



Speech By  
**Linus Power**


**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 April 2024

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Energex Workforce; Education Infrastructure**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.28 pm): I thank the member for Buderim for relaying that information about Ashlee and Harriet. I know the thoughts of everyone in this House are with them and their family. I note, reflecting the speech of the member for Cooper, that there is so much video footage of those traumatic events. The media certainly have to show some responsibility for inciting others and also show sensitivity given that families have gone through such trauma—families such as that of Ashlee and Harriet.

Just outside, we were reminded so much of the hardworking Queenslanders who keep our power network safe and secure while still pumping electricity through to all of our houses, which is so easy to take for granted. Let me say that the Logan community does not take Energex workers for granted one bit because on Christmas Eve, when our power network was absolutely smashed with high transmission and low transmission lines taken down, we saw them give up their Christmas holidays. I want to particularly thank Chris and Justin. Honestly, it was a bit like a Cedar Grove-Jimboomba reunion for all of those heroes in orange who have done so much for the Jimboomba community. It would be remiss of me if I did not thank them for their hard work. It would also be remiss of me not to say—when we have just seen a vote for privatisation by the LNP—that we are with you. We will back them and we want to keep their jobs secure. We absolutely want to keep the backbone of our networks in public hands.

I wanted to recognise that we have just had the Harristown State High School kids in gallery. They would be tremendously excited—as I am as a former schoolteacher; and I notice that there is a former principal in the House, the Minister for Resources and Critical Minerals—because they know what having a great high school is really about.

I want to tell the Logan community, in one of the fastest growing areas in Queensland—between Park Ridge and Logan Reserve—information about a new high school that will be coming soon. I also want to give an update on the new Park Ridge-Logan Reserve primary school that is under construction. It is going ahead fast. Walls are going up. We will be able to open that on time in January next year. It is exciting news for that community, but we also need to remember that under the LNP there was not one new classroom that was built in this growing area of Logan—not one new school or classroom. We have built four new schools that are delivering for families. I am so proud of the families who make a big investment to build their first house in Logan. We are building the education for their kids.