




Speech By
Hon. Bart Mellish

MEMBER FOR ASPLEY

Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Aspley Electorate

 **Hon. BJ MELLISH** (Aspley—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (6.47 pm): Over the past few weeks I had the pleasure to visit and congratulate some of our many local community organisations on their recent grant application successes. Through the Minor Infrastructure and Inclusive Facilities Fund, Aspley Devils have just been awarded \$350,000 for additional change rooms and amenities, and Aspley Memorial Bowls Club have received \$228,000 to upgrade their lawn bowl greens. I want to thank the Minister for Tourism and Sport for these outstanding commitments. It is fantastic to see this funding being injected back into our local community organisations. I look forward to seeing progress on these great updates.

To shine a light on some of the other brilliant northside organisations, I had a really good time with the team from Bramble Bay Women's Shed to congratulate them on their successful Gambling Community Benefit Fund grant of just over \$15,000. This organisation serves to provide women a place to develop skills in woodwork and do-it-yourself, and it is also a place where they can be part of a really empowering and welcoming community. This is a great little group that has only been around for a couple of years, probably less, but they are growing and doing really great things across the north side.

One of our many local junior sporting organisations, Aspley Little Athletics, has been supporting our emerging young athletes for over four decades. Last Saturday it was great to see so many kids being recognised for their talent and dedication at their end-of-season awards presentation. I will always continue to support northside grassroots sporting organisations as they foster our next generation of athletes and have such a large place in many locals' social and sporting lives.

Moving to exciting developments in our schools, I am really happy to report that, after recently visiting Craigslea State High School again, the construction of their Volleyball Centre of Excellence is well on the way to completion. This is a brilliant project that we committed to in 2020, and it is really great to see the progress happening. It was incredible seeing the 28-tonne concrete slabs placed on site firsthand. I cannot wait to see this multimillion dollar facility up and running as a sports precinct not only for the school's unparalleled volleyball excellence program—the best in the state—but also for it to be used by the broader community. Thank you to the staff and students for this fantastic visit.

Earlier in the month I had the pleasure of showing the Premier some of the sites of the electorate, talking with locals at the Aspley Hypermarket about our unprecedented \$1,000 energy rebate whilst also being able to highlight one of the north side's true gems, Aspley Oriental, which the Premier knows well. It is important to remember that our cost-of-living assistance, which countless Queenslanders rely on, is only possible through keeping our energy assets in public hands and our progressive coal royalties.

To show my gratitude to some of our local dedicated health staff, along with the member for Stafford I recently had the pleasure of providing cupcakes to the hardworking nursing team at Prince Charles Hospital ahead of International Nurses Day. I would like to thank the amazing leadership team of Melanie and Bradley for showing us around as well as all of the nursing staff, particularly in the post-acute care unit and the adult intensive care service. All nurses and staff at the Prince Charles Hospital do an amazing job every day.