




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Record of Proceedings, 18 June 2020

**HEALTH, COMMUNITIES, DISABILITY SERVICES AND DOMESTIC AND
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

Report, Motion to Take Note

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (3.13 pm): It is always a pleasure to watch the final curtain coming down for the member for Caloundra, who is going about his business of trying to deliver his swan song. It is lovely to see him. I thank him so much for that contribution.

Mr McArdle: Voluntarily.

Ms PEASE: Congratulations on that. I congratulate him on his great service to his Caloundra community.

Mr Lister: He's not finished yet!

Ms PEASE: Hasn't he? I thank him very much for that. What a fitting swan song for us today!

Interestingly enough, today we are here to talk about report No. 31 of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, not to hear the final swan song of the member for Caloundra. The report is actually on an inquiry into the Wynnum and Mermaid Waters ambulance station projects. I am really delighted to stand up and talk in particular about the wonderful project of the Wynnum Ambulance Station. That ambulance station has been contributing to my community since September 2018, and what a privilege it has been to work with Mick Day, as my colleague has already spoken about. One of the functions—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: One moment. Member for Southern Downs, there is no need to lean across the chamber and have a very loud conversation. Please take it outside.

Ms PEASE: Thank you very much for your protection. I guess they were not happy with my comments earlier.

Mr Lister: What did you say?

Ms PEASE: Let me go forward. Our committee undertook an inquiry into the Wynnum and Mermaid Waters ambulance station replacement projects. These ambulance stations were undertaken to provide services and areas for equipment, drug, medical gases and patient care stores; rest amenities; training; offices; study and multifunctional spaces for staff; laundry facilities; support; and parking and charging of operational vehicles.

The committee undertook an inquiry to determine the suitability of these works for the intended purpose, the need for the works, whether value for money was achieved and what the initial and recurrent costs of the works were. It was also to determine whether there was any impact of the works on the community, economy and environment; what procurement methods were used; and the balance of public and private sector involvement in the works. It was also to report on the performance of

Queensland Health as the constructing authority for the works and on the works' consultants and contractors with particular regard to the time taken to finish the works as well as the cost and the quality of the works.

The committee concluded, as per report No. 31, that both the Wynnum and Mermaid Waters ambulance station projects were suitable for purpose in terms of the location, size, functionality, and technical and environmental performance; that they were necessary and advisable; and that the costs of the works were reasonable, with the capital works for the Wynnum station costing \$2,972,862 and Mermaid Waters, \$4,335,267.

Mr Stevens: Money well spent.

Ms PEASE: Absolutely. The committee concluded it was satisfied that the value for money was achieved by these works. Not only did these moneys fulfil the requirement; they also employed local people, producing great quality work. The committee also concluded that the work will have a positive impact on the community. I can say firsthand that the Wynnum Ambulance Station has had a positive impact on our community. It has also had a minimal impact on the environment, the procurement methods were acceptable, the balance of private and public sector involvement in the works was reasonable, and the performance of constructing authority consultants and contractors was of a high standard.

The committee inspected both stations on 4 December and also called for submissions and held a public hearing. May I take this moment to say paramedics do an outstanding job each and every shift, every day. My daughter's father-in-law is a paramedic in Maleny. He has recently been relocated and is working on the COVID response team. For those in the House who do not know, the chair of the committee is also a former paramedic. I know that is a surprise! I know most people were not aware of that! These two men are both part of a wonderful family, and this special family is passionate, dedicated and professional. They provide world-class care where and when it is needed, which has been evidenced during the current pandemic. These new stations support these paramedics to do their job in a professional and caring manner by providing outstanding accommodation for paramedics and vehicles.

May I take a moment to also acknowledge the great work of Mick Day and his family. Mick is the OIC of Wynnum Ambulance Station, and his whole team does an outstanding job as does the LAC, who have also supported our local ambulance officers over the years. If honourable members have a moment they should pop down to Wynnum to the ambulance museum; it is a great visit. When it reopens, I look forward to seeing them there.