise broken. The LNP stepped in, committed $2 million and set a clear expectation: delivery within 18 months. We delivered well before that time and on budget. That is the difference. It is a difference not just in words but in action, not just in intention but in results.

We are also supporting families in other practical ways. The expansion of Play On! vouchers means more children can participate in sport more often. By making the program available for a wider range of activities and offering it twice a year, we are reducing barriers and supporting stronger, healthier communities. We understand that community strength is built not only through major infrastructure but also through opportunities, inclusion and participation.

The supplementary bill before us in many ways is a direct consequence of the previous government's failures. They underbudgeted, overpromised and underdelivered. They left behind hidden gaps in funding across health, justice and infrastructure—gaps that must now be addressed with honesty and urgency. This government is doing exactly that. We are not turning away from the challenges; we are confronting them. We are fixing what was broken so communities like Thuringowa can finally move forward with confidence.

In just 18 months we have begun to turn the tide. Hospital works are progressing, action is being taken on youth crime, community groups are receiving real support and long-delayed projects are finally becoming a reality. We are under no illusion: the task is not yet complete. The depth of the issues left behind requires continued effort and responsible investment. That is why these supplementary appropriations are necessary. They authorise the expenditure required to deliver services that were promised but never delivered.

To the hardworking people of Thuringowa, the parents managing busy mornings, the tradies putting in long days, the seniors who helped build our community, I say this: you were overlooked for too long and you were treated as an afterthought. This government will not make that mistake; I will not make that mistake. We will continue to deliver better health services, safer streets, improved infrastructure and real opportunities for the future—because that is what the people of Thuringowa voted for in 2024 and that is exactly what we are committed to delivering. I commend the bill to the House.

Mrs NIGHTINGALE (Inala—ALP) (7.52 pm): I rise to speak on the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill. As has already been outlined by many, this bill fulfils a constitutional and legislative requirement. It seeks parliamentary approval for expenditure that has already occurred and that must, under our system of government, be authorised by this House. For that reason, Labor will not oppose the bill. Supporting the passage of this bill does not mean supporting the priorities of this government, because at a time when Queensland families are under pressure this government is underperforming and has failed to deliver with this bill.

It is a bill that tells us a lot about this government. It tells a story about when it chooses to fund, what it chooses to fund and, just as importantly, what it chooses not to fund and is willing to ignore. Right now, families across Queensland are doing it hard in a cost-of-living crisis. We hear the words 'cost of living' every day, but we should be clear about what those words mean. It means how much it costs just to live: to pay the rent, to feed your kids, to keep the lights on, to put fuel in the car so you can go to work, to survive from one week to the next. That is what people tell me every single week in my electorate. They tell me they are drowning in rent or mortgage payments, just trying to keep a roof over their heads.

At least 80 per cent of people in my electorate are experiencing housing stress, and in some suburbs that number rises to 100 per cent. They feel this stress every time they walk into the supermarket, when their power bill lands and when they have to say no to shoes for their kids. In real terms, this housing stress means that these families in my electorate are more likely to go without a meal, more likely to have to sell or pawn belongings to cover essential payments and more likely to have children with inadequate health or dental care. This is a shameful disgrace on this government, and this is even before you look at the impact of the latest pressure of high fuel prices.

Global instability is now showing up on price boards across Queensland, and households are paying the price. Fuel costs are rising, and these costs do not stop at the servo. In my electorate of Inala, I have spoken with transport operators and family run businesses who are deeply worried. These are hardworking people trying to keep their trucks on the road and their businesses afloat. They cannot simply absorb endless increases in fuel costs. All I hear is Taroom Trough, Taroom Trough. People in my electorate need help to fill their fuel tanks today, tomorrow and next week—not next decade. While this government sits on its hands, as the only state government to continue to do nothing, the people in my electorate who are trying to operate their truck businesses are suffering. When diesel prices rise and governments do not help to make ends meet, margins disappear and livelihoods go with them. When small businesses are squeezed, households are squeezed too. That is the reality that Queenslanders are living with right now, so where is the response from this government? Where is the relief? Where is the plan?

Under Labor, supplementary appropriations were used to deliver real help, including universal electricity rebates that gave households immediate relief when they needed it most. This government scrapped that support and Queenslanders are now paying the price. The people who feel it the most are the everyday workers who keep Queensland running. I think about the nurses, the aged-care workers, the cleaners, the disability workers, the teachers and the factory workers—people who give so much to our community every day.

This bill also reflects the government's broader failures in economic management. Before the election, this government promised their commitments would be funded through savings on consultants. They said that the numbers stacked up, but the Queensland Audit Office has shown they missed their own consultants cap by around $1 billion—I repeat: $1 billion. That is a significant broken promise and a serious budget failure. While the government cannot deliver the savings it promised, Queenslanders are told that there is no money for cost-of-living relief—no support for Queenslanders.

This is the result of their deliberate choices, like their choice not to fund MND Queensland. This is a disgrace. Queensland is the only state in the country that does not support its MND care organisation. This Crisafulli government choice forces families living with motor neurone disease to rely on fundraising and community donations to access services that should be properly supported by this government. Queenslanders are being asked to dig into their own pockets to fill the gaps left by these government decisions. When a government can find money for consultants but not for people living with terminal illness, it tells you everything you need to know about its priorities.

Those missed savings were not a one-off. They were built into the forward estimates and underpin the government's entire fiscal narrative, and that failure has consequences. Queensland's credit rating has been placed on a negative outlook.

Mr Mander: I wonder why.

Mrs NIGHTINGALE: 'I wonder why.' Because you were running it into the ground. This means higher borrowing costs and less money—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order! The cross-chamber quarrelling will cease.

Mrs NIGHTINGALE: There is less money available for schools, hospitals, transport and frontline services. All of this is happening while inflation in Queensland remains amongst the highest in the country. Electricity prices have surged. Housing costs keep climbing. Insurance costs are increasing at double the national average. People feel this every day.

This supplementary appropriation bill should have been an opportunity to acknowledge the reality and to respond to it. Instead, it offers nothing meaningful for the families doing it hardest. Queenslanders are not asking for miracles. They are asking for a government that understands their lives, a government that backs workers and a government that supports families and acts when help is

needed. Instead, this government has chosen a different path—a path where families are left to absorb global shocks on their own, a path where businesses carry rising costs without support and a path where workers pay the price for poor planning and broken promises from this government.

Labor will always stand with Queenslanders doing it tough. We will keep calling out decisions that make their life harder, not easier. Budgets are about choices and this government is making the wrong ones. Some in this chamber often speak about cost of living, but their actions show they do not truly understand what those words mean for ordinary families. For some, doing it tough means cutting back on luxuries. For many in my community, it means skipped meals, overdue bills and sleepless nights. It is the difference between the cost of living and the cost of surviving.

A government member: Oh, come on!

Mrs NIGHTINGALE: 'Oh, come on!' That is their response and that speaks to exactly how out of touch this government is with real working Queenslanders. They do not understand what it means to actually suffer under this cost-of-living crisis. When this government talks about easing cost-of-living pressure while stripping away relief, ignoring rising costs and offering no serious help, people notice. Just as with those words uttered opposite, they notice because they are the ones paying the price. They notice because they are the ones living with the consequences of this government's bad decisions. If those opposite truly understood what cost-of-living pressure looks like in communities like Inala, their priorities would be different, their budgets would be different, their decisions would be different and Queensland families would not be left to carry this burden on their own.

Mr DALTON (Mackay—LNP) (8.02 pm): I rise to speak to the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill and the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill. When we talk about billions of dollars in unforeseen expenditure, when we talk about budget blowouts and fiscal mismanagement, these are not just numbers on a page; they are real impacts on real people in places like Mackay. What this bill confirms is something that people in my electorate have been telling me for years: under the former Labor government they were forgotten and the services did not keep up with the growth. We now know that across government an additional $5.746 billion was required in 2024-25 alone. That is 6.3 per cent above what was originally budgeted. That is not a rounding error and that is not a small adjustment; that is a massive gap between what was promised and what was actually delivered.

