




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Record of Proceedings, 1 September 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Yarrabilba, TAFE

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.33 pm): I am really passionate to say that there is a real strong buzz that is happening around the Yarrabilba community and that is the buzz that comes from the new The Buzz community centre as well as the TAFE centre we visited. As a schoolteacher, I am hugely passionate about education, especially the education of students who do not necessarily need an academic degree to get the job and successful career they want within a whole variety of fields. That is why I am really passionate about TAFE.

It was great to be at The Buzz centre, the new community centre that we founded but council is managing, where there will be a new community TAFE that will connect those students, connect them especially to the Loganlea TAFE, the really big centre which is only 15 minutes away by bus. We made an extra \$2.3 million investment to build new observation rooms, new hospital wards and virtual labs, as well as a great commitment to a virtual veterinary clinic where students can learn necessary skills. We are passionate about technical and further education, and this will build upon the new investment we have from the federal government. Finally we have a federal government which is interested in technical and further education and building the skills necessary for our future, unlike the previous government that was forgetting about it.

TAFE Queensland has secured a five-year lease at the new centre at Yarrabilba. As I said, it is called The Buzz. It is council-run but state government funded. It will connect students, sometimes the older students, building upon the health centre already there which is very much focused on younger students at primary school level, co-located at the Yarrabilba Primary School. This new centre is located directly between San Damiano College—the Catholic high school—and the Yarrabilba State Community College. It is a fantastic centre which will connect people to the jobs and skills they need.

I want to congratulate the Yarrabilba community which came together for a party to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of Yarrabilba as a community and the thousands of families who have moved in there and made their future. It certainly was a different type of buzz. As I looked around, I could see all the things that we as the state government had committed to and built for this community—not just The Buzz, but the McKinnon fields, the two high schools that I spoke about, the fantastic new performing arts centre at Yarrabilba State Secondary College, the new buildings at Yarrabilba State School that you could see up on the hill next to the iconic South Rock, as it is called, and the new ambulance station.

However, these things are under threat. We are a government that backs growing communities like Yarrabilba and the families and services they need, but growing communities get hurt when there is a government that comes in and cuts. The LNP, in their last term of government, cut. They did not build a single new classroom in the growing areas of Logan. We have built new schools. We have built new roads. They made cuts; we actually build.