




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Nanango Electorate

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (3.15 pm): Today I would like to talk about the wonderful electorate of Nanango, which encompasses some 13,000 square kilometres from the Somerset region in the south to the northern areas of Toowoomba's rural areas, the eastern section of the Western Downs and the southern half of the South Burnett. Today, two fine young people from the South Burnett are in the House. Emma Cramp is representing the South Burnett as a show girl for the Royal Queensland Show. This afternoon, Lindsay Blanche, the rural ambassador for the South Burnett, will also be here. Both of those fine young people represent the Nanango Show Society. They are great and fine examples of the wonderful people from my electorate.

I wish to touch on some of the work that has been achieved in the South Burnett area since the Newman government was elected. At the outset I would like to say that I am very proud of these achievements because at every opportunity I am working hard for our regional communities to encourage economic growth and develop the South Burnett into a region that is prosperous and a place where people want to continue to live and raise their families.

In regards to health services, a new ambulance station has been built in Kingaroy at a value of \$3.5 million. Currently, works are underway at the Kingaroy Hospital, with upgrades worth \$2 million being undertaken at the old building. We now have a full-time rural generalist surgeon who offers full surgery so people do not have to travel outside our region. We have doubled the patient health subsidy for people who do have to travel outside our region.

In education, we have provided \$2.79 million to the Kingaroy State High School for new grade 7 classrooms. We have also provided 92 tablets for our special education students and thousands have been injected into refurbishment programs for our schools through maintenance funds.

We have spent nearly \$115 million on the South Burnett road network. This year, \$1 million will be invested in installing traffic lights in both Nanango and Kingaroy. In agriculture, a new crop protection officer is based in Kingaroy. A commitment of \$400 million has been invested in this industry across the state and outcomes are already being seen, such as the new mung bean variety, which could deliver growers in our region up to \$100 extra per hectare compared to the current variety. We have helped the South Burnett Regional Council overcome the natural disasters of 2013, as it will receive some \$32 million through an assistance package to help our roads and local infrastructure.

There are too many initiatives to announce here today that the Newman government has undertaken for the South Burnett region. It is a wonderful region. I look forward to supporting it for a long time into the future.