In Mackay we felt that gap. We saw it in our hospital system, where demand kept rising but funding did not keep pace. We saw it in housing, where locals struggled to find a place to live while services were underfunded. We saw it in community safety, where families were left dealing with the consequences of the youth crime crisis that was not properly resourced. This bill confirms that over $2 billion extra had to be poured into Queensland Health alone just to keep the system functioning. I can tell this House that the Mackay people know exactly what that looks like. It looks like long wait times at the emergency departments. It looks like pressure on the front line for staff. It looks like families worried about whether they can access care when they need it most. That is why this debate matters.

What we are doing here is not just approving past expenditure; we are exposing the reality of the former Labor government's budget that was never designed to last. It was designed to get through an election. It was designed to help their mates in the CFMEU. It caused multimillion dollar project blowouts because of their mismanagement and dodgy deals. It was designed to not fund services and expansions at the Mackay Base Hospital. Regional communities like Mackay were left to deal with the consequences.

There is another side to this story, because while this bill reflects the mess that was left behind it also reflects the work that the Crisafulli government is doing to fix it. We are methodically working through the damage. We are restoring discipline to the budget. Importantly, we are making sure that funding is going where it should have gone in the first place. That includes critical investment in health, housing and community safety and in sports upgrades like at Saints AFL. On Saturday, Anzac Day, the dusk service at the AFL ground of the Saints will have the lights on, which was an election commitment. This is the first senior match on their field under lights. This was an election commitment that I made in the 2024 election. It includes funding to support victims of crime. It stabilises our hospital system and it includes practical measures that help regional Queenslanders in their day-to-day lives—like the continuation of 50-cent fares, which are making a real difference to families trying to manage cost-of-living pressures, even in Mackay.

In Mackay the cost of living matters. Every dollar matters, every service matters and every decision we make in this place has a direct impact on people back home. What people in my electorate want is simple: they want honesty, accountability and a government that respects their money. That is what this government is delivering. We are not pretending the problems do not exist. We are not hiding

the numbers. We are not shifting responsibility. We are dealing with it because Queenslanders voted for a fresh start and that is what people in Mackay are getting. They voted for a government that would take the time to clean up and sort out the books properly, a government that would invest where it matters and a government that understands that regional communities cannot be an afterthought—unlike the Brisbane Labor party.

While this bill reflects a difficult reality, it also makes progress—progress towards restoring confidence in the budget, progress towards properly funding frontline services and progress towards ensuring that communities like Mackay get the support they deserve. I commend this bill to the House.

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (8.07 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill and the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill. These bills relate to additional expenditure, $5.4 million for the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service and $5.7 billion across government departments. This additional expenditure must now be formally endorsed by the parliament in accordance with convention but also elective requirements. While the opposition is not opposing these bills, let me be very clear: not opposing the passage of appropriation legislation does not mean that we support the performance of this government, and Queenslanders have every reason to be concerned about that performance. This debate is not just about legislative endorsement; it is about priorities, it is about whether this government understands the pressures facing everyday Queenslanders and it is about whether it is prepared to act.

In the Morayfield state electorate, which I am proud to represent, those pressures are real and they continue to grow under this state government. Our area is one of the fastest growing communities in Queensland. It includes the suburbs of Morayfield and Caboolture South and parts of Burpengary, Caboolture, Bellmere and Upper Caboolture. It is home to young families, retirees, essential workers and battlers—people who are working hard, doing the right thing and trying to get ahead.

The Morayfield state electorate is also the centre of significant growth areas within Morayfield South and Caboolture West, particularly those developments at Lilywood, Wagtail Grove and Greenstone. These communities will bring tens of thousands of new residents to our region in the year ahead, but the infrastructure is simply not keeping up under this state government. There is no planning; there is limited delivery. The services are also not keeping up. In fact, in many respects, they are falling behind and the cost of living is not just rising under this state government; it is biting hard in every corner of the Morayfield state electorate around every dining table.

When I speak to people across the Morayfield state electorate, they are not just asking for relief; they are desperate for their state government to hear them and help them with relief. They are asking why this government has removed key cost-of-living measures that made a real difference for them—cost-of-living measures like rego discounts and the electricity rebates. These cost-of-living measures are gone under this state government and, rightly so, locals are asking why electricity rebates for support that helped families keep the lights on and small businesses keep their doors open have been scrapped. They are asking why, at a time when everything is going up, their state government is doing less. The reality is that cost-of-living pressures are not easing; they are intensifying. Families are paying more at the supermarket, more for rent, more for electricity and more at the petrol bowser.

This brings me to one of the biggest issues facing my community at the moment—fuel prices. Fuel prices in Queensland remain stubbornly high, and in communities like the Morayfield state electorate where public transport options are limited people do not have a choice; they rely on their cars. They rely on their cars to get to work, to get their kids to school, to attend medical appointments, to participate in kids' sport—to do all the basics of everyday life—so when fuel prices rise it is not just an inconvenience; it is a direct hit to household budgets. What have we seen from this government in response to those immediate pressures impacting households and families right now? Very little. Other jurisdictions are exploring mechanisms to deliver fairer fuel prices, greater transparency, stronger oversight and real interventions to protect consumers, but here in Queensland we have seen a government that has failed to do anything that has an immediate impact on these soaring fuel prices.

In fact, we have seen this government vote against proposals that would have delivered more affordable fuel prices for Queenslanders. At a time when families are crying out for relief, this government has chosen inaction, and it is simply not good enough. It all ties back to the broader issue of cost-of-living relief, because this government has not just failed to deliver more cost-of-living relief for Queenslanders; it has actively removed existing ones. It has walked away from support that was making a difference. It has left Queenslanders to fend for themselves in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, and the impact of those decisions is being felt every single day in communities like the Morayfield state electorate.

A connected issue and a critical issue for the people of the Morayfield state electorate is also access to public transport, because cost of living is also connected to transport and access to public transport. If you cannot access reliable public transport, you are forced into a car or you are forced to not participate in the economy in your community. That means higher fuel costs, higher expenses and more pressure on family budgets, and that is exactly the situation facing many people in the Morayfield state electorate. It is why I have been running a campaign called Where's our Bus? It is a campaign initiated with the residents of the Plantation Retirement Resort who are dogged advocates for new bus routes and more public transport services. They have been advocating for this government to continue the momentum which was started under the previous government with building the evidence base through transport studies and continued through planning and engagement. All of that has stopped under this government and the residents of the Plantation Retirement Resort are quite rightly concerned and are quite justified in asking, 'Where is our bus?'

In communities like ours—like the Morayfield state electorate—access to public transport is not optional; it is essential. We need more bus routes, we need more frequent services, we need better connections between new housing developments and key destinations like the hospital, the shopping centre and rail networks, but instead of progress we have seen delays. We have seen those transport study reports withheld. We have seen a lack of progress, and we have seen the state government put a handbrake on public transport planning and new bus route investment, and the result is locals being left behind. They are being forced to spend more on fuel because there is no viable alternative. They are being stuck in traffic because there is no investment in public transport. They are being asked to carry the burden of this government's failures, because it is not going into the bus routes that the community needs and it is not going into the infrastructure required to support fast growing regions like the Morayfield state electorate. It is definitely not going into meaningful, cost-of-living relief, and that is a fundamental problem.

