



Speech By  
**Barbara O'Shea**


**MEMBER FOR SOUTH BRISBANE**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 November 2025

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**South Brisbane Electorate, Development**

 **Dr O'SHEA** (South Brisbane—ALP) (2.46 pm): I rise to speak about the urgent need for community consultation by this government on the future of the Visy site in my electorate of South Brisbane. This land is owned by Queenslanders, and they deserve to have a say on its future. The Visy site is seven hectares of public land—equivalent to about 10 football fields—in the heart of South Brisbane or, as the government is marketing it to private developers, it is prime development land with uninterrupted river frontage, Brisbane's landmark development and a once-in-a-generation opportunity.

Strangely enough, there is no mention of the already congested roads in our area, of the lack of green space, that our high school is at capacity, that our primary school is nearing capacity or of all of the people sleeping rough along the river, just outside this site, as there is no affordable housing. The Visy site is the last large parcel of state owned land in South Brisbane. When I surveyed our community there was an overwhelming call for the site to be transformed into public green space, affordable housing and community facilities like a school or sporting ground. The government has invited private developers to submit proposals for redevelopment of this site, without any community consultation, just as there was no community consultation on recent changes to the planning rules for this site, which removed requirements for affordable housing and long-term rentals.

The Visy site is a public asset, and the community deserves to have a real say in how it is used rather than it being sold off to the highest bidder. My community are concerned by the lack of transparency in this process and want to know if this government is planning to sell off the state owned land to developers. They are asking to be properly consulted on the future of this site and not have lip-service paid to consultation, like this government did in Woolloongabba where calls to reinstate the affordable housing requirements and green space, which were removed from the development scheme, were met with a resounding no.

On behalf of my community I have started a parliamentary petition requesting the House ensure that the Deputy Premier undertakes formal community consultation on the future use of the Visy site and that this feedback is incorporated into any decision regarding redevelopment of this site. I urge all Queenslanders to support this petition. Just like South Bank, this land is owned by Queenslanders and they deserve to have a say on its future.