



Speech By  
**Kim Richards**


**MEMBER FOR REDLANDS**

---

Record of Proceedings, 20 April 2023

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Voice to Parliament; Redlands Electorate**

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (2.09 pm): It is interesting to follow on from the topic of leadership. Like the member for Thuringowa, I too rise to show my support for the Voice to Parliament. It is my hope that every Queenslanders can go into this process with an open heart and an open mind. I have had many conversations with the member for Cook on this. The member for Cook and I share very similar but different electorates. The similarity is that we have communities of mainland residents and communities of island residents. We both work really hard across very diverse communities to deliver the infrastructure that they need for today and to think about the planning for tomorrow. I am proud of the track record that our Palaszczuk government has in delivering for our communities that are extraordinarily diverse.

We are working at the moment to make sure we deliver a housing and diversity strategy for the Redlands. It was a shame that the Redland City Council did not pick up on this when they were asked to do it, and we are now doing this work in the midst of those housing challenges. That is an important piece of work that our government is showing leadership in delivering.

Planning and infrastructure are extraordinarily interrelated. To make sure we are delivering things, the plan is so important. Our government is delivering on health infrastructure in the Redlands. We have our new satellite hospital in Redland Bay that will service those island communities very well. It is at the end of its building stage. Last week Metro South Health announced that they were hiring new staff already, and that is fantastic news for my communities. The car park opened at Redland Hospital that unlocks that site to deliver the healthcare services that our community needs as it continues to grow. We have 65 new beds coming in as part of the stage 1 delivery with the intensive care unit. That will see an increase of 30 per cent in bed capacity for that hospital, and that is significant in any terms. That is the fantastic work happening in the healthcare space.

I have spoken before about education, and the list is so long. There is \$11 million for the Redland District Special School new learning precinct. We have a new \$70 million Redland Bay school that is under construction with ADCO at the moment, and that is really exciting. That is putting infrastructure in place and planning for a growing community. In terms of police, we have increased our capacities across the islands with policing. There has been so much work going on.

There will continue to be a need to be thinking about and delivering on infrastructure and services for the future. I know our Palaszczuk government will show that leadership every single day of the week and will deliver for all of our communities right across Queensland. To my Redlands community, I want you to know that the work we do today and the work we do tomorrow will make sure we have the brightest future ahead.