When it comes to budgetary performance, we see that this state government is big on promises but is lacking in the delivery of its questionable savings commitments. The Treasurer claimed that hundreds of millions of dollars in new spending would be offset by cutting back on consultants and contractors, but those savings have not materialised. In fact, the government has failed to meet its own targets by a significant margin. This is not just a bookkeeping issue; it goes to the credibility of the government's entire fiscal strategy, because those savings were built into the forward estimates. They were essential to the government's claims of fiscal responsibility. If it cannot deliver those savings then the whole house of cards starts to wobble, and that has real consequences. It puts pressure on Queensland's credit rating, it increases the risk of higher borrowing costs and it reduces this state government's capacity to invest in the very things Queenslanders need like cost-of-living relief, schools, hospitals, roads and public transport.

I am particularly concerned that this government is not providing the necessary funding to build the new schools that the community needs in the Morayfield state electorate, to invest in those bus routes, to provide the urgent cost-of-living relief, to build the promised Caboolture Neighbourhood Centre and to continue mental health services at the Caboolture Safe Space—services which have no funding under this state government beyond 30 June, and they are mental health services. While this government is trying to dismiss these concerns as political, the reality is economic, it is financial, it is real to people. This government needs to do better.

Mrs POOLE (Mundingburra—LNP) (8.17 pm): I rise in support of the cognate appropriation bills. At the outset, I want to express my gratitude to the Treasurer, Premier, Deputy Premier and all of the ministers who had a hand in bringing this bill together and delivering for not only the community of Mundingburra but also the community of Queensland. This is about delivering for Queensland, but it is about being a responsible government and it is about funding those commitments, and that is what good government does. We went to the October 2024 election promising a fresh start for Queensland and safety where you live. We are well and truly on our way to delivering safety where you live thanks to the police minister, who himself was once a detective—a natural observer. I am really proud to stand in this chamber and say—we heard it here today, and it is historic—that we now have just over 13,000 police officers in the Queensland Police Service. I can still remember my registered number—4010620. It is ingrained into your brain and each and every one of those 13,000 serving police officers will also remember their number and should be exceptionally proud.

We are delivering on that commitment. We have always said we will back our police officers with boots on the ground but we cannot just do that. It is about delivering the resources that our police need to do their job to keep our community safe. I have seen firsthand in my nearly 30 years of policing, all in Townsville, how the resources have not been delivered. We have delivered: $47.7 million for Taser

10s; over $41 million to replace the body worn cameras at the end of their life; and nearly $30 million for integrated load-bearing vests and tactical first-aid kits. We have replaced roadside breath-testing devices, purchased additional tyre deflation devices and funded an additional nearly $9 million for portable handheld radios. These are not just resources; these are life-saving resources. When you and your partner are at a job, it is not good enough that one has a radio and one has a Taser. I can tell you: that is how it was under the former Labor government.

Mrs Kirkland: Shame.

Mrs POOLE: I take that interjection; shame. This is about protecting our police officers. This is about giving them the resources they need to do their job to keep our community safe. It is more than that. It is also about giving police the powers they need to do their job. We have made Jack's Law permanent—anywhere, anytime, taking bladed weapons off our streets. With Daniel's Law, we are really proud on this side of the chamber to have delivered a law in honour of Daniel Morcombe—for Daniel, for Dean, for Bradley and for Bruce and Denise in Daniel's honour—to keep our young people safe. We did that.

It is also about early intervention. We always said we would have a multipronged approach when it came to the safety of the community with our Making Queensland Safer legislation. Along with early intervention, we have consequences for actions and rehabilitation with purpose. We are delivering on early intervention: $560 million for comprehensive early intervention and rehabilitation programs that include Kickstarter programs and in Townsville a crime prevention school. There is also $175 million for the Staying on Track program, which offers rehabilitation with purpose. That means 12 months of intensive support—not the 72 hours they used to get, maybe, under the former Labor government. It is 12 months because we are serious about helping our young people get back on track and rehabilitate.

We are starting even earlier than that. We have made a $27 million investment to support a pilot program over four years: the professional foster care pilot program. I am really proud to stand here and thank the minister for a pilot program in Townsville. This is about getting our young people out of residential care and into the foster care system where they can feel loved, they can feel supported and they can get all the help they need to be fine young upstanding members of our community.

It is not just about safety where you live; it is also about health services when you need them. In the Mundingburra electorate we have the Townsville University Hospital within the Townsville Hospital and Health Service and we are delivering 165 new overnight beds. Under Labor, it would never have been delivered. There was no plan and there was no budget. In fact, under the Sangster review, the budget for building this hospital blew out by half a billion dollars—$500 million. We have re-costed it. It is not just about the $500 million in underfunding; there was no pharmacy, there was no sterilising department and there were no linkage corridors from the new hospital bays to the old ones. That meant you would have to take a patient in their bed down in the lift, out along the road and back up to the new. That is not good enough for the people of Queensland. We have funded it under the Hospital Rescue Plan. We have included 165 new overnight beds, a day surgery, operating theatres, a sterilising department, a pharmacy and eight new perinatal mental health beds to support our new mums and bubs—

Mr Kempton interjected.

Mrs POOLE: And a walkway; I take that interjection. We are also increasing those frontline workers. We will grow that workforce to over 6,000 full-time positions.

Mr Baillie interjected.

Mrs POOLE: And they will need somewhere to park; I take that interjection. We are building a much needed, long-overdue, 700-bay car park. But wait, there's more! Because we have scrapped the new CFMEU tax we get an extra 300 new car-parking spaces. That is delivering for our community and that is respect for people's money.

We are also upgrading the Angus Smith Drive roundabout. It is a really important intersection that leads into the hospital and into the university. The member for Greenslopes got a little bit lost on his way to the chamber last year. He turned up in Townsville and stood on that intersection telling us that we were not going to deliver it. All he had to was turn to page 4 of the *Delivering for North Queensland* booklet. There it was. I am here to tell you: it is funded and it will be delivered.

It is more than that. It is delivering a place to call home. Our Residential Activation Fund is investing $2 billion. There is $1 billion for regional and rural Queensland, with $44 million in Townsville alone—over 4,200 lots. This is just the start. We have axed stamp duty on new home builds for our first home buyers and we are allowing them to rent out a room at no financial penalty to them. In my electorate of Mundingburra, we have partnered with the Townsville City Council to upgrade the gravity

sewer network in the Wulguru wastewater area that has been impacting 250 properties for years. We are funding it. We are delivering on that. It is about Games On!; it is about FairPlay vouchers; it is about Boost to Buy; it is about back-to-school vouchers. I googled the word 'funding' and it comes up as a verb. The example used was 'a government funding its promises'. That is the difference between this side of the chamber and that side.

Mr MOLHOEK (Southport—LNP) (8.27 pm): What a great contribution we just heard in the House. I rise today in support of the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill 2025 and the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill 2025 and to speak on the importance of responsible budgeting and why this bill before the House matters. It is not just numbers on a page; it is real outcomes we are delivering for Queenslanders. A budget is more than a financial document; it is a reflection of the government's priorities, its discipline and its vision for the future. Getting the budget right is not about quick, flashy wins or announcements; it is about making careful, considered decisions that stand the test of time. It is about ensuring that every dollar spent today does not become a burden for future generations.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: There will be less chatter in the chamber. It is hard to hear the member for Southport.

Mr MOLHOEK: I was actually having difficulty hearing myself! Thank you, Speaker.

Mr Dillon: You know what you are saying.

Mr MOLHOEK: I do know what I am saying, thank you, member for Gregory. The reality is that we cannot deliver for Queensland, nor for communities like Southport, if our finances are unsustainable.

Progress built on shaky foundations will not last. That is why the Crisafulli government is taking a steady and responsible approach: slow and steady but deliberate, disciplined and focused on long-term outcomes, something we never saw from those opposite after a decade of deficit, debt and decline. When we came to office we did not inherit a clean slate. The Labor government left a mess with its poor record of financial management. Key frontline services such as child safety, social housing, homelessness services and support for victims of Labor's crime crisis were underfunded in the 2024-25 budget and, might I say, in previous budgets. In fact, more than $2 billion in additional funding was required for Queensland Health alone due to the mismanagement of the former minister, now shadow treasurer, the member for Waterford. These are not minor oversights, they are significant gaps that go directly to the services that Queenslanders rely on every single day.

