




Speech By
Ali King

MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

Record of Proceedings, 18 November 2021

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Pumicestone Electorate, Satellite Hospitals

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.21 pm): There is nothing more important than health for people in Pumicestone. I am so proud to be part of a Palaszczuk Labor government that is delivering on health for local people. Just today our Premier updated Queensland on our progress on our 2020 election commitments. The commitment that I am most proud of is our commitment to build not one but two satellite hospitals so that the people in Pumicestone can access more and better health care closer to home.

Since September 2020 when our Premier came to Bribie to announce our \$265 million program of seven new satellite hospitals right across South-East Queensland, the progress has been huge. We have identified fantastic sites to build our two satellite hospitals—one at Goodwin Drive and First Avenue next to Bribie Island State High School at Bongaree and the other one at Rowe Street, Caboolture. I have done consultation on what services locals most want to see delivered in the heart of our community by hospital doctors and nurses, and 582 passionate community members got in touch to have their say. I have now submitted those results to the health minister and the Queensland Health planning team.

This week we have also announced that Hutchinson Builders will be the principal contractors to build our satellite hospitals, with Hutchies starting construction next year. Next year is going to be a year of construction of our satellite hospitals, creating over 200 jobs in my area alone.

Just as people stepped up to have their say on the health services our community needs most, Pumicestone is stepping up to keep our community safe by getting vaccinated. Big vax numbers in Bribie and Beachmere are not new, with now over 93 per cent of people having had their first dose, but I am delighted that we have seen a 3.8 per cent jump in rates at Caboolture in just one week, with 82.2 per cent of people now having had their first dose. I congratulate the people of Caboolture, the people of Bribie and Beachmere and the people right across Pumicestone for doing that. I am just so proud of our community.

While we are getting on with delivering new hospitals and getting people vaccinated, the LNP from the Prime Minister all the way down to the Queensland LNP leadership are undermining our strong health message and are focused on nothing but themselves. It is murder on the dance floor in the LNP. This week we have all been watching the dysfunctional duet between the current and former opposition leaders.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member for Toowoomba North.

Ms KING: She is leading the mambo while he is trying to cha-cha. The member for Nanango just will not get out of the member for Broadwater's dance space. She is absolutely playing it up to her fan club of Nats in the cheap seats on the backbench.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Toowoomba North, I am going to place you on a warning.

Ms KING: While the member for Nanango is clearly having the time of her life, please do not think that any of this makes the opposition leader Patrick Swayze. Every single member of the audience right across Queensland knows that the member for Broadwater is no heart-throb. He will always be the gawky teenager who wandered in late to the party, lonely, uninvited and carrying a watermelon!