



Speech By Kerri-Anne Dooley

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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PLANNING (SOCIAL IMPACT AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Ms DOOLEY (Redcliffe—LNP) (9.36 pm): Tonight I rise in strong support of the Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025. This bill delivers fairness, opportunity and a voice for communities like mine in Redcliffe and others right across regional Queensland. As someone who works hard every day for Redcliffe, listening, delivering and standing up for my community, I know firsthand how vital it is for local residents to feel heard and respected in decisions that affect their neighbourhoods, their livelihoods and their futures.

This bill is a clear reflection of our Crisafulli government's commitment to restoring fairness in Queensland's planning framework, which is something that the previous Labor government failed to deliver for over a decade. For too long, regional and rural Queenslanders have hosted large-scale renewable energy projects like wind and solar farms without adequate consultation, transparency or community benefit. I listen to the many regional members on this side of the House—members such as Glen Kelly from Mirani where wind farms have been fast tracked with limited or zero consultation or regard for the local impacts; and Sean Dillon from Gregory where that has also happened. Under this bill, renewable energy projects will finally be impact assessable, subject to the same scrutiny as mining and other major developments. Communities will now have a seat at the table and, most importantly, community benefit agreements will become a required part of the process, ensuring that locals are not just impacted but also rewarded for playing a role in our energy future.

It puts an end to the handshake deals and opaque promises. It front-loads responsibility and requires developers to engage early, consult meaningfully and deliver real, lasting benefits. It also empowers local governments to negotiate and make decisions based on structured social impact assessments—something that is long overdue.

This bill also takes critical steps to deliver on our Olympic and Paralympic legacy—a legacy that was left in chaos by Labor. After 1,200 wasted days, Queenslanders voted for a fresh start in October last year, and this bill unveils our plan for the 2032 Olympics, which has transparency, accountability and delivery at its core. The amendments clarify the role of the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority, streamline venue approvals and embed governance to meet the tight timelines to make sure that we deliver the stadiums and all the infrastructure that has been outlined in time to welcome the world to Brisbane and to Queensland.

Let's be clear: these games are not just a two-week event; they are a generational opportunity to deliver housing, transport, tourism and community infrastructure that will benefit Queenslanders long after the torch has gone out. We are focused on that legacy, especially for regions like mine in Moreton Bay and the Redcliffe Peninsula. We are excited there will be a brand new stadium at the Petrie campus of the University of the Sunshine Coast. This will be a game changer for our region for years and decades to come.

I have met many young Redcliffe sporting awardees recently at various sporting presentation nights—people like Wroxton King, who dreams of being in the Paralympics in 2032. He literally needed a wheelbarrow to take home all of his awards from the Redcliffe Leagues Swimming Club. I look forward to seeing him compete. Remember the name: Wroxton King from Redcliffe.

Another key reform in this bill is around housing. With cost-of-living pressures and population growth, we must build more homes faster and smarter. The No. 1 issue in my electorate of Redcliffe is housing—affordable housing, social housing, community housing and private housing. We need to break down all the barriers so we can get more houses built to ensure that everyone has a place to call home.

This bill refocuses Economic Development Queensland on delivering homes in PDAs, increasing housing supply and reducing barriers to fast-tracked developments. This is needed in Redcliffe and right across Moreton Bay. We need this kind of planning for certainty, and we need pathways that empower us to grow sustainably.

This bill also includes sensible amendments to protect home owners under the Queensland Home Warranty Scheme. Whether a building contract is signed or verbally agreed to, Queenslanders deserve peace of mind that their homes are protected. These amendments restore that certainty. We are also cutting red tape to allow essential community infrastructure, like schools and hospitals, to proceed more efficiently under existing development frameworks without duplicating bureaucracy. We are also modernising regional planning consultation timeframes to better reflect how our communities engage with planning in the digital age, reducing delays while maintaining robust public input.

This bill has been the subject of widespread consultation, receiving over 1,100 public submissions. Groups like AgForce, the Local Government Association of Queensland and the Planning Institute of Australia have endorsed the need for these reforms. The LGAQ's CEO, Alison Smith, stated—

We are really grateful that the bill recognises those impacts and will ... give power back to Queensland councils and their communities ... to secure community benefits ... which we hope will last for generations ...

In conclusion, this bill is bold, balanced and fair. It restores trust in planning. It gives locals a say. It demands transparency. It delivers real benefit. It keeps us on track to host a world-class Olympic and Paralympic Games that all Queenslanders can be proud of. I commend the bill to the House.