




Speech By
Aaron Harper

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

Record of Proceedings, 28 October 2021

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Townsville, Federal Members of Parliament

 **Mr HARPER** (Thuringowa—ALP) (2.45 pm): The state MPs in Townsville are out there promoting COVID vaccines with our school pop-up clinics, our big hub and the GPs and the pharmacies. It is always good when all levels of government work together. However, there is a federal member in my area—much like the member for Mackay—George Christensen, who does not promote vaccination. He is not doing his job in helping lift the vaccination rate. In fact, he is completely silent on it.

Why is he doing that? It is because he is far more interested in attacking the Labor government. He has gone and put a flyer out—the hypocrisy of this one is incredible—saying that we have not delivered funding for the Haughton pipeline, the Haughton pipeline that we delivered at a cost of \$225 million; it has been built. Then we have had to fund \$195 million for stage 2 when the same man promised the people of Townsville, as quoted in the *Townsville Bulletin*, 'I'll deliver \$195 million,' and he failed to deliver.

I say to federal member Mr Thompson that he should pay attention because I am going to tell him how to deliver projects. He then went on and said that I have not delivered the \$30 million for the Kirwan Police Station. I am glad the police minister is in the chamber because we are going to deliver something that will blow his socks off. Clearly this federal member has achieved zero funding for anything for Townsville in the federal budget. I can list over \$240 million worth of projects that I have delivered in Thuringowa. Why is he doing that? He has a severe case of short arms and very deep pockets because he cannot deliver anything. He should stand up and fight for Townsville and deliver something.

I will start with housing. I have delivered \$20 million in Thuringowa on housing projects. I will take him through a list: Riverway Drive stage 1, delivered, \$43 million and \$20 million for stage 2; \$60 million for Townsville Ring Road; \$8 million for Hervey Range Road; \$40 million for the Kirwan health precinct; \$30 million for the Kirwan Police Station; \$5 million for the Kirwan ambulance station; \$8 million for Thuringowa hall; \$10 million for Kirwan State High School hall; \$8 million for Works for Queensland at Heatley Park and Charles Moroney Park; \$12 million for Heatley State High School; \$5 million between Weir, Heatley, Kirwan, Rasmussen and The Willows—all of our primary schools all got projects—and \$10 million for Drivelt. A billion dollars worth of infrastructure has been delivered in our city under Labor and the useless federal member has not delivered a thing. He needs to stand up and be honest. I am going to back John Ring, the Labor candidate. I hope he hoses him down.