The appropriation bill before the House seeks approval for unforeseen expenditure because the reality we uncovered required immediate action. This includes: an additional $160.9 million for the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety; an additional $231.6 million for the Department of Housing and Public Works; and $2.2 billion for Queensland Health. These investments are not optional, they are essential. We have committed over $2 billion to Queensland Health to ensure Queenslanders can access the care they need when they need it. This is particularly important for the Gold Coast and for my electorate of Southport where population growth is projected to reach one million residents in the coming decades. That growth brings opportunity, but it also brings responsibility. We need more hospitals, more frontline staff and more capacity across our health system. Responsible budgeting ensures we can meet that demand.

Similarly, we are addressing the funding gaps left in child safety and housing. We have committed $461 million to fill Labor's child safety funding black hole because protecting vulnerable children is not something that can be delayed or underfunded, and we are investing an additional $200 million into housing, including $120 million for previously unfunded housing and homelessness services and $62.5 million for essential social housing maintenance that has been left behind.

This is what it looks like to methodically work through a fiscal mess. The Crisafulli government's first budget laid the foundation for a fresh start for Queensland after a decade of decline and we continue to calmly and carefully repair the damage step by step, decision by decision. I am encouraged by the Treasurer's latest budget update because it shows progress, with the lowest budget-to-MYFER expense growth since the pandemic. That is not by accident. It is the result of discipline, restraint and a commitment to doing things properly. Queenslanders voted for a fresh start. They voted for a government that respects their money and spends it wisely, and that is exactly what we are delivering.

We are not just repairing the books, we are delivering real outcomes. In my electorate of Southport we are seeing meaningful investment in housing and community infrastructure. Thousands of social and community homes are under contract or under construction across Queensland, including significant projects in Southport. I recently had the pleasure of joining the housing minister to turn the

sod on a project dedicated to those fleeing domestic violence; providing safety, dignity and hope for those who need it most—another 30 dwellings in my electorate of Southport. We are also delivering 147 affordable housing units in partnership with the Brisbane Housing Company at Queen Street Village, along with more than 200 social and supportive housing units in Scarborough Street, Southport, under the Common Ground model of care in partnership with Mission Australia. I thank the Deputy Premier for expediting the Still Waters project with the Salvation Army in Wardoo Street, Southport, another important step in increasing housing supply and support services to our most vulnerable.

I also want to reflect on an initiative close to my heart. In 2012 I advocated for the introduction of youth foyers as part of a care model for young people in the foster system. These foyers provide a stable, supportive environment to help young people transition to independence. I am proud that Southport is now home to one of these incredible facilities. I thank the housing minister for reaffirming his commitment to expanding youth foyers across Queensland. Foyers work. They change lives and they give vulnerable young people a real chance at a better future. That is why it is important to get this budget right. It is not just about balancing the books, it is about ensuring that we can invest in what matters most. It is about building a future that is sustainable, responsible and fair. Only with a strong, disciplined budget can we continue to deliver for Queenslanders today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

Mr SPEAKER: Under the provisions of the order agreed to by the House, I call the Treasurer to reply to the second reading debate.

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (8.35 pm), in reply: I rise to reply to the debate on the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill and the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill. The key numbers in relation to the bills that we are debating here tonight are the numbers 2024-2025, because those are the numbers that relate to Labor's last budget. The last budget of the former Labor government was described by the *Financial Review* as a clown show. The contributions from those opposite over the last few periods of debate have again shown us that they have learned nothing in relation to the supplementary appropriation bills that relate to their last clown show budget.

I will start with the member for Waterford, who complained that I spent more time talking about Labor than I did about the Crisafulli government. That is because we are talking about Labor's last budget that was described as a clown show. This is coming from the member for Waterford who is on the record most recently for saying I delivered three budgets. That is how little she is paying attention. It has been one budget—but we got more done in one budget than they could ever do in three or more budgets. The member for Waterford went on to say that this bill was an appropriate time to do more with the cost of living. We know that those opposite want to run from their record. They do not want to stand up for the record of their 10 years in government. We will never let Queenslanders forget the mess that they left the state of Queensland in: higher taxes, record debt, worsening deficits—they had the smorgasbord of poor performance. They are ashamed of their record of debt, deficit and deceit and they do not want to talk about it.

In last year's supplementary appropriations debate the member for Waterford spoke for six minutes. That was all the member for Waterford could muster to defend the 2023-24 appropriation. Those opposite had run $9 billion over what had originally been appropriated for. This year the member for Waterford got to 10 minutes. That is a big improvement on last year. She is joined by many of her colleagues in failing to understand the supplementary appropriation bills process. I will run through a few of them. The member for Bancroft said the LNP needs to view these bills as an opportunity to deliver cost-of-living relief. I do not know exactly how long the member for Bancroft has been in the House, but it must be nearing a decade.

This is Labor's last budget and supplementary appropriation bills that we are debating tonight. Let us remember, firstly, that I introduced our cost-of-living relief in last year's budget, the 2025-26 budget, and then let us remember Labor's last budgeted cost-of-living relief package. I had the opportunity to go through it earlier. Let us talk about how they were planning to end billions of dollars worth of cost-of-living relief. Who can forget that they had not funded Play On! vouchers into the forwards? They had not funded 50-cent fares. They were going to cut billions of dollars in funding for 50-cent fares, which the Crisafulli government has now permanently funded. As the transport and main roads minister often talks about, Labor's last Budget Paper No. 4 showed that they spent money on advertising 50-cent fares on the back of the budget paper. They turned the budget papers into advertising hoarding. They spent more money on advertising 50-cent fares than they put in the budget for 50-cent fares. That is their record on deceiving the Queensland people. What did we do in our first budget last year? The Crisafulli government permanently funded 50-cent fares. In our first budget, we were determined that we would provide sensible, responsible, permanent—

A government member: Calm and methodical.

Mr JANETZKI:—and calm and methodical, some might say, cost-of-living support funded into the forwards. That is why we have the Back to School Boost that the education minister oversees. We have extended the first home owner grant to $30,000. We have fully funded Play On! vouchers. Those opposite talk about their energy rebate, but they did not put a cent in the forwards for it. The former Labor government was so cruel that it froze the electricity rebate for vulnerable households in Queensland. We lifted the freeze and we have started indexing electricity rebates for vulnerable households in Queensland. Of 2.1 million households in Queensland there are 600,000 vulnerable households, and we have now lifted the cruel freeze applied by the former Labor government. In our first budget we locked in our commitment to abolish the patients tax. Those opposite wanted to drive down bulk-billing and drive up the cost to see the family doctor. That was their vision for Queensland. We got rid of the patients tax in our first budget because this government operates by delivering on what we promise.

I want to come back to the supplementary appropriations themselves. If those opposite were so concerned about the cost of living, I am sure that in June 2024 they would have bailed up the member for Woodridge to complain about all of the things that they had not fully funded and that I have just mentioned. The member for Waterford attended 31 CBRC meetings. As a senior figure in the Labor government, did the member for Waterford raise concerns about their failure to properly fund the cost-of-living relief measures that we have now funded permanently in our first budget?

I reflect on the contribution of the member for Ipswich. I am sure that the member for Ipswich did not raise any concerns about child safety with the former treasurer, the member for Woodridge. Did the member for Ipswich raise the concern that there was a $461 million black hole in child safety that could have seen thousands of children who were in residential care on the streets and put at risk? When complaining about child safety, did the member for Ipswich speak with the member for Woodridge, who left a funding cliff for child safety of $461 million?

