




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

Record of Proceedings, 18 November 2021

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Investing in Queensland Women

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.04 am): The Palaszczuk government is absolutely focused on empowering Queensland women and girls and fostering respect and safety in our communities. Yesterday I was pleased to announce the 26 recipients of our Investing in Queensland Women grant program alongside successful recipients, the Queensland Rugby League. They will share in \$270,000 to deliver their fantastic new campaign featuring male and female legends of the game to spread the message that domestic and family violence will not be tolerated. This follows their announcement last week to ensure their women State of Origin players receive the same pay as the men. It might be timely to also give a shout-out to Queensland Rugby League for their 'Let's tackle this together' campaign to encourage more Queenslanders to get vaccinated.

Every one of these 26 successful organisations will be delivering initiatives that address a range of issues faced by Queensland women and girls such as domestic and family violence, sexual violence prevention, respectful relationships, women's health and career pathways. As a government, we know we cannot do this alone. We need community partners to join us in our work to support women and girls to succeed.

QMusic has received a grant to develop a framework and resources to promote safe and inclusive behaviour in our live music venues. The National Association of Women in Construction will be running regional events for young women in our high schools, as well as for their teachers and career guidance officers, to promote careers in construction. WWILD, the Sexual Violence Prevention Association, will be producing short videos to help people with an intellectual disability to report sexual assault to police.

These are just a few of the innovative and effective projects that will be rolling out in locations such as Georgetown and Cairns in Queensland's Far North, out west in Longreach and in Southport down on the Gold Coast. The Palaszczuk government is committed to supporting and encouraging women and girls to participate in all aspects of society because when women are empowered the economy and state are strengthened. Queensland women are looking to this government to invest in initiatives that address inequality, promote respect and support women and girls to contribute and achieve. That is exactly what this program does.

These initiatives will be delivered in the first half of 2022 which will include Queensland Women's Week in March and also Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month in May. I congratulate all the successful recipients and acknowledge their hard work in making Queensland a safer place for women and girls.