




Speech By
Joseph Kelly

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Record of Proceedings, 24 February 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Langlands Park, Sporting Facilities; Coaldrake, Prof. P

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (2.57 pm): 2022 is truly the Year of the Tiger in the Greenslopes electorate. I was pleased to welcome the Treasurer to Langlands Park last week, the home of the Brisbane Tigers, formerly the East Tigers, for the sod turning on the facility's upgrade, a project which the Palaszczuk government has contributed a million dollars towards.

The project will involve the creation of new grandstands, seating 3,500 people, state-of-the-art training facilities for women and men, corporate entertaining areas and media facilities. We will be preserving the heritage grandstands. There is an education theatre, committee meeting rooms and a gymnasium. The playing field is world-class and is used by many visiting NRL teams.

The project will give the club fantastic facilities both on and off the field. It is a great club and it is great for our local community. Game days bring people to the area which benefits nearby businesses in Stones Corner and Coorparoo and, of course, the construction period will involve many jobs being created. I would like to congratulate Brian Torpy and the entire team on leading this community-changing project.

The last time I spoke in this House about the Easts Tigers Rugby Union Club, it was to acknowledge the fact that they had a complete clean sweep of the Brisbane Rugby competition, winning all six titles. They then went on to win the Australian Club Rugby Championship. No matter what happens on the field this year, this will be a special year for the Tigers because they celebrate 75 years of Rugby Union in our community. There is a hive of activity at Bottomley Park with the Brisbane City Council completing a major project to upgrade the fields. David Waldie and the team are always looking to the future and they are trying to transform the entirety of the club facilities and getting even more people playing Rugby. I certainly support that. I am always advocating the merits of these projects to Minister Hinchliffe. He has been out to visit the great community of Easts twice in the past year.

This year in our community there will be boys and girls who will experience the thrill of playing Rugby League or Rugby Union for the first time. They will be supported by dedicated and highly skilled coaches and volunteers. They will have access to ever-improving facilities. They will develop skills, fitness, confidence and friendship that will last a lifetime, and some of them, no doubt, will go to play at the highest levels and some will just enjoy supporting and watching Rugby League or Rugby Union right through their lives. I cannot wait for the games to kick off at Bottomley and Langlands. I know in the Greenslopes electorate we are all looking forward to the Year of the Tiger.

In the time that I have remaining I want to respond to some of the statements made by the member for Gympie. I would like to point out that the LNP appointed Peter Coaldrake as the person to conduct a strategic review of the functions of the Integrity Commissioner, the chair of the Open Government Policy Forum and the chair of the Queensland Heritage Council. The federal government has also appointed him as a commissioner to the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency and

recently the chief commissioner of that body. It therefore seems a little rich to come in here and try to besmirch his good character, as members opposite have done. His reputation is beyond question, he is a Fulbright scholar, he is an expert in the public sector and he was good enough for the LNP to appoint him to conduct two integrity reviews, and I have no doubt he will do a fine job in the role he has been given.