




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles

MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

Record of Proceedings, 24 August 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Resilient Homes Fund; Resilient Australia Awards

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure) (9.46 am): That will bring us all the way to the 1990s, Mr Acting Speaker. It is an unenviable title, but Queensland is the most disaster impacted state in Australia. However, that means that we are amongst the best in the world at disaster response, recovery and resilience. That is why we introduced the \$741 million Queensland Resilient Homes Fund, the first resilience program of its kind to be offered in Australia.

Initially, around 500 homes were identified for purchase but, as home assessments progressed and flood and risk data was analysed, it became clear that actually around 800 households would need our help. Today I am happy to announce that 304 homes have now settled under the buyback program. In total, 497 home owners have accepted offers for buyback out of 676 offers that have been presented to home owners. Nearly 800 valuation inspections have already happened and 110 homes that are not fit to be lived in anymore have been demolished or removed, allowing those impacted residents to move to a safer location without the risk of future flooding. Flood impacted home owners were also given the option to choose to register for a resilient retro fit or home raising. So far more than 820 applications have been received for home repair or raising works, totalling more than \$51 million. We know that incorporating resilient building design can significantly reduce the effort, cost and time to return people to their homes following a flood.

We cannot stop natural disasters, but the Palaszczuk government is doing everything we can to ensure their impact is minimised as much as possible. When you take into account the homes that we are buying back, along with assessments done by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority's team of assessors, 90 per cent of properties that were impacted by the South-East Queensland floods are no longer showing signs of damage. Next, our hardworking QRA officers will travel to North-West Queensland to again check on properties impacted by the recent monsoon floods there.

Finally, I want to congratulate all the winners and nominees from last night's Queensland Resilient Australia Awards. They include the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Woodridge State High School, Moreton Bay regional council—

Ms Boyd: Moreton Bay City.

Dr MILES: Moreton Bay City council, I stand corrected—Balonne Shire Council and Woolloongabba architecture firm JDA Co. When the going gets tough, Queensland's resilience shines through and that is something for us all to be very proud of.