



Speech By Hon. Bart Mellish

MEMBER FOR ASPLEY

Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Comments by Member for Warrego; Aspley Electorate

Hon. BJ MELLISH (Aspley—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (6.03 pm): Before I speak on some local matters, I would like to address some comments made by the member for Warrego earlier today. The member for Warrego rose earlier and alleged there were over 35 pieces of outstanding correspondence with my office. For the record, my office has reviewed our correspondence system and can advise that there are, in fact, only five issues from the member that require a response. The member has included multiple follow-up requests when coming up with those numbers. I can advise the member that she will be receiving responses as soon as possible. I can further advise the member that she would likely get responses sooner if she was not spamming about identical matters that were already being advanced by hardworking public servants.

Whilst delivering key infrastructure will always remain a priority of mine, supporting our next generation of Queenslanders is just as important. Right now, drop-offs at Aspley State School and Geebung State School are just too hard. The Miles government has listened, and works are in plan to make getting our kids to school easier. I am thrilled that over \$1.2 million has been awarded across both schools, ensuring an even safer learning environment for our youngest Queenslanders. I thank the member for Miller for his hard work in this role in securing the funding through the schools programs. These funds will go towards the upgrade of Aspley State School's pick-up and drop-off zone and provide the recommended safety improvements for Geebung State School, making it easier and safer for kids transitioning to and from school.

Last week it was fantastic to attend Aspley Special School's 2024 seniors' shirt presentation and to announce approximately \$113,000 in funding assistance under the Tennis in State Schools Initiative. This grant will contribute towards construction of a brand new tennis court to be enjoyed by all students and the wider community. I want our schools to be the safest they can be whilst also helping facilitate active and healthy habits. I say a massive thankyou to the school's P&C and the school itself for its continued support of this initiative.

Speaking of schools, I am looking forward to receiving and judging entries for my annual Easter egg colouring-in competition in Aspley. I love running this event as it gives kids from prep to year 4 the chance to display their artistic talent and go in the running for a great Lego prize. It was a pleasure delivering colouring-in templates to schools across the electorate.

To close, I want to give a massive shout-out to Aspley Hornets for their 60th anniversary season. Having been a part of the community now for six decades, their local impact is immeasurable. From fostering exceptional Aussie Rules talent for both boys and girls on the field to serving fantastic food favourites in their premier bistro and bar, Aspley Hornets truly helps make our patch of the north side the best place to live. I will always continue to support this brilliant organisation in my capacity as the local member, as well as being a keen sports fan. I understand that the continued success of the club would not be possible without the coaches, staff, volunteers and families, so I thank all of them for everything they do for our local area. I am very much looking forward to attending their celebration this Sunday evening.