




Speech By
Hon. Ann Leahy

MEMBER FOR WARREGO

Record of Proceedings, 18 November 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Townsville City Council

 **Hon. A LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (10.07 am): I wish to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Ian Leavers following his passing.

Over the weekend we have seen democracy in action in Townsville. The people of Townsville made it clear they wanted to put an end to the chaos of the previous 19 months—chaos that brewed under Labor's watch. We all know that sad story: month after month went by and Labor did nothing, but a few hours before going into caretaker mode they wanted to be seen to be doing something. I am told the opposition leader and the former minister for local government could not agree on what to do. They ended up sending the former mayor a show cause notice riddled with errors. Lucky for Queenslanders, the Labor chaos is over. Now, because of the actions we have taken, Townsville gets to put that sad chapter behind them.

The people of Townsville have spoken decisively and given our former colleague in this place Mr Dametto a resounding mandate to make Townsville great. As the Premier said, Nick will bring the local leadership that Townsville needs and Townsville deserves. I also want to thank the ECQ staff who worked very hard in the short run-up to deliver residents a fair and open by-election and the opportunity to have their say. It was a postal ballot, and that has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars of ratepayers' money that can now be spent on delivering services for the community of Townsville.