




Speech By
Hon. Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2025

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; STATE DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKS COMMITTEE, REPORT

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (4.17 pm): I rise today to support the Appropriation Bill 2025. I thank the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee for their time during estimates. The estimates hearing was an interesting exercise. The statement of reservation shows how desperate the former government were to try to find something that they could criticise. What they criticised after their 10 years of decline was quite creative and imaginative.

How could you criticise the Games On! election commitment of \$250 million that is delivering infrastructure right across the state to both LNP and non-government seats? They have accused this program of pork-barrelling. I want to let my colleagues in the House know that the number of commitments that are going to be delivered with Games On! is proportionate to the number of seats each party holds in this House. That is extraordinary, isn't it? Apparently it is pork-barrelling when the number of commitments is proportionate to the number of seats each party holds in the House. I do not know where they are coming from with this pork-barrelling allegation.

Does the member for Aspley think it is pork-barrelling when he gets \$1.8 million for the Aspley Hornets football clubhouse? I wish there was a club in my electorate that got \$1.8 million. The member for Miller is here. The Souths Rugby Union Club at Yeronga is going to get a million to finish the upgrades to their clubhouse and facilities that the member for Miller could not deliver over 10 years. The member for Algester is going to get \$200,000 for a lighting upgrade at the Souths Acacia Ridge Rugby League Club. The member for Bundaberg gets \$620,000 to upgrade facilities at the Bundaberg Netball Association. I notice that the member for Cairns is in the House. He gets a \$6 million investment in the Manunda sports precinct redevelopment. I dream of having \$6 million for one of my clubs.

The member for Ferny Grove will get \$1.5 million towards the Honeyeater Park Sport Precinct to deliver new playing fields. The member for Ipswich will get \$780,000 for eight new synthetic grass tennis courts. I dream of having that in my electorate. For the member for Gaven there are five commitments, ranging from \$2 million for SUNS Academy to \$60,000 for a Nerang BMX toilet block. Kurwongbah gets \$500,000 to upgrade the Burpengary Jets playing fields. Pine Rivers receives \$180,000 for lighting upgrades for the Pine Rivers Swans. Stafford gets \$1.5 million for a new artificial turf pitch and Toohey gets \$180,000. I could go on and on, but I do not have enough time. I do not know of another government that went to an election and delivered commitments for the candidates who were not successful. That is what this government has done because we are governing for all of Queensland.

I have not yet got to our Play On! sports vouchers. What a fantastic policy that is. We locked in funding for the next four years. The previous government's commitment went to 30 June. We recognise that it needs to be proportionately allocated across the state. As with our Games On! commitment, our Play On! vouchers will ensure people in the regions do not miss out. We also wanted to make sure that anybody with a disability who wants to play sport—anyone with a disability; there is no limit—can apply and get funding under this policy initiative. We also wanted to make sure that summer and winter sports

are again proportionately allocated so no-one misses out. This is a great program which has been very much appreciated.

The temerity of the opposition to criticise us about Olympic and Paralympic Games preparation when we had 1,400 days of indecision or, when they made a decision, it was chaotic. The adults in the room finally delivered the 2032 Delivery Plan earlier this year, which has now given us a blueprint for the way forward. There will be events in the regions. The whole state has suddenly got behind the games and cannot wait, including: Rockhampton, Maryborough, Townsville and the Whitsundays—what a great background for sailing—Toowoomba, Cairns and the Sunshine Coast. What a games it is going to be for all of Queensland!

(Time expired)