



Speech By  
**Joan Pease**


**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 July 2015

**MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Lytton Electorate, Concessions**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (11.59 am): Recently, I was delighted to host in my electorate the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply, the Hon. Mark Bailey, and the Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Shannon Fentiman not just as an opportunity to showcase the beautiful bayside but importantly to announce the Palaszczuk government's ongoing commitment to seniors and aged pensioners. On a glorious Sunday morning both ministers were treated to one of the best views at one of the best located bowls clubs in Brisbane, the Wynnum Manly Leagues Bowls Club on the esplanade at Wynnum North. With the sun shining and sparkling on the magnificent Moreton Bay, with a group of passionate and committed local senior and pensioner bowlers and the Wynnum Manly men's shedders, the ministers announced funding that will assist more than 500,000 aged pensioners and Seniors Card holders across the state. They will receive one or more of the core energy, water and transport concessions. This announcement was well received by the bowlers and the shedders, who were delighted that these important concessions will be maintained.

These two local groups are a fine example of the hardworking and dedicated seniors in my electorate of Lytton. Unfortunately, at the moment both groups are experiencing a tough battle. The bowls club is experiencing a lack of volunteers who can maintain and run the club and a declining membership. Unfortunately, the shedders have lost their permanent home and are currently seeking a new location. However, these two groups are working together to try to resolve their situations. Together with the stakeholders and club members they hope to continue to provide bowls and a men's shed to the community. The members of these clubs are typical of baysiders. They are hardworking and they are prepared to roll up their sleeves and to work with and for the community in which they live. My electorate, comprising the beautiful bayside suburbs of Wynnum, Manly, Lota and Hemmant, has a high representation of pensioner and Seniors Card holders. These people are some of the most marginalised people in my community who more often than not struggle with their household budgets. I am proud to be part of a government that has a priority and a commitment to assist these members of the community. This age group deserves a fair go and proper recognition.

The concessions for the 2015-16 period will be made up of an electricity rebate of \$321 and a natural gas rebate scheme increasing to \$69. The South-East Queensland pensioner water rebate will remain at \$120 and the local government rate subsidy remains at \$200. Further, there is a vehicle registration concession of 50 per cent available to car owners and a 50 per cent concession on TransLink transport in South-East Queensland, with four free long-distance trips a year through the rail concession scheme. These rebates total \$710 and in households that rely on a fixed income, that is

truly a sensible and useful assistance to these people. This announcement was received enthusiastically by the bowlers and the shedders alike and by the aged pensioners and Seniors Card holders across this state.

I thank the Palaszczuk government for this important commitment to seniors and aged pensioners across this state. I thank both Minister Bailey and Minister Fentiman for making this important announcement in my electorate. I urge them both to come back at any time to enjoy the fabulous bayside and our friendship in the future and likewise to everyone else in this House.