



Speech By  
**Shane King**


**MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH**

---

Record of Proceedings, 20 November 2025

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Copper Theft**

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (2.58 pm): I rise today to talk about the dangers and the cost to our community of copper theft. I was chair of the Transport and Resources Committee which held an inquiry into scrap metal theft, including copper, during the last parliament. We investigated a lot of aspects of copper theft. During a meeting with Energex, they said millions of dollars were being lost annually because of streetlighting copper theft and stealing from substations. As I have said in this House before, the risk to electricity supply and to human safety when earthing conductor and live cables are being ripped out—it is terrifying to me as an electrician to imagine what could happen one day.

During our committee's public hearings we heard from electrical contractors, developers and councils footing huge bills to restore floodlights at sports facilities where thieves had stripped the copper. In my electorate, sadly, this has happened a couple of times at the Harris Avenue sports precinct in Narangba—a venue the Premier knows. It is where he announced on 30 May last year that he would 'be taking legislative action against metal theft in this state'. As we know, the LNP loves handing in our homework, because the day before the then opposition leader visited my electorate the then Labor attorney-general put out a press release supporting six out of seven of our committee's recommendations.

To recap: the then Leader of the Opposition and some of his friends came to my electorate to announce they would be doing the same thing our committee recommended and our government had agreed to. They said at the time, 'No more reviews, no more talkfests. It's time to legislate.' I am asking the Premier and his friends, on behalf of the sports teams he spoke to and all of my other clubs, to honour the commitment they made to my electorate. Tell us when we can expect this LNP government to 'give the police the teeth they need'. I know the City of Moreton Bay mayor, Peter Flannery, is keen to hear, as he is still waiting for the solutions that were promised.

I also note an Instagram reel back in May 2024 about what \$20 million lost to copper theft from Energy Queensland could do for sporting clubs. Premier, for \$2 million we can finish the Harris Avenue sporting precinct upgrade, Narangba Eagles soccer can have their own clubhouse, and Narangba Demons baseball can have their own clubhouse as well. Premier, I agree. It is time to legislate to cut copper theft. There is only one sitting week left. Tell us, is this another broken promise or are you going to do it?