




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli
MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 3 April 2025

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Western Queensland, Weather Events

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (2.03 pm): One can yell and audition all they like, but if two from the right go to the left that leaves you left right out.

I want to update the House on the situation in Western Queensland and start by saying that there is some good news for Thargomindah with the water receding for the first time in a long time. In fact, it is now down a little over 60 centimetres, which is excellent. We continue to monitor Hungerford, Cunnamulla and Longreach, although levels are not expected to reach a peak where homes will be inundated, which is tremendous.

We are getting communities back on their feet. I can report to the House that mains power is back on in both Jundah and Adavale. I want to thank the energy minister for that. We will have to energise homes, of course, but there is a big clean-up to go. I have met residents from both of those proud little towns—some in Quilpie and some in Longreach. They are strong and stoic, but they will need our help.

I can update the House that just moments ago we received a few more surveys that have shown the number of lost livestock has gone past 150,000. However, the losses in magnitude have slowed. I do believe that, sadly, that number will continue to rise in the days ahead. What this shows is that the fodder resupply is giving hope. We have to continue to do that. We also have to make sure that there is fresh water in the days to come and get those beasts to safe and higher ground. Sadly, I can report to the House that the fence damage has gone from the 3,482 kilometres I said yesterday to 4,552 kilometres. That is a lot of lost fencing, and we have to do a significant rebuild.

I want to refer to the goodwill and spirit of the community that is working around the clock to help everybody in every way, shape and form. Residents would have heard the call to arms and the rallying of truckies wanting to deliver fodder to their mates. A good recovery is also about removing the roadblocks and helping communities rebuild in their hour of need. We will continue to do that.

I want to thank everybody for the spirit they have shown. The messages I have received from those in the city and those in other rural areas not impacted about wanting to lend a hand to people shows the kind of Queensland spirit that is on display. We have to do everything we can to remove those roadblocks to enable the Queensland spirit to shine and enable communities that are doing it tough to know that we have their back. I thank everyone for the role they have played in that regard.