




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

Record of Proceedings, 25 May 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Lytton Electorate; Winnam Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (2.34 pm): During the dark days of the Campbell Newman government my bayside was stripped of so many services—services that had supported all of my community from the very young through to the elderly. They splintered and fractured every corner of my beautiful community.

Since 2015 I have worked hard each and every day to rebuild the terrible damage done by those opposite and to deliver and bring our community back together again. Baysiders have not forgotten what those opposite did to our community, particularly to our health services and the old hospital, for example. They closed the emergency department, closed the 24-hour service, removed X-ray as well as a whole range of other services that were so important to baysiders. I stood up for my community, and the Palaszczuk government delivered the wonderful Gundu Pa, which is a 24-hour primary care clinic. It is a new health facility that includes a new BreastScreen clinic and it has added a range of health services, rehabilitation and palliative care beds. The health services that it delivers—including movement clinics, physiotherapy, mental health services—are all services that our community needs close to home.

On that subject, I have been working with Aunty Becky with Winnam Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation with respect to the old site. I was beyond thrilled recently to discover that WATSIC have taken ownership of this site, so something fantastic has come from what was an absolute travesty for the bayside. WATSIC will build a culturally appropriate residential aged-care facility on the site and the facility will offer over 30 aged-care beds including palliative care beds.

I would like to thank the Deputy Premier, the Treasurer, the former health minister, Yvette D'Ath, and the federal health department for their genuine commitment to this project. I congratulate WATSIC board members for their vision and the continued desire to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for their community and particularly their chair, the amazing Aunty Becky Thomson. I feel incredibly fortunate to work with Aunty and I am in awe of her and, of course, Aunty Meryl Dippol and her team.

Modern Queensland communities expect their elected representatives and leaders to share the community's values and reflect the community's expectations and standards. They also expect them to share the community's aspirations and to also inspire the community to know and understand their community and to listen to their community, just like Aunty Becky did.

I have and will always stand up for what is right and fair. I am determined that baysiders have a voice in this place and further afield. I am not afraid to be true to myself and the needs and values of all baysiders, nor am I afraid to call out what is wrong, nor am I scared to make sure that baysiders get the very best they can. I commit to baysiders to be authentic and fierce for all baysiders. Sometimes, unfortunately, external forces preclude me from delivering what I know baysiders have called for. However, this does not deter me. It has not in the past and it will not in the future. It simply makes me even more determined to achieve the very best for the bayside.