



Speech By  
**Hon. Nikki Boyd**


**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

---

Record of Proceedings, 22 May 2024

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Wear Orange Wednesday

 **Hon. N BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery and Minister for Corrective Services) (9.57 am): Good morning, Mr Speaker. Today is Wear Orange Wednesday, and it is great to see you got the memo.

**Mr Healy** interjected.

**Ms BOYD:** He wears it every day. I take the interjection. It is a day where we recognise the amazing volunteers who wear the SES uniform while they help and support Queenslanders in their time of need. SES volunteers are an essential part of our response to natural disasters in Queensland. We saw that during the most recent summer, where 5,200 SES volunteers worked from Coolangatta to the cape to help people impacted by cyclones, floods and storms. In Degarra, in the electorate of Cook, I saw SES volunteers working in the mud to help residents like Bill clean up their homes after they were inundated. In the northern beaches of Cairns I met Russel from Caloundra who had been a volunteer for 48 years after volunteering in the 1974 floods. In the electorates of Scenic Rim and Logan, I saw SES volunteers chainsawing through fallen trees so that residents could access their homes. On Australia Day, I met volunteers from the south-west who had flown into Townsville to assist in the post Cyclone Kirrily recovery.

I am advised that in the past financial year our incredible SES volunteers have contributed more than 400,000 hours to support communities across the state through response and training. The Miles government is committed to supporting SES volunteers to continue to do what they do best: helping Queenslanders. That is why today I am so pleased to announce that the Miles government will provide more than \$3.7 million in funding for 60 SES groups across the state. These grants under the annual SES Support Grant program ensure volunteers have the equipment and facilities they need to continue their vital work in our communities. This is great news for groups like Kenilworth SES in the electorate of Nicklin, which will benefit from an upgraded vehicle with a contribution of \$300,000 awarded to the Sunshine Coast Council.

I take a moment to acknowledge our mayors in the gallery today and the partnership that the Miles government has with them and the wonderful partnership they have with our SES as well. Wujal Wujal in the electorate of Cook will receive a new SES facility valued at more than \$200,000. When disaster strikes it is good to know that SES volunteers are there and ready to help in whatever way they can because the Miles government will continue to stand with them—with our SES—and support them every step of the way.