



Speech By  
**Joan Pease**


**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

---

Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2022

## ADJOURNMENT

### Lytton Electorate, Dementia-Friendly Electorate Office

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (7.28 pm): Dementia is still poorly understood in Australia and people living with dementia continue to experience stigma and discrimination. However, there is so much that we as members of parliament can do. I am proud to have the first electorate office in Australia presented with the title of working towards becoming dementia friendly. I have a certificate to prove that, which I will table.

*Tabled paper:* Dementia Australia certificate, dated 21 March 2022, titled 'Working towards a dementia-friendly community' [643](#).

Jo, Carly and I have worked on the Lytton electorate office action plan which includes the dementia friendly activities that we will be progressing during the year to attain this high honour. We have demonstrated a long-term commitment to building awareness and contributing to the conversation about dementia in the Lytton electorate and the Queensland parliament and also in my day-to-day engagements. Today I had a meeting with Queensland Rail and I talked to them about Dementia Australia.

I have been working with the fabulous Dementia Australia's dementia advocates John Quinn and Glenys Petrie and the Brisbane South East Dementia Alliance to ensure the voices of people impacted by dementia are pivotal in raising awareness and informing practical change as well as promoting the dementia friends and dementia-friendly offices concept to my parliamentary colleagues—consider that done. We are also taking action to bring attention to matters of effective communication, accessibility and safety for people with dementia living in the community. We promote the Brisbane South East Dementia Alliance's coffee catch-ups to reach more people and to improve way finding and accessibility.

It is an easy process to become a dementia-friendly electorate office. I will table a copy of the document I had to complete. It is just a matter of filling it in.

*Tabled paper:* Dementia Australia document, undated, titled 'Dementia-Friendly Community Framework' and statement of commitment [644](#).

We ensure that we use consistent, appropriate, inclusive and non-stigmatising language when we are talking or writing about dementia and people living with dementia. These are important steps to improve knowledge and awareness about dementia which will reduce stigma and discrimination and will contribute to the creation of a more dementia-friendly and inclusive society. Social engagement and connectivity are vital for the wellbeing of people living with dementia, their family members and carers and a dementia-friendly and inclusive community is critical to supporting social engagement.

I will tell members a short story about a gentleman who visited a corner store every morning. He used to pick up a paper and a bottle of milk and walk out without paying for it. The shopkeeper called the police and got them involved because they thought he was stealing. The police investigated and

discovered the gentleman was living with dementia. They made contact with the man's family and carers. They set up a relationship with the shopkeeper and they have now set up an account so that each morning that gentleman can walk down and get his paper and milk.

What that means is that the shopkeeper is delivering a better service to his community and supporting people living with dementia. The police became more aware of people living with dementia. Everyone benefits. If people are interested in learning more about becoming a dementia-friendly workplace, do not hesitate to contact me. It is a great service.