




Speech By
Aaron Harper

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

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ADJOURNMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, North Queensland, Achievements

 **Mr HARPER** (Thuringowa—ALP) (4.52 pm): Mr Speaker, I would like to thank you, the Premier and every single member who wanted to be here. We have loved having you here in Townsville. The member is correct: I did have to yell because they just do not understand what we have delivered for Townsville. We have delivered a lot. For the member for Toowoomba North and the member for Everton can I just clarify that we have not one but two helicopters. They are multi-tasked helicopters. Please go out to the base and look at the police logo, the ambulance logo, the QFES logo and the million dollar forward-looking infrared camera. I can assure you that \$3 million is not going to buy you a police helicopter. You do not know the capability of our machines. Go out and speak to the crew. Finally, they have about one dozen calls for service by police, of which 70 per cent are for water searches, so get your facts right—

Mr SPEAKER: The member's comments will come through the chair.

Mr HARPER: I would ask the member for Toowoomba North to get his facts right. He comes up here and pretends to know. I think the member called it a Bell 429. It is actually a Bell 412. We now have two Augusta Westland 139s. We are very proud to have those. Thank you, police minister. We will get on with tackling the issues around youth crime.

I want you to take in the hot air balloon they have left over. It is their option for a police helicopter. Join me as we fly over Thuringowa. We are going to start at Heatley, where we will look at the \$3 million Works for Queensland program we are proudly going to open tomorrow. Thank you, Minister. Then we will go past Heatley high, where there is \$10 million invested for a new security fence. Thank you, ministers. We will pass Heatley primary, where there is a new security fence that the member for Broadwater, the former member, could not deliver. Then we are going to go over to Thuringowa Drive to look at the new \$5 million ambulance station that is going to be built there. There is \$10 million invested in the new Kirwan State High School hall—we were there, Premier.

Then we will go past the Riverway precinct and the \$4 million Works for Queensland for the Riverway Splash Park. We are going to look over the road at the rapid action patrol hub that now has 40 police officers, not 20. Then we are going to keep going up to—yes, you know it—Riverway Drive. We are going to look at the new police facility that is being built—thank you again, Minister—10 officers, not two, in the Upper Ross. We are going to keep going and we will look at all the new Works for Queensland pathways. Tomorrow we will be joined at the Charles Maroney Park, which is a \$4 million investment getting local people into work. These small projects are great—people love them—but our investment is investing in people's futures and their jobs through major infrastructure. I thank the Premier for backing Townsville after the floods. We have loved having you here. Thank you, Townsville.