




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 28 February 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Woodridge Electorate

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning) (6.20 pm): Over the past few weeks I have been privileged to share in some incredibly worthy achievements and occasions in the electorate of Woodridge. These moments have held a light to and really held up high the rich multicultural tapestry that is woven across the entire city of Logan. Tonight I want to take the opportunity to update the House on the selfless work that was being celebrated—work that is helping to improve the lives of all involved. Firstly, I congratulate Metro South Health's Oral Health Services and refugee service. Based at the Logan Central Community Health Centre, the team has been recognised both here in Queensland and overseas, recently receiving an International Hospital Federation award. This innovative service is the first of its kind in Queensland, providing access to timely and appropriate oral health care for newly arrived refugees in our community.

Due to this initiative, service wait times have reduced from 12 months to 28 days, with 1,842 patients treated—65 per cent of all refugee clients in Queensland. Separate to this, during my time as health minister I was very pleased to support the oral health team at the Logan Central Community Health Centre to a \$4.3 million boost, resulting in 15,000 additional dental appointments for local residents each year, 10 additional dental chairs and the introduction of children's appointments in our community. Good oral health leads to better long-term health outcomes and I am delighted at the work of the Oral Health Services team and its contribution to improving oral health outcomes.

I also want to update the House on the efforts of the Hurricane Stars Club which is to be commended for improving water safety in our community. Also supported by Metro South Health through its healthy new communities project, which is proudly backed by our government's \$10 million Logan Community Health Action Plan, the Hurricane Stars Club is doing wonderful work helping to deliver culturally sensitive swim classes for women and children in Logan. Swimming skills help to save lives, but they are also about being comfortable in and around water. Teaching these fundamentals to everyone in our community will ensure that people stay safe, whether in a backyard or down at the beach.

Last week I visited Gould Adams Park Aquatic Centre in Kingston to meet with the swimming group and learn about their progress. I want to particularly thank Woodridge resident and Hurricane Stars Club founder Farah Scott, who told me that classes are in high demand and that the results have been very rewarding. Farah told me that since beginning these swim classes six months ago the Hurricane Stars Club has helped around 70 women gain greater confidence in the water. Fifteen women from the club are also training to become qualified swim instructors and Farah hopes to provide more women-only swim programs for the community. Metro South's Oral Health Services and the Refugee Health Service and the Hurricanes Stars are creating a more inclusive and united Logan.