A government member interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: I take the interjection. My guess is no. We fully funded that. We made sure that those funding cliffs were funded, and that is in black and white. It is in the budget papers produced by Treasury. In fact, it is in the Consolidated Fund financial report. If she needed further verification, the member for Ipswich could have asked the deputy chair of the committee, the member for Bancroft, to ask questions of Treasury officials at the public briefing on this bill. As I have already mentioned in the second reading debate, the member for Bancroft, as deputy chair of the committee, did not want to ask questions about these bills. He wanted to ask questions about another issue, but he did not want to ask questions about this bill. Why didn't the member for Bancroft want to do that? It is because it was their bill! It was their budget and they did not want to ask questions about it because they knew what that would mean.

I refer to the contribution from the member for Cooper, who I understand is one of five opposition members who shadow the roles I hold. There are five of them, so you would expect they would have enough time to get their facts right. The member for Cooper said that the supplementary appropriation bill does not invest enough in housing. Again, they are labouring under the misapprehension that it is our budget. It was their budget. It was their supplementary appropriations. They do not even understand the process and they show themselves unfit.

It is interesting that, after 10 years of decline under the former government, the member for Cooper could talk about a 'system-level shift' in housing. We agree, and that is what we are delivering in Queensland. We know there are challenges with housing. This bill included $120 million for unfunded housing and homelessness services and $62½ million for unfunded social housing maintenance. We provided $230 million more than Labor had appropriated. I wonder about the system-level shift that the member for Cooper talked about. What have they left us with? They left us with record numbers of homeless, the lowest home ownership rate in the country at 63½ per cent and a $2 billion fund that did not deliver one single new home. They had a build-to-rent program but they did not deliver a single new home that they had committed to—not a single one. We saw significant drops of 29 and 36 per cent in lot approvals and building approvals.

Mrs Gerber: That's their legacy.

Mr JANETZKI: I take the interjection from the member for Currumbin. That is their legacy. The member for Cooper said that we could have used this supplementary appropriation bill to 'purchase empty buildings and transform them into accommodation'. This is their budget. It is their appropriations bill. Who could forget the last time they tried to find a building to turn into accommodation? That was at

the Griffith University campus at Mount Gravatt. They tried for a few months and then realised, 'Oops, we can't do anything.' They were going to bank favours between Mike Kaiser and the chancellor, but it all came to nought. That is what they tried to do.

What are we doing about housing? We have launched the Boost to Buy program, with over 1,500 appointments held. Hundreds of young Queenslanders are starting to see their home ownership dream come to life. We have the $2 billion RAF, overseen by the Premier. We have a $5.6 billion investment in social and community housing, overseen by the housing minister. We have the LAP. We are on target for 53½ thousand social and community homes by 2044. We are making the changes that are necessary to improve the housing situation in Queensland.

I want to continue with the contributions of those opposite. The erstwhile senator, the member for Ferny Grove, was busy harking back to his glory days in the Rudd government and the $16.7 billion Building the Education Revolution, which was known for its blowouts, as we well know.

A government member interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: He did not mention the home insulation scheme from the glory days of the former Rudd government, but I am sure that was just a little oversight.

The member for McConnel has had a tough day. The member for McConnel talked about the Hospital Rescue Plan. She said that our methodical approach when it comes to ensuring projects are properly scoped and costed is ridiculous. That is quite the statement from a minister who, at the time, told the contractors at the Second Range Crossing in Toowoomba that if they did not do a deal with the CFMEU their contract would be terminated. That is the culture of those opposite. We saw what the Productivity Commission revealed.

Mr Krause interjected.

Mr JANETZKI: I take the interjection from the member for Scenic Rim. How much extra did the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing cost because of the activity of the CFMEU, enabled by the industrial relations minister at the time? Seriously! We know what BPICs cost the building and construction sector. They voted against the first review of the Productivity Commission because they do not want productivity; they do not want to know how much BPICs cost. Let me tell you: it was going to cost an additional $20 billion by the end of the decade. It was going to mean 77,000 fewer homes. It has meant higher rents. We have seen again that those opposite do not care one jot for productivity.

The member for McConnel also said, 'To sustain those services, you need the qualified staff in those hospitals. Anything less and you are putting those patients at risk.' Let me talk about their legacy of staffing hospitals. Another health funding black hole that they left us with in this last budget was the Springfield Mater Hospital. I note that the health minister had an excellent announcement today in relation to the maternity wards—

Mrs Gerber: Prince Charles.

Mr JANETZKI: Of course, Prince Charles! Those opposite left a funding cliff. It was like an episode of *Yes Minister* where they constructed a hospital but they did not allocate one dollar—not one dollar—for its operation. They could not operate it. There was no money set aside by those opposite for a doctor, a nurse, a healthcare worker—not a single person. That is how much they cared about staffing our hospitals and our health system. That is what they did.

What did we do? We invested 10.2 per cent in the health budget last year—$18.5 billion—into the capital program in the Hospital Rescue Plan across five years. That is the kind of commitment we are making to put downward pressure on ramping and waitlists. I want to wrap up where I started and that was—

Mr Minnikin: Bad Labor.

Mr JANETZKI: Yes! I take the interjection. It was bad Labor. It was 10 years of fiscal vandalism. Over nine years, expense under those opposite grew at 6.6 per cent. In our first budget, it was 5.3 per cent. We have seen time and again those opposite care not for fiscal management in this state. They do not take their task seriously, and they never did in government, as we saw.

The member for Bulimba again showed the ignorance of those opposite in terms of the budget process and has not paid attention. She was talking about the fuel excise that has been reduced by the federal Labor government and the two amounts—26 cents and then the further six cents. Note that the entirety of the fuel excise has gone to the federal government to allocate. She was not paying attention, showing ignorance, and not doing the homework. They are a lazy opposition. They are the best resourced but the laziest opposition we have ever seen in Queensland. They are the worst we have ever seen. We know that those opposite are not taking their task seriously. They are just not.

We know that they left the budget with the highest ever debt—$252 billion. In 2028-29 we are bringing that back, with a lower trajectory. Our first budget invested in jobs and services—what we need to deliver better and more services to the people of Queensland. We laid the foundation for budget repair. We are seeing signs of confidence throughout the Queensland economy. We are open for business. We know we are seeing significant investment into the property sector and into the resources sector.

I look at the resources minister here. The Fraser survey is the best example of confidence in our resources sector. When those opposite started governing, at the beginning of their 10-year reign, we were seventh in the world. At the end of their tenure we were 39th. In one year under our resources minister we are back to 13th. We are absolutely committed to the economic development of our state, with the key strength in our property sector and our resources sector. We are committed to it. We have brought a certainty and stability to industry across Queensland as we rebuild after their decade of fiscal vandalism.

They have proven again throughout this debate that they have learned nothing. They have learned nothing. We hear in speaker after speaker their lack of attention to detail, their lack of fiscal discipline and their lack of wanting a better Queensland by investing in those industries, whereas we are giving the clear message that we are open for business. Those opposite have learned nothing and they have not changed. They can never again be trusted to manage Queensland's finances.

Question put—That the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be now read a second time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Question put—That the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be now read a second time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill

Clauses 1 and 2, as read, agreed to.

Schedule 1, as read, agreed to.

Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill

Clauses 1 and 2, as read, agreed to.

Schedule 1, as read, agreed to.

Third Reading (Cognate Debate)

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (8.57 pm): I move—

That the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be now read a third time.

Question put—That the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be now read a third time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (8.57 pm): I move—

That the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be now read a third time.

Question put—That the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be now read a third time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Long Title (Cognate Debate)

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (8.58 pm): I move—

That the long title of the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be agreed to.

Question put—That the long title of the Appropriation (Parliament) (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (8.58 pm): I move—

That the long title of the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be agreed to.

Question put—That the long title of the Appropriation (Supplementary 2024-2025) Bill be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

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

That the House do now adjourn.

One Nation Party

Mr MARTIN (Stretton—ALP) (8.59 pm): I rise to speak about the dangerous alliance between the LNP and One Nation. When first elected, Pauline Hanson declared in federal parliament that Australia was in danger of being swamped—

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! It has been a very trying week. Let's see if we can finish it with a little bit of decorum.

