




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Olearia Street, Flooding

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (6.58 pm): As members of the House are fully aware, early last year Brisbane was hit by a weather event like we had never before experienced. Much of Brisbane was devastated by floodwaters, and my electorate of Everton was not immune to that. In fact, sections of my community were flooded for the very first time ever and it was quite devastating. Water went into people's homes, of course sporting facilities were destroyed, and there was a lot of heartache. In fact, recently I spoke to some people in my electorate who still are not in their houses, working through insurance claims, and that has been very devastating to them. Tonight I bring to the House's attention an issue that is relevant to the floods in early 2022 pertaining to properties along Kedron Brook which have sustained damage as a result. There is a street in Everton Hills, Olearia Street, which abuts Kedron Brook. It is on the Moreton Bay Council side of the creek. The creek is actually a border between Moreton Bay and Brisbane. My electorate goes over both of those areas.

The problem is that property owners' yards have been eroded quite significantly. The council came in and put up barriers as a protection so that, literally, children would not fall into these holes that fall into the creek. It has caused them great distress. They went to the council because they thought that was their first point of call. After a lot of toing and froing from the council and then trying to work out which government department was responsible for it—and I thank the Minister for Resources who was very helpful in trying to get me to the right area—we eventually found out that the Deputy Premier and the reconstruction authority were responsible.

I am asking for some quick action on this. The Deputy Premier's department told us that a remediation study has been commissioned. This was back in March. The department said that it would be a matter of weeks before they would know what to do. That is now 10 weeks ago. I have residents on Olearia Street who are quite anxious and stressed about this issue. They are worried about another flood event. The flooding did not cause damage to their houses this time, although it came right up, but their yards are eroded. They are concerned that the same thing will happen again. They want the remediation to happen as quickly as possible. They actually want to know what is happening. I call on the Deputy Premier to please provide that advice.