




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Homicide; Weather Events; Floods, Review

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (9.59 am): Today is Homicide Awareness Day. I acknowledge the presence in parliament today of members of the Queensland Homicide Victims Support Group. This group is so critical to our community. These people reach out to those who are suffering. I thank the members of the group for being a light in the darkness and look forward to catching up with them later today, and encourage all members of parliament to join them for their session in the Undumbi Room.

I join with the Premier in conveying my condolences to the family and friends of the woman who lost her life in floodwaters as a result of the current severe weather event. Certainly these are tragedies that we never want to see. I know that many people will be feeling a loss today as a result of that lady's death. Today's constant rain is a reminder of the severe wet weather season Queensland has endured. Many people are still recovering.

It is critically important that as a community we learn from each of these disasters to ensure we can be best prepared for the next event. I am sure all Queenslanders are looking forward to the broad-ranging flood review being undertaken by the independent Inspector-General of Emergency Management. Obviously given the reputation of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management his report will carry great weight.

I note that in the meantime a separate review by Brisbane City Council has been released. I am advised that this review was relatively narrow in scope with no direct consultation with key state government agencies and senior disaster management and emergency services personnel. I also note that the reviewer was reportedly directed to expeditiously complete the review.

The review makes some comments about the national emergency alert system. It is important to note that this system is a national system implemented at a national level. In addition, on face value I am advised that there are inconsistencies and contradictions in the report, including in respect of important event time lines. These are matters which no doubt will be investigated by the Inspector-General Emergency Management.

We must have the facts. I am sure all Queenslanders will look forward to the inspector-general's findings which will be based on a comprehensive analysis of all pertinent factors and that is, of course, what should be expected in any such review. Queensland's Inspector-General Emergency Management is regarded as the gold standard across the nation. Accordingly, his findings will carry substantial weight.