




Speech By  
**Hon. David Crisafulli**  
**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 March 2025

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **South-East Queensland, Weather Events**

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.50 am): Rainfall has eased and rivers are receding. We are delivering on our promise of no daylight between our response to Tropical Cyclone Alfred and the recovery from this historic weather event. Today, 584 of the 661 schools that were impacted have reopened. That means that around nine out of 10 schools have students back at their desks, allowing our young people to return to normal life and enabling their parents to get back to work. All major roads, including the Warrego and Cunningham highways, are flowing again. The vast majority of traffic lights are now working. Commuters are back on trains across the entire Queensland Rail network and most buses are back on roads. Our airports and ports are back online.

The SES completed another 400 tasks in the last 24 hours. They have never received as many calls for assistance as they did during Alfred. The SES have completed more than 13,000 jobs throughout the event, helping to get thousands of Queenslanders on the road to recovery. More importantly, over 40 people rescued from floodwaters are all safe. Today, there are 11 Community Recovery hubs open across the region providing a one-stop shop for Queenslanders who need support. More will follow.

Since the start of Alfred, our power companies have reconnected in excess of 390,000 homes and businesses—that is approaching 90 per cent of the huge number impacted by the cyclone. We sincerely acknowledge the ongoing strain on those who remain without power and the stress and impact it is having on their daily life. We also acknowledge the around-the-clock efforts of Energex and Ergon workers to get the lights back on.

Each region has experienced in different ways the four challenges of Alfred—waves, wind, rain and flood. Alfred's storm surges carved out escarpments along the Gold and Sunshine Coast beachfronts. It struck the Redlands and Moreton Bay packing winds of around 100 kilometres an hour, toppling 30-metre tall gum trees and blowing sheets off roofs. In less than a week, Alfred dumped more than 1.1 metres of rain over Upper Springbrook. Major flood levels were reached in the Logan, Albert and Bremer rivers and Warrill Creek. There were specific challenges at Hervey Bay and throughout the Lockyer Valley, and the communities are working hard on the clean-up and damage assessment right now.

I will shortly be appointing a disaster coordinator to lead the recovery. I acknowledge the tremendous efforts of our Public Service: our frontline police who were out doorknocking; the swiftwater rescue crews who were conducting rescues; those working in the State Disaster Coordination Centre; and the nurses and other health professionals who slept overnight at the hospital to ensure there was around-the-clock care.

I acknowledge our ministers and all local members who have been on the ground supporting their respective communities. It is incredibly important work. I want to acknowledge Queenslanders who did everything they could to prepare and continue to look out for each other as we start the recovery. I want to acknowledge Queenslanders from one end of the state to the other—many of whom are at different stages of the recovery process—because every Queenslander matters and every Queenslander deserves the chance to recover. We know the work is far from over and we are continuing that work. We will keep supporting Queenslanders in the days, weeks and months ahead.