Mr MARTIN: When first elected, Pauline Hanson declared in federal parliament that Australia was in danger of being swamped by Asians. She has called for a ban on Muslim migration, and recently she stated in an interview with *Sky News*—

... I'm sorry, how can you tell me there are good Muslims?

They are disgraceful comments. They are outrageous comments. In spite of this, the LNP continue to preference One Nation. They did it in Stretton. They did it in Stafford at the last election. Strangely, One Nation have announced that they will not run in the by-election in Stafford. I have to say this is very strange. Voters would be right to ask why. Has a secret deal been done? What has the Premier offered One Nation to get them to agree to that?

Mr Crandon: You've done the secret deal with them.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Coomera.

Mr MARTIN: Racism corrodes social cohesion. It undermines the safety of our communities. Political leaders have a responsibility to call it out, not exploit it.

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr MARTIN: You are not a political leader, though.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Coomera, you are warned.

Mr MARTIN: Yet that is exactly what we are seeing from Angus Taylor and the federal LNP. His proposal to restrict the number of migrants based on whether their country meets his definition of 'a liberal democracy' is not serious policy; it is crude and discriminatory. It is exclusion dressed up as principle, and it echoes the worst instincts of One Nation politics.

The hypocrisy is galling. When those opposite turn up to multicultural events or host leaders in this place, it is very convenient that the LNP do not mention their continued preference deals with One Nation. It is funny that they do not mention the federal LNP's discriminatory migration policy. Funny that.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! There will be more joining the warning list, if you are not careful.

Mr MARTIN: This week we celebrated Eid in parliament on the Speaker's Green with many members of the Muslim community. It was very convenient that LNP speakers attended, but mum's the word on One Nation and the new migration policy. Can you picture it?

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Toowoomba North.

Mr MARTIN: If they actually said what they thought, the LNP minister would come out and welcome everyone, 'Thanks for being here. Yadda yadda yadda. By the way, we are going to keep preferencing the ban-Muslim-migration lady. Please, everybody, have a lovely day and drive home safely.' What about Chinese New Year? Can you imagine what happens at Chinese New Year at the Beijing club—

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The member for Toowoomba North is warned.

Mr MARTIN: It would be the same story, 'Welcome, everyone. Happy Year of the Goat, but I am sorry if any of your friends want to move to Queensland. I am sorry. The LNP will be checking if you're from a liberal democracy.' It is not good enough, it is exclusionary—

(Time expired)

Nambour, Housing

Mr HUNT (Nicklin—LNP) (9.02 pm): After a decade of decline under the previous Labor government, we were left with a housing crisis like none we have ever seen. Supply is down, prices and rents are up and productivity in the building industry has been hampered by CFMEU influence over former government ministers, as was revealed this week. This has all resulted in the housing crisis that we inherited. The chronic homelessness crisis is one of those issues that cannot be fixed overnight, but, as a government, we were right onto it.

In my last years as a Nambour police officer in the lead-up to the election 18 months ago, I saw this crisis firsthand in our parks, in our central business districts and in our other public spaces which had been taken over by tent cities and people sleeping rough. That is why it was a top priority of mine, knowing this issue could not be solved quickly, to get straight onto short-, medium- and long-term solutions. The community was calling out for action. Housing and homelessness was one of the top issues brought up during my doorknocking in the campaign, particularly around Nambour.

This led to a community petition and the eventual establishment of the Nambour Now group. I quickly engaged with that group and other stakeholders and had the housing minister attend Nambour to meet with them. We then went to work immediately on solutions. We ensured HOME teams from the department were doing more regular outreach in our public spaces, which saw 22 people supported into accommodation solutions and dozens more helped.

I was also pleased to welcome the minister to Nambour again just a couple of weeks ago to announce an eight-unit social housing project in Carter Road, Nambour. That is in addition to a pipeline of over 300 other projects right across the Sunshine Coast. We also announced a 20-unit supportive temporary accommodation facility in Nambour, with wraparound services to assist our most vulnerable become tenancy ready. It is very important that we not only find accommodation solutions but also offer vulnerable people the services and assistance they need to get their lives back together. This was along with a $1 million funding announcement to support the work of the Integrated Family and Youth Service, or IFYS, and the outreach services they provide.

I want to thank the minister for his prompt assistance, advocacy and funding to help us start on the road to reducing the chronic homelessness and housing crisis we inherited. This issue will take time to see longer term lasting results. There is a lot of work still to do. To turn around a decade of decline is going to take a while, but I am proud to be part of a government that listens, acts and delivers for our community.

Housing Affordability

Ms MULLEN (Jordan—ALP) (9.05 pm): I want to share the words from one of my constituents. She says—

I am writing to you in hopes of a better future. I am incredibly frustrated with the cost of living and house prices. It is becoming increasingly impossible for anyone my age to be able to afford a home (I'm 28). I know maybe a handful of people who own homes. Speaking with other people my age, there is a lot of hopelessness when it comes to talking about the future. It feels as if our generation has been left out. I studied in university and got a good job, and even then I am no closer to buying a house.

There is something wicked that, in the middle of a severe housing affordability crisis, a government would deliberately choose to cut affordable housing in our state. There is something wicked when a government deliberately chooses to ignore hardworking Queenslanders, like my constituent, desperate to own their own home but seeing that hope for a better future fade.

Worse still, there is something truly wicked when a government says to developers, 'You can have whatever you want—no strings attached.' This is what the LNP government has done. Their decision to remove affordable housing targets through the state facilitated development pathway is absolutely deplorable. We were very clear with the development industry: 'If you want access to this planning pathway—a pathway that is faster, streamlined and gives you planning certainty—then you must also help what is a national affordability crisis and include affordable housing within your projects.' A simple quid pro quo. Instead, what the Deputy Premier has done by removing the affordable housing targets is say to developers, 'It's all "quid". Don't worry about the "quo".'

Even Queensland's peak housing body, Q Shelter, has raised the alarm on the Crisafulli government's distaste for affordable housing. As they have said publicly—

Without clear affordability requirements, expedited pathways, such as SFD, risk delivering more market housing that remains out of reach for low and moderate income households.

Q Shelter urges the Queensland government to strengthen the SFD pathway by integrating affordability targets and public value outcomes alongside increased supply.

The LNP government is doing nothing to ease cost-of-living pressure on hardworking Queenslanders. They will not support affordable housing. Instead, they are choosing to cut affordable housing targets. They will not take immediate action on fuel prices, which they can do, but instead are only focused on projects—and associated photoshoots—that will not help anyone in Queensland pay for cheaper fuel at the bowser for years. They will not offer any tangible cost-of-living measures—no rego reductions, no electricity rebates. The number of Queenslanders who cannot afford to pay their electricity bill has more than doubled under the Crisafulli LNP government.

The only thing they sprout when asked to do something about the cost of living is the initiatives that Labor had already put in place—50-cent public transport fares, our FairPlay vouchers and our former textbook and resource allowance for schoolkids. There is nothing original, nothing new, nothing for Queenslanders doing it tough.

(Time expired)

Anzac Day

Mr LEE (Hervey Bay—LNP) (9.08 pm): This Saturday we commemorate Anzac Day and acknowledge the heroic World War I sacrifices of thousands of young men who paid the ultimate price in defending our nation. On 25 April 1915, half a million allied troops landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula. After the eight-month campaign, the allied forces quietly abandoned Gallipoli, leaving behind thousands of graves.

