




Speech By
Hon. Glenn Butcher

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

Record of Proceedings, 14 October 2021

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Comments by Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water, Clarification

 **Hon. GJ BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water) (4.24 pm): During an MPI on 31 August 2021, I made two statements in regards to the member for Callide that I wish to clarify. The first statement in question related specifically to a Gladstone Area Water Board project upgrading the Awoonga Dam emergency muster shelter in the Callide electorate, saying that the member for Callide did not support building the flood shelters for his local constituents.

Correspondence I received from the member for Callide dated 9 December 2020 regarding the Awoonga Dam emergency muster shelter project sought to 'draw my attention' to the initiative, stating it is an 'extraordinary amount of money to be spent on a muster point'. I interpreted his correspondence questioning the value and worthiness of the expenditure on the project as a lack of support. I accept that this is only one interpretation and this may not have been the member for Callide's intent.

In relation to the second statement, in the context of the member for Callide having the opportunity to ask questions about his electorate at estimates committee hearings, I stated—

... we did not hear one word from him—not one.

I would like to clarify I was referring to my own estimates committee hearing held on 28 July 2021 with the word 'we' meaning myself, the director-general and various statutory body chief executives who were available for questioning, and confirm that the member for Callide did not ask any questions about his electorate. I understand this statement may have been interpreted differently and, as such, I am providing this clarification. I did not intend to mislead the House on either.