




Speech By
Bryson Head

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2025

MOTION

White, Ms C

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (6.08 pm): I would like to place on record my sympathies to the family of Ms Christine White. Not only did those family members lose their mother and loved one, but I am sure that grieving such a loss takes a very long time to work through. I pass on my condolences to the family.

In the time that I have been here, there have been a lot of victims of the health system and failures within and it is important to note that you cannot fix a problem if you never acknowledge it in the first place. Today I think was a great example where we saw ministers of the Crown here in Queensland willing to stand up and own up and front up to failures and mistakes that we have uncovered that have happened in departments that they are now, as ministers of the Crown, responsible for. We saw that with Minister Camm's many contributions outlining the work that she is now undertaking to fix the many failures in her department that have left Queensland with a big mess in the child safety system. We saw Minister Purdie stand up and front up as soon as he had uncovered a failure with regard to data that unfortunately ended up being misleading, but he fronted up and said that it was not good enough and corrected the record at the earliest opportunity. Minister Nicholls has spent a lot of time in this House talking about failures of the health system and fronting up and being on the front foot with Queenslanders by being open, transparent and accountable.

We as the LNP believe in individual responsibility, so we believe in the ministerial responsibilities that my colleagues in the cabinet have been given and they are doing what they can to fix the many failures that we have inherited and that continue to run through those departments. We have seen the Coaldrake report that outlined many cultural failures within those departments and I have seen firsthand now as part of a government that those cultural issues are going to take a very long time to fix, but I know the ministers of the Crown are doing everything they can to get all Queensland departments back on track. They are making sure they are up-front and honest with ministers and share the failures that are happening for the betterment of Queenslanders. In contrast, we saw a decade of decline, a culture of cover-ups and, frankly, a decade of chaos and crisis that saw many health metrics get worse in this state. Many of my colleagues have touched on some of these, but—

A government member: Tell us about them.

Mr HEAD: I take that interjection: the Biloela maternity ward on bypass for a couple of years under those opposite. With regard to ministers coming to communities, I called on the then minister for health, the now shadow treasurer, to come and front up to that community and meet with mothers who had given birth on the side of the road in my electorate and to meet with the staff who were on the front line.

Ms Fentiman: I met with many of those mothers. That's the difference.

Mr HEAD: I take that interjection. The member did not meet with the mothers who were on the front line of her birthing failures in Callide even though I called for it on a number of occasions. At the Ipswich Hospital, which this tragedy is related to, those opposite inherited a ramping rate of 20.3 per cent in 2015 and they allowed it to surge to 63½ per cent in 2024. When something is being used as a political weapon, the very best thing for it is to ensure that all of the facts are out there. That is why I support this amended motion, but that is out of our hands as the amendment suggests. I support the Minister for Health and the hard work that he is putting in to fix the Queensland Health crisis that we inherited from those opposite.