




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli
MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 2 April 2025

MOTION

Weather Events, Response

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (7.40 pm): I move—

That this House:

1. acknowledges the damage caused by flooding across widespread parts of Western Queensland;
2. extends support for those who have suffered injury and those who have lost their homes, property, livestock and personal possessions;
3. records its appreciation for the hard work of all emergency service personnel, frontline responders, local, state and federal agencies, community members and volunteers, and members of the Australian Defence Force who are supporting Queenslanders and will continue to support them through the recovery; and
4. pledges to support all Queenslanders, including those still recovering from recent severe weather in both the north and south of the state, to ensure that Queensland recovers from this disaster, with a focus on increasing resilience for future events.

Queenslanders are down but certainly not out. Tonight we move this motion in a bid to show how, right across the political divide, we are thinking of our mates, particularly in the west but also those in the north and south of the state who have been impacted by the might of Mother Nature in calendar year 2025. Calendar year 2025 will be remembered for all the wrong reasons when it comes to what disasters can do to our state but for all the right reasons when it comes to the resilience and strength of our community. There are many things that I could speak about tonight. There are tales of destruction of people's homes and impacts on their businesses. There are tales of primary producers who are right now staring down the barrel of some of the worst conditions they have ever seen. Instead, I want to tell the story of Trumby.

Alongside the members for Gregory, Warrego and Gympie, I met Trumby this morning. He was at the community recovery hub in Longreach. He had just gone for breakfast. He told me what it was like to see the water rising at his place. He told me what it was like to lose all of the possessions such as the member for Gregory so articulately spoke about yesterday. He told me what it was like to have to leave a home that held all his memories without knowing what might await him. Sadly, he now knows what awaits him because his brother remains on the property. The devastation is immense. They have lost stock, they have lost possessions and, in many ways, they have lost the desire to rebuild that property. It was really difficult to hear his story today. When a strong, proud Western Queensland man wells with emotion, it is hard not to feel a form of genuine remorse and also a sense of hopelessness.

Something really struck me about Trumby. The community recovery staff were there and they do an amazing job. They are great people. Trumby did not want to fill out the form for assistance because he believes that he has been helped enough by being rescued. This is a man who has lost next to everything. He was thinking about the impact on others at a time when he was at rock bottom.

I say to all of the people in his shoes such as the amazing Queenslanders I met in Quilpie, including the people of Adavale where all homes have been completely inundated, and the farmers who right now are wondering whether or not they will be able to pick up broken fences and rebuild: we are on your side and we will see it through. We know that this proud state will bounce back.