



Speech By  
**Hon. Ann Leahy**


**MEMBER FOR WARREGO**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 December 2025

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Local Government**

 **Hon. A LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers) (10.09 am): Mr Speaker, as you have heard from my colleagues it has been a busy year of delivering for the Crisafulli government. We have also been busy delivering for Queensland councils. Labor treated councils as second-class citizens during their decade of decline. Councils deserve so much better and, as we know on this side of the House, local governments know their communities best. That is why we are working in a partnership with them and we have been delivering for them and their ratepayers.

We have been focused on delivery this year. We have made the Works for Queensland a permanent program. We have delivered the Partners in Government Agreement with the LGAQ, recognising councils as partners in government. We have launched and concluded the Red Tape Reduction Taskforce, having engaged all 77 councils, and received an overwhelming response. We have launched the depreciation taskforce for local government to help reduce costs to ratepayers. We have improved access to gravel for councils after years of gravel rash from Labor. We have delivered on the rural and remote compact for councils as well as the Queensland Indigenous Council Leaders Accord. Talking about Indigenous councils, we have been delivering clean drinking water for Aurukun, Kowanyama and Woorabinda—communities that were left behind by those opposite. We are getting ratepayers off the hook through fixing Labor's fish passage failures. We have introduced our empowering councils legislation, which councils are eagerly awaiting.

The Crisafulli government is delivering for Queensland. We are delivering for Queensland councils and for ratepayers. We will not let councils go back to Labor's decade of decline. We will not let councils go back to being the poor cousins of government, like they were under Labor. We are only just getting started and I am excited for what we will do for Queensland in 2026.