



Speech by

**Hon. S. ROBERTSON**

**MEMBER FOR STRETTON**

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Hansard 4 December 2001

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Rural Addressing System**

**Hon. S. ROBERTSON** (Stretton—ALP) (Minister for Natural Resources and Minister for Mines) (10.08 a.m.), by leave: For far too long the difficulty of addressing and locating rural properties was accepted as part of life in a state as geographically large and diverse as Queensland. Many previous addresses were based on lot numbers and old property names, with numerous double-ups occurring in just one local government area alone. Examples of people giving directions like 'turn left at the old gum tree and right at the 44-gallon drum' were also commonplace. This situation caused confusion for emergency services, commercial deliveries, visitors and even residents themselves.

However, over the past few years we have seen the successful implementation of a unique rural addressing system. It is a distance-based measurement system that allocates each rural property a unique address based on the distance of the property entrance from the assigned starting point of a road. It has the potential to save lives and hassles by eliminating confusion about addresses in rural areas.

Recently, I signed an historic agreement between the state government and the Local Government Association of Queensland to speed up the implementation of the rural addressing system. Already, 41 Queensland local governments have the system in place, with 70 more actively implementing it. The new protocol formalises local government, LGAQ and state government responsibilities for implementing the system. It will also see the LGAQ actively encouraging councils to continue implementing rural addressing. Rural addressing is another example of how the Beattie government is helping make Queensland the Smart State.

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