




Speech By
Hon. Nikki Boyd

MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

Record of Proceedings, 11 June 2024

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Parole Board Queensland, Appointments; Voluntary Home Buy-Back

 **Hon. N BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.10 am): Community safety is of paramount importance to the Miles government. That is why we have taken steps to strengthen laws surrounding community safety and how we deal with the risk certain people can pose to society. I recently received advice that there have been some administrative errors in some appointments made by the Parole Board Queensland. Specifically, I have been advised that the board did not follow appropriate process in making some appointments. As has been said publicly, this will not result in the automatic release of anyone who has been denied parole. However, out of an abundance of caution the government will this week seek to pass urgent amendments to rectify this situation and maintain community safety. I note the member for Clayfield's public comments on this matter and I am happy to organise a departmental briefing for him.

Queenslanders expect and deserve a high-functioning Parole Board. This week I have requested a meeting with the president of the Parole Board to understand any issues that are occurring and ensure that the Parole Board is aware of the government's expectations and the community's expectations.

I would also like to take this opportunity to update the House on the Voluntary Home Buy-Back scheme. I am advised that as at 3 June, 632 home owners have settled contracts under the scheme across Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan, Sunshine Coast, Gympie, Moreton Bay, Lockyer Valley, Goondiwindi, Somerset, Gold Coast and Noosa LGAs. All have followed stringent checks and balances to ensure responsible use of taxpayer funds. In relation to the Mi Hi Grove complex, home owners received two independent valuations using a reputable valuer who was used in all LGAs except for Brisbane. Property owners could also seek a further valuation if they wished. I am advised that 40 out of the 42 property owners have accepted offers and contracts are being signed. I recently met with the treasurer of the body corporate and offered to organise a meeting between her and the valuers which, while initially accepted, has been declined. That offer remains open.

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Everton will cease his interjections.

Ms BOYD: I also wish to make it clear that the recent comments made by the member for Ipswich West suggesting property owners were told that they would not receive any assistance if they spoke to the media are wrong. I call on the member for Ipswich West to stop spreading misinformation and stop using these property owners, many of whom are in a vulnerable position, for political purposes.