




Speech By
Wendy Bourne

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST

Record of Proceedings, 25 June 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Ipswich West Electorate, Road Infrastructure

 **Ms BOURNE** (Ipswich West—ALP) (11.33 pm): I rise today genuinely bewildered by the approach that this government continues to take—an approach more focused on short-term political pointscoring than on delivering for the people of Ipswich West. Specifically, I am concerned by the lack of briefings, communication and progress on critical infrastructure projects in my electorate of Ipswich West: the Mount Crosby interchange, the Bremer River Bridge, the Warrego Highway, Haigslea-Amberley Road and Schultz Road intersection, the second river crossing and the Amberley interchange. These are not pet projects; they are essential upgrades for the safety, connectivity and growth of one of the fastest growing regions in Queensland.

The minister and this government are well aware of the importance of each of these projects to the people of Ipswich West, yet despite my requests for briefings I am met with radio silence. In some cases, I learn of updates only through the media or by attending public meetings, where departmental representatives answer questions that should have already been shared with my office. No, a phone call telling my office about the incident on the Mount Crosby overpass when it happened—albeit I was grateful for that—and a further call weeks later telling me to check TMR's Facebook page for the latest update does not constitute a ministerial briefing or being kept up to date as the local state member.

My office fielded hundreds of emails and phone calls and had people calling into the office seeking information around the Mount Crosby overpass incident. It is they who deserved to get answers on what was happening on this critical piece of infrastructure. This incident created havoc throughout the whole electorate, not just within the immediate area but across the electorate, on many local roads not built to withstand the traffic volumes. It highlighted the need for an alternative route. I want to say that I also appreciate that TMR acted after the incident and have worked very hard to find a solution.

I was elected by the people of Ipswich West—democratically, fairly and with a mandate to represent them. No matter which side of politics I sit on, I am here to be their voice. Whether it suits the government or not, I will continue to be their voice. I did not come here to revise the past; I came here to focus on the future—on how we deliver what our communities need rather than on who possibly failed to do so in the past. This endless blame game is not just tiresome; it is a disservice to every resident in Ipswich West.

I want solutions. I want a briefing. I want a seat at the table. Most of all, I want to see shovels in the ground. I urge the minister to take his foot off the brake, stop staring in the rear-view mirror and start driving these projects forward. Let me be clear: I am not going anywhere. Until we get the answers and the action we deserve, I will continue to tailgate this government every step of the way.