




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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ADJOURNMENT

Mount Ommaney Electorate, Cost-of-Living Relief

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (7.17 pm): I am laser focused on cost-of-living relief provisions for Queensland, especially for those living in my beautiful electorate of Mount Ommaney. For the benefit of those listening at home, some of our recent announcements around cost-of-living measures—just in case they have missed them—include the following.

The meningococcal vaccine will be free for eligible recipients including teens and toddlers. I am very lucky that in a few short months my oldest daughter will be able to receive this vaccine for free. I have spoken to so many parents who talk about how expensive this vaccine is. When you have a number of children, it is something that can really bite into your family budget. This is going to make a huge difference for people with babies and people with teenagers who have those high-risk populations living in their house.

Of course all Queensland residents over the age of six months are eligible for the fantastic free flu shots. That is going to be of huge benefit to our hospitals this winter as we keep more Queenslanders out of hospital and, more importantly, make sure that they stay healthy.

Of course we also have Free Kindy, which everybody knows I am super excited about. It means that all Queensland kids will be eligible for a free kindergarten program that runs for 15 hours a week before their child starts prep. Of course we have a new round of FairPlay vouchers that have recently been announced as well. I know all members of the House are very excited about that wonderful program.

We have also offered free period products to all high schools that would like them. I know that my daughter's high school, Centenary State High School, have those period products on offer for free for girls who need them, which is really important.

Of course we also have energy bill relief. That is over \$1,000 off this financial year's energy bills for seniors and over \$500 for every single Queensland household. This is such a financial relief for Queensland households. At the end of last year we announced we would be freezing rego from 1 July this year.

I am also really excited to be part of the Supermarket Pricing Select Committee, which is a bipartisan committee. Submissions are opening very shortly. We want to hear from all Queenslanders about the impact of rising grocery prices on their family budgets. Of course we want to hear from growers as well about the impact that is having on them, because we know that duopolies do not benefit anybody. I want to hear from Mount Ommaney locals.

I will be writing to Mount Ommaney locals shortly about what other cost-of-living measures they would like to see in this year's budget, because the cost of living is at the top of my mind. I am laser focused on it. I think it is really important that we keep up this good work.