




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Veterans and Veterans' Families Strategy

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.43 am): I am proud to serve as the Minister for Veterans in the government. Veterans and their families play an important role in our state's history. Here in Queensland, we have the largest population of veterans in the country—163,000 current and former ADF personnel call our state home. However, we are currently the only state without a dedicated veterans strategy. Our government will change that by developing Queensland's first veterans strategy. Most importantly, it will be the nation's first strategy that is dedicated to veterans and veterans' families.

The strategy will identify how we can best support our veterans. It will also guide our implementation of the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide. Importantly, the strategy will be informed by engagement with veterans and the ex-service community. We want their knowledge and their perspectives to shape this strategy. We want to hear about issues such as transitioning to civilian life, employment opportunities and health and wellbeing so we can improve their experience both during and after their service.

I was proud to launch this in Townsville earlier this month as part of the VP80 event. Townsville came alive over four days to commemorate 80 years since victory in the Pacific and the end of World War II. The community paid a fitting tribute to the sacrifices of our World War II veterans while celebrating Townsville's proud garrison history. These commemorations remind us of the profound debt we owe to those who have served our nation. They are testament to our shared history, our enduring gratitude and our commitment to supporting not only the veterans but also the families who support them now and into the future.