



Speech By  
**Hon. Ann Leahy**


**MEMBER FOR WARREGO**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 December 2024

### **PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

#### **Wieambilla Deaths, Anniversary; Local Government, Projects**

 **Hon. A LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (2.20 pm): As we heard earlier today from the Premier and the police minister, today marks a very sad day for my electorate. On 12 December every year in my electorate we take the time to remember two young brave police officers and an innocent neighbour. Those two young police officers were highly regarded in the Dalby and Tara communities, and I know this from the stories from their colleagues and the affectionate stories that I have heard so many times from members of the public at Tara.

Matthew Arnold, Rachel McCrow and local neighbour Alan Dare are remembered on this day. Two years ago the incident at Wieambilla shocked the nation. Today we all remember Matthew, Rachel, Alan and their families who I know miss them dearly every day. We will never forget them, and the communities of Dalby and Tara will never forget them.

The Crisafulli government is working in a partnership with local governments across Queensland, and I was very pleased to join the Toowoomba Regional Council for one of our first sod turnings last week. Whilst I was at the former Cambooya shire chambers, I noted on a plaque that the last minister who had been on site was the Hon. Di McCauley back in 1997, so it appears to have been a long time between visits for this community. I was delighted to join the Toowoomba Regional Council mayor and councillors, the member for Toowoomba North and the member for Southern Downs at Greenmount on the Darling Downs. It was great to have my committee chair there who I work closely with, the member for Southern Downs, and also the member for Toowoomba North, who is the assistant minister for South-West Queensland.

The sod turning was to launch the four communities project to supply permanent treated water to Cambooya, Greenmount, Nobby and Clifton. Currently, these communities are supplied water from bore water supplies. The state government is providing \$15 million over four years to support the council to deliver this important water supply project. It will futureproof the water infrastructure of these communities, providing them with better quality water as well as a more reliable water supply during drought periods. The work on the Greenmount to Cambooya pipeline is due to commence in early October, the second stage will connect Greenmount to Nobby and the third stage is expected to be completed in 2027.