



Speech By Hon. Amanda Camm

MEMBER FOR WHITSUNDAY

Record of Proceedings, 11 December 2025

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Weather Events, Recovery Assistance

Hon. AJ CAMM (Whitsunday—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (2.09 pm): The Crisafulli government is a government for all of Queensland. When it comes to community recovery, we ensure there is no daylight between the weather event and the recovery. With that, I acknowledge our local member Bree James, whom I spent time with in Cairns for the second anniversary of Cyclone Jasper. She was a fierce advocate up there, even prior to being elected—out and about across that community ensuring they had food, supplies and everything else in the midst of that disaster. It was a privilege to attend there with our local member as the minister responsible for delivering the election commitment of \$2 million in hall upgrades right across the Far North and to meet with the incredible volunteers from the Machans Beach hall as well as the Stratford Bowls Club. I look forward to going up there and supporting her in opening the renewed infrastructure projects which are part of our commitment to recovery.

From \$2 million in vital upgrades in Far North Queensland, we now move to focus on supporting communities to recover after the storms here in South-East Queensland. I have visited the Pumicestone region, in particular Bribie Island, with the local member and met with residents. Those who have been impacted significantly are our more senior population, and I acknowledge the trauma that they have experienced. I pay tribute to all of those who work and volunteer in our Community Recovery hubs, and I thank my departmental staff who stood up very quickly during the recovery effort across the Moreton and Redlands regions.

On that, I can update the House that we have received almost 60,000 applications for hardship assistance to help people bounce back. That has resulted in over \$10.1 million being paid out, and I can reassure Queenslanders that it has been done at record pace—95.2 per cent of payments were processed within 24 hours. Also, over 4,000 residents had an interaction with our recovery hubs, and over 4½ thousand have been administered psychological first aid by our incredible volunteers at the Australian Red Cross and UnitingCare. I thank each and every one of those who work not only in the disaster response but also in the recovery, which sometimes takes many months or, in some cases, many years. I thank those volunteers, and I thank all members who represent their community in the interests of community recovery and disaster resilience.