



Speech By  
**Cynthia Lui**


**MEMBER FOR COOK**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2023

## MOTION

### Far North Queensland, Service Delivery

 **Ms LUI** (Cook—ALP) (3.56 pm): I say welcome to Far North Queensland. I will tell you exactly what we are doing up here in Far North Queensland. The Palaszczuk government is delivering for jobs, infrastructure and services for Queenslanders no matter where they live. How lucky are we that Far North Queensland is represented by four hardworking, stable Labor members of parliament? Can I say I think we are the ‘Fantastic Four’ up here, if not the ‘Incredible Four’. I know that every day we stand up for our community and we fight every day for our community. We are dedicated to supporting good Queensland jobs and the great lifestyle that we have here in Far North Queensland, the great lifestyle that we were so lucky to introduce to those opposite this week.

I will tell you how hard we fight for Far North Queensland. Our hard work has secured almost \$1.6 billion in funding over the next four years across our Far North Queensland region, supporting 1,440 jobs over the life of the program. In the Mulgrave electorate, works are close to completion on the \$535 million jointly funded Bruce Highway, Cairns Southern Access Corridor, stage 3, Edmonton to Gordonvale, and works are due to be completed by mid this year. The member for Mulgrave, who is a good friend, knows how important this project is to the local community—improving congestion and providing safer access points on this section of the Bruce Highway which is why he fought so hard for this project. Over \$11 million for the Yarrabah jetty—another successful project delivered by the hardworking member for Mulgrave.

The member for Cairns, my good friend Michael Healy, is a strong advocate for his electorate, and this is clear by his continued advocacy to invest in the Cairns Port precinct with \$127 million for the Cairns Shipping Development Project. This means bigger cruise ships can now dock in Cairns, providing a boost to the local economy and tourism markets. Additionally, \$128 million to support the Cairns Marine Precinct with an additional \$39 million injection for road and bridge infrastructure and local shipyards upgrades has been announced by the Deputy Premier this week—all supporting local jobs in Far North Queensland.

In the Barron River electorate, the member for Barron River delivered \$164 million for the Smithfield Bypass, a long overdue project to reduce travel times for the Northern Beaches of Cairns. The \$22 million Yorkeys Knob boat ramp upgrade is nearly complete. This state-of-the-art upgrade will service the keen boaties in Far North Queensland.

We know how much our communities deserve. We work hard for our communities and we deliver for our communities every day. In the Cook electorate there is the combined investment of \$513.5 million on the jointly funded Cape York Region Package to seal the Peninsula Development Road, the Archer River bridge, Endeavour Valley Road and upgrades to vital infrastructure across the Cape York region. The projects have facilitated unprecedented local access to employment opportunities, training, business development in civil construction, and cultural heritage. The historic \$80 million Marine Infrastructure Investment Program in partnership with the federal government is the most significant investment in the Torres Strait’s infrastructure in 30 years.

What have those opposite delivered? Unlike the four hardworking Labor MPs we have here, the LNP's only record in Far North Queensland when they were last in office was to cut. They cut \$1.6 billion from roads and transport funding, the \$24 million Cairns bus station, the regional aviation development scheme—they cut \$2.9 million from that scheme and then abolished it, and they plan to do it again.

We have heard from the member for Chatsworth about the LNP's plan for 'pruning', or have they chosen a new word? Is it 'trim', is it 'shear' or 'shaving off'? No-one knows. I welcome whatever new word they choose to come up with. Even the federal member for Leichhardt, Warren Entsch, is not doing anything because there are four Labor MPs delivering for Far North Queensland.

*(Time expired)*