




Speech By
Natalie Marr

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Weather Events, Response

 **Ms MARR** (Thuringowa—LNP) (2.10 pm): I rise today to acknowledge the devastation caused by Cyclone Alfred. As a North Queenslander, I fully understand the anxiety and despair that came with its delayed arrival as well as the overwhelming uncertainty everyone faced in the lead-up. The anticipation of disaster is always difficult, but it is the courage and strength of our community that carries us through these moments. I witnessed firsthand the incredible work of so many dedicated individuals, and many of them are in this room today.

I must once again highlight the extraordinary leadership of the Premier. His resilience, especially coming off the back of the recent disaster in North Queensland, shows remarkable determination. The Premier, being an Ingham boy, has a deep understanding of cyclones and the unique challenges we face in the north. His leadership during this crisis has been a beacon of strength for the community. Once again, the hard work of our first responders and SES must be acknowledged. The tireless efforts in ensuring the safety of our people are invaluable, and we owe them our deepest gratitude.

Today I want to remind all North Queenslanders that they have not been forgotten. Our locals are still feeling the effects of their flooding loss and disruption to our daily lives. We are still with them every step of the way. The Crisafulli LNP government remains firmly on the ground in the north, working diligently on our recovery efforts. Just last week I had the privilege of meeting with the State Recovery Coordinator and his team, who visited us in Thuringowa to listen to our experiences, and we spoke about what we could improve on.

In the true spirit of the north, we continue to see locals helping locals—attitude in action. Goods continue to arrive daily at places like Willow Shopping Centre and other local outlets to make sure the north receives the vital supplies it needs. North Queensland's recovery journey serves as a powerful example of how adversity can bring communities together, foster innovation and highlight the importance of planning for the future. As the region continues to rebuild and grow stronger, it is clear that North Queensland is not just recovering; it is emerging more resilient than ever.

North Queenslanders, we should all take immense pride in how we handle these incredibly difficult times. We continue to show our resilience, adaptability and unwavering commitment to coming together after each disaster. The lessons we learn, the improvements we make to our systems and the strength we demonstrate after every event have equipped us with invaluable knowledge. This knowledge, our leadership and our resilience are what we now offer to South-East Queenslanders. We have shared our experience and expertise with them, just as we have always stood together through the toughest of times.

To everyone, regardless of where you live in Queensland: the LNP Crisafulli government are there with you—before, during and, more importantly, now after the event—when you need us the most.