



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 29 March 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Department of Emergency Services, Director-General

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.50 am): I want to highlight to the House that I recently announced that Fiona McKersie has been appointed to the position of director-general of Emergency Services. I have to say—and the minister would agree—that she has done a superb job in cyclone-torn north Queensland. I seek leave to have the remainder of my ministerial statement incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

I recently announced that Fiona McKersie has been appointed to the position of Director-General of Emergency Services.

Fiona has had a distinguished career in the public service, having held the post of Deputy Director-General in the Department of Premier and Cabinet before acting in her new role. While she was Deputy Director-General of my Department, one of her areas of responsibility was emergency management and counter terrorism.

She is a member of a number of national and state committees, including the National Counter Terrorism Committee and the Australian Emergency Management Committee.

Fiona's long service to emergency management was recognised last year with the awarding of an Emergency Services Medal.

Queensland continues to be the fastest growing State in Australia and our public servants are vital in delivering the services and managing the challenges that rapid expansion brings.

Last week we saw first hand the key role the Director-General of Emergency Services has in ensuring that emergency and disaster management services are provided in a timely and effective manner to communities across Queensland.

I would like to take this opportunity to again commend all of our emergency personnel for their efforts in responding to Cyclone Larry. Both volunteer and full time personnel from the Department of Emergency Services, as well as a range of other Departments, have shown a selfless commitment in delivering a comprehensive and rapid response to those devastated communities.