Of the 57,000 allied troops killed, 8,700 were Australians. We get a small glimpse of agonising life in the Gallipoli trenches in Albert Facey's book *A Fortunate Life,* where he describes constant and severe shelling, machine gunfire, snipers, trench warfare, isolation, body lice, cholera and the stench of death. Approaching the shore in small boats, the Anzacs were exposed to heavy rifle fire by the Turks, who were strategically perched on coastal cliffs. A British journalist observed in the *Sydney Morning Herald*—

The Australians rose to the occasion. They did not wait for orders or for the boats to reach the beach, but sprang into the sea, formed a sort of rough line, and rushed the enemy's trenches.

Some might say this gave rise to the Anzac spirit: courage, mateship, endurance and resourcefulness.

In Hervey Bay a cenotaph commemorates and honours the men who served in World War I and subsequent conflicts. The unveiling of the cenotaph occurred on 17 July 1921 by Mr Huxley Taylor, who had lost two sons at the front. When performing the unveiling ceremony he said—

I unveil this stone to the memory of the brave men who made the supreme sacrifice.

Indeed, this would have been a personal and emotional moment for Mr Taylor. The World War I part of the monument lists 112 men, of whom 22 died. On Anzac Day thousands of local people in Hervey Bay gather at Freedom Park to commemorate our fallen. We have arguably the largest RSL sub branch in Queensland, and they do a terrific job of looking after our veterans. I will be attending the

dawn service and then later a service at the TSS Maheno site at Fraser-K'gari Island. We respect and honour our fallen Anzacs and acknowledge our courageous Defence Force veterans past and present and thank them for their service. I aptly conclude with a stanza from a poem called *For the Fallen*—

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them

Lest we forget.

Arnie's Law

Ms BUSH (Cooper—ALP) (9.11 pm): I want to talk about a legal matter, but it has been finalised in the courts so the sub judice rule does not apply.

Tonight I will speak about something that has moved thousands of Queenslanders to action. Arnie was a German shepherd, a companion animal whose life was prematurely ended not because of accident or illness but because of neglect. He was abandoned inside a vehicle without care, food or water for days while his registered owner misled police about Arnie's whereabouts and the circumstances. By the time help came, it was too late. The offender eventually pled guilty to multiple charges, including wilfully and unlawfully killing, maiming or wounding an animal, driving under the influence, driving without a licence and obstructing police. This was an extreme case of animal cruelty and neglect. Despite the egregious nature of the offending, the court sentenced him to 240 hours of community service. No conviction was recorded.

For many Queenslanders that outcome has felt deeply inadequate. Four Queensland women—Melissa Reynolds, Emma Stebbings, Emma Polities and Leila D'Rose—channelled that community anger into action. They created a petition calling for stronger consequences for aggravated neglect of a companion animal. The Arnie's Law Change.org petition gathered more than 128,000 signatures. On behalf of these women who join us in the gallery tonight and the 128,150 people who have signed this petition, it is an honour to table the Arnie's Law petition. I am going to hold this up to show you the sheer volume of this. I do not think I can do this. It is a very impressive petition.

Tabled paper: Nonconforming petition regarding stronger penalties for crimes against pets [604].

Well done, Lynne; thank you for that. It is very impressive and it is a testament to all of the people who have worked on this. I recognise it is a nonconforming petition and that the Attorney-General is not required to give a formal response, but given the overwhelming community response, I think it is important that she does. I wrote to the Attorney-General in February on behalf of the Arnie's Law team asking for a meeting so they could brief her on the feedback they have received throughout this process. Two months later we have not received a response. These petitioners are asking for practical reform. They want causing the serious death or injury of a companion animal during the commission of a crime to be treated as a serious offence. They want companion animals recognised in law as sentient beings, not just property, and clear sentencing guidelines for cases involving reckless, negligent or criminal conduct resulting in serious injury or death. Companion animals cannot report abuse. They cannot leave unsafe homes. They are entirely vulnerable and rely on human care. I do hope the Attorney-General is listening tonight because this should not be partisan. It is about ensuring our laws protect those who cannot protect themselves.

Youth Crime

Mr KEMPTON (Cook—LNP) (9.14 pm): If the Crisafulli LNP government's Adult Crime, Adult Time laws are to reduce victim numbers in Queensland, the judiciary must give effect to community expectations and reflect the intent of those laws in its decrees. The following is an extract from a regional newspaper which indicates we have a long way to go in this regard.

A teenage career criminal who has previously committed 25 burglaries and 29 vehicle offences entered the home of an elderly woman and robbed her on Anzac Day last year. The 16-year-old boy appeared in Townsville District Court recently following a crime spree across the city a year ago. The crown prosecutor said the teen had only been released from custody six weeks before committing these offences. The then 15-year-old entered the home of the 78-year-old woman in broad daylight. The aged victim lived alone and was about to drive to an Anzac Day event when the offender attempted to snatch her handbag. When she resisted, the boy then began tugging on a lanyard holding the woman's car keys. When it snapped, she fell over, hitting her head on a fridge in her garage.

The woman was too terrified to move from the ground and she closed her eyes while an attempt was made to steal her car. She was taken to hospital, where she was treated for cuts and swelling to her forehead. The prosecutor said the assault had a lasting impact on the woman. She said that the woman is now frightened not only to leave her home but also to have her back towards the street while still in the safety of her own apartment.

The judge said the boy's actions could have had fatal consequences. He said, 'You could very easily have killed her.' The crown noted the teenager's 'appalling' criminal history, which included convictions for 29 unlawful uses of a vehicle, 25 burglaries and eight counts of entering premises. The 16-year-old pleaded guilty to a total of 39 charges, including robbery while armed, using personal violence, entering a dwelling and committing an indictable offence, attempted unlawful use of a motor vehicle and serious assault. The judge sentenced him to three years jail with an immediate parole release date and did not record a conviction or declare him a serious repeat offender. This is a very disturbing outcome.

42 for 42; Cost of Living

Hon. ML FURNER (Ferny Grove—ALP) (9.16 pm): For several years I have been supporting 42 for 42 and I once again attended their lunch this year. This not-for-profit organisation was founded by ex-army veterans to help struggling veterans and their families. The organisation stands for the 41 veterans sadly killed in Afghanistan with the 42nd representing the veterans we continue to lose through suicide and those who have returned with injuries and mental illness.

I place on record the amazing work of Sean Mulqueen, the president of 42 for 42. At the event I was privileged to meet Victoria Cross recipient Dan Keighran, who spoke about his brave actions during his time in Afghanistan. Additionally, unbeknown to me at the time, we were seated at the same table as the future Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Susan Coyle, who is the patron of the organisation. She is a great woman.

I hold a strong appreciation and empathy for the ADF and those who have served in Afghanistan. This stems from my past position as chair of the Defence Sub-Committee while in the Australian Senate where I led a delegation to Afghanistan in 2011. The trip commenced at the Joint Task Force 633 Al Minhad Air Base in the United Arab Emirates. From there, we flew in a C-130 into Tarin Kowt in Uruzgan Province and later visited, via Black Hawks, our ADF personnel at a forward operating base in Mirabad Valley. From there, we went on to Kandahar and Kabul to experience the professional roles our ADF were performing in making a difference.

I was concerned recently to hear of the Iranian force's targeted attack on the Al Minhad Air Base involving drones and a projectile, causing damage. While this area is 12,010 kilometres from Brisbane, the effect of this war is having significant and devastating consequences on our economy, particularly on fuel. This government has the levers to alleviate the cost impost on our lives but fails to listen to Queenslanders and refers to the cost-saving measures that the Labor opposition has presented as 'political stunts'.

That is not the response I got from the thousands of conversations I had with my constituents about this matter. Now is the time to do something—just do something. Support Queenslanders who are doing it tough, pass the Labor opposition bill and see fuel prices decrease. I note in an article in the *Courier-Mail* today that experts have condemned the Crisafulli government's promise to extract oil from Queensland's Taroom Trough as lacking evidence and it risks becoming a taxpayer-funded stranded asset. We need to do better than this. We need to ensure this government supports Queenslanders, supports cost-of-living relief and supports a reduction in fuel prices.

