




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 2 November 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Kowanyama

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.04 pm): On Friday, 7 October we saw yet another tragedy in a Queensland community. When a car crashed into a group of people mourning the death of a loved one, Queenslanders were aghast. Delanne Zingle died and a further 26 people were injured, some of them critically, in this tragic incident. The community has since expressed an outpouring of grief at the death of Ms Zingle.

I know the member for Cook has been offering support to his community, and we thank him for that. Our community champion for Kowanyama, the member for Morayfield, and the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, the Treasurer, have also visited the Kowanyama community to offer the government's support. I would also like to pass on my thanks and gratitude to the first responders—the paramedics, the police, the flying doctors and the many others—who helped in the aftermath of what would have been a very confronting scene.

The community has also been rallying together under the strong guidance of Kowanyama mayor, Michael Yam. I have been advised that Queensland charity GIVIT has delivered furniture and whitegoods to the community and local police have been active in supervising local discos to ensure young people in the community are engaged.

It is too often we think that once the immediate consequences of a tragic incident such as this have been dealt with that the job is done. However, the community recovery phase continues for some time and its importance cannot be underestimated. I thank those working in the community to help the families, the elders and the young people move on from such tragic circumstances. I also once again thank our front-line staff from key government departments who will also continue to work with the community.