




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Coronavirus, Health Response

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (7.03 pm): We thank the member for Currumbin for that New South Wales perspective on the border closure.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr Robinson): Order! Those on my left will cease interjecting.

Mr POWER: As I said last week, when members reflect on what happened during COVID-19 they will reflect as to whether they helped keep the state safe or undermined it. The member for Surfers Paradise managed to promote antivaxxing during this time when a vaccination will be so essential to restoring our economy and restoring our safety. We need to get behind and unify in terms of the information given by the Chief Health Officer. Unfortunately, the first contribution from the member for Currumbin has tried to undermine Queensland's Chief Health Officer, and that is so disappointing. That is not what Logan is about. I want to recognise the people of Logan and the whole of Queensland for the way they have stopped the spread of COVID-19 in Logan and Queensland by backing the Chief Health Officer, not undermining her in their first speech.

Logan has not escaped positive cases, with them mostly coming in from overseas. There have been 46 local cases and, concerningly, six were locally acquired from an unknown origin. There are also another two—and this is worrying—from interstate. Logan locals have done great things. By listening to the experts like Dr Jeannette Young, they have smashed the curve. They have protected themselves and they have protected others. The most important message is this: if you feel symptoms, go to the Logan fever clinic and get a test, as thousands of Logan residents have done. The test can reassure them, but it also means that they will not then spread it or if people do have it we can contact-trace so it is stopped at that point. As I said, the two most recent cases came in from interstate. If just one of them had ignored the signs or broken the guidelines and had not been washing their hands or doing all of the things we should, then it might have quickly spread to others. That is why the Logan community must continue the great work and I could never be more proud of the Logan community keeping each other safe.

This has not been easy though. Logan residents have lost work. JobKeeper has helped, but it is a daily struggle for some. That is why I want to continue to see investment in wages. This week I was excited to see the Minister for Main Roads and the Premier announce \$37.5 million for a jointly funded upgrade to the four-lane section of the Mount Lindesay Highway from Stoney Camp Road through to Chambers Flat Road. That backs 80 jobs—80 people who can work in a COVID safe environment. On Friday I was out there observing the workers put in place the 54 beams. We know that we back Logan, we back investment in Logan roads, we back improving our transport and we back them getting the safe jobs that they can support. That is what this government is about.