Pioneer Valley, Ambulance Station

Mr G KELLY (Mirani—LNP) (9.19 pm): I rise to support the communities of Walkerston, Mirani, Mia Mia, Septimus, Kuttabul, Eton, Hampden, Kinchant Dam, Pleystowe and Marian for their calls for an ambulance station located in the Pioneer Valley. The Pioneer Valley is close to Mackay with a population of over 8,000 and growing with new housing developments in Marian and the township of Mirani. I would like to table a change.org petition from the community calling for a new ambulance station in Pioneer Valley, which has received over 5,000 signatures since June last year. I table that petition.

Tabled paper: Nonconforming petition regarding an additional emergency services station in the Pioneer Valley, Qld [605].

This was a petition started by Marian local Erin Sinnamon after her son had an asthma attack and she learnt how long the response time is for an ambulance to get to where she lives. Currently, ambulances have to come from Beaconsfield, Paget or, if available, Finch Hatton. An ambulance coming from Paget, which is the closest ambulance station, takes over 25 minutes to get to Marian. This delay can be the difference between life and death.

In 2023 Breyton Paul cut into an oil drum at work in Marian when it exploded. He was in a coma for a month and had to undergo significant surgery to reconstruct his face. His family was told the crucial window for a traumatic brain injury like the one he suffered was 30 minutes. Breyton was lucky with an ambulance reaching him within 28 minutes. Having an ambulance station in Pioneer Valley would reduce response times for accidents and medical emergencies in an area that is growing with both young families moving to the area and the older generation looking for somewhere quiet to retire to. I commend Erin for taking the initiative to raise this issue with me. The community have shown clear support for an ambulance station in Pioneer Valley. I will continue to advocate to the minister on their behalf.

As the Pioneer Valley prepares for the upcoming crushing season it stands once again as the beating heart of the Mackay region's sugar industry. Driven by the hard work of our farmers, harvesting crews, haul-out operators, loco drivers and mill workers who keep the vital industry moving, as the season ramps up I want to wish everyone a safe and successful start. I remind all involved to stay vigilant throughout the crush. With so much activity across the valley it also reinforces why I will continue fighting for a dedicated emergency services hub in the Pioneer Valley, ensuring our frontline services are properly positioned to support workers and families during one of the busiest and most critical times of the year.

Gas Industry

Mr BERKMAN (Maiwar—Grn) (9.22 pm): Mr Speaker, I do not know about you or anyone else here, but some mornings I wake up and I just wish I was a big gas company. It might sound strange and I know no-one is quite expecting that from me, but why wouldn't I? Why wouldn't we want to be—even the Greens? It is true that these companies just have it so good. Why would we not want to be one of them? The war in Iran is making them richer while it is making us poorer. We here in the real world are seeing mortgages are up, rents are up, power bills are up, fuels are up, groceries are up, public transport feels like a total shemozzle, people cannot get to see the specialist they need to see in the public health system and they are waiting years for public housing. The gas companies win and we lose; it is the same old story. How did we get here? Ten to 15 years ago when Queensland and federal Labor approved the plan to drill and frack and ship our gas overseas, these big companies coming into Queensland promised us we would get billions of dollars in royalties and corporate tax money.

As it turns out, in reality nine out of 10 of these companies paid zero—literally nothing—in corporate tax over the last 10 years. Wouldn't you know it, as it turns out these same companies only need to pay eight per cent in royalties to the Queensland government. Surely that has to be some kind of mistake. How could it be that these companies are paying less as a proportion on their royalties than what we pay in GST on a cup of coffee? It cannot be right. In fact, it is such a tiny amount of revenue that Queenslanders through our car rego payments are paying more into the budget each year than these companies are paying us in royalties. Surely that has to be some kind of mistake. Surely you need to pay more than eight per cent for Queenslanders' gas—that gas that we own—before you ship it offshore and make a massive profit. If you think that, you are wrong, sadly, but that is the way the system is supposed to work. That is the way Labor designed it and it is the same system that the LNP now refuses to fix.

The same system that lets single parents get forced out by a rent hike lets these big gas corporations get away with paying only eight per cent. The system that says there is no money for more classrooms or teacher aides at the local school gives these massive gas companies a sweetheart deal and they just keep stretching it out. When Labor or LNP politicians, wherever they are in Queensland or across the country, tell you that there is not enough money for public housing or for public transport or for public hospitals, what they are really saying is, 'We don't want to make these big gas corporations pay a fair share.' They set the system up like this because they do not want to upset the people who give them all of these massive donations—who literally give them money for the outcomes they want. Santos, which is selling our gas overseas and making massive profits, gave tens of thousands of dollars each to Labor and the LNP over the last decade. That is why we are getting screwed. That is why they will not talk about this, but I will keep banging on about it until Queenslanders get a fair share for our resources.

Mr SPEAKER: Just before I go to the member for Caloundra, I would ask you to withdraw that unparliamentary language that was in your contribution.

Mr BERKMAN: Please excuse me, Mr Speaker. I withdraw.

Caloundra Electorate

Ms HATCHER (Caloundra—LNP) (9.26 pm): On that cheery note, tonight I rise to celebrate what is happening in the Caloundra electorate. Not all is bad.

Mr Watts: Not in Caloundra.

Ms HATCHER: In Caloundra it is not bad. Caloundra is otherwise known as 'sod turn central'. Yes: we now refer to Caloundra as 'sod turn central'. Recently I was honoured to represent the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Emergency Services for the sod turn of the brand new Beerwah Fire Station. This $10 million investment into our crucial emergency services will have two fire stations on one site—one for the Queensland fire service and one for our wonderful rural fire brigade. No, they do not have a pole, but the upgraded facilities will ensure the future security of those who keep us safe. A big thank you to Lou and his whole team of volunteers for everything that they do.

Then the Deputy Premier and I were welcomed by the Stockland team to turn the sod on the long-awaited Aura city centre shopping precinct. The entire community of Aura has been waiting for so long to see this project out of the ground, and now it has been confirmed that both Woolworths and Aldi will be anchor tenants of what will be over 50 speciality stores in this new shopping centre. This will mean a lot less time for the residents of Aura on the roads, as up until now they have had to travel to either Caloundra or Kawana, although the Baringa IGA has certainly done an outstanding job of servicing the community and will do so for years to come.

The Sunshine Coast Council Mayor, Rosanna Natoli, and I were thrilled to then turn the sod on the brand new Aura Hotel. The Aura Hotel is a stunning state-of-the art food and beverage offering by the Comiskey Group—think Sandstone Point, Eatons Hill and the Doonan, to name a few of its projects. We are so excited to have the Comiskey Group investing in the Caloundra area, as the Aura Hotel will offer the biggest band room in Queensland and possibly even Australia. Think big, Caloundra: this facility will attract music acts we have not had before right in our very own backyard.

Just this week the education minister and I turned the sod on a brand new primary school in Banya in our Aura community. This brand new school will have capacity for 1,140 students and is so needed. We currently have two state primary schools in Aura as well as Notre Dame College and a fantastic state high school in Baringa High. That shows the kind of growth that we are experiencing and this particular site will also have a kindergarten and a health hub. I cannot wait to welcome those excited little faces starting as foundation students in 2028. The message is clear for Caloundra: we are finally being noticed and investment from both this government and the private sector gives us the infrastructure that we have been lacking, so get excited. For everybody else, ensure you come and visit our beautiful part of the world. It is looking really good.

Question put—That the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 9.29 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Bailey, Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Butcher, Camm, Chiesa, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, de Brenni, Dick, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Field, Frecklington, Furner, Gerber, Grace, Hatcher, 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, Mullen, Nicholls, Nightingale, O'Connor, O'Shea, Pease, Poole, Powell, Power, Pugh, Purdie, Rowan, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Simpson, Smith, Stevens, Stoker, Vorster, Watts, Weir, Whiting, Young