




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

Record of Proceedings, 11 October 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Kowanyama

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (9.53 am): I wish to briefly add my thoughts to those of the Premier on the recent incidents in Kowanyama. As the House has heard, yesterday I travelled to the community with the assistant minister and member for Morayfield. We met with the mayor, representatives of the council and service providers to thank them for the work they did following the incident and to assure them that the state government is ready to support their community. I have spoken with the federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Nigel Scullion, who has assured me that the federal government stands ready to provide support.

It was clear that people in the community want, as much as possible, to get back to normal. Both men's and women's groups met yesterday following the funeral. A community barbecue will be held tomorrow to assist in the healing process and to bring everyone together. Next week, lifeguard training will kick off at the local school.

The people of Kowanyama have gone through a very traumatic episode and that is going to be something that people will carry with them for some time. Queenslanders and the government will do what we can to help them through this very difficult period.