



Speech By
Hon. Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 4 March 2026

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

E-Mobility Safety, Committee Report

 **Hon. BA MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (4:10 pm): Earlier today, the member for Lockyer tabled the report of the parliamentary inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland. I will be reviewing the report in full but, based on the member for Lockyer's remarks in this House and my preliminary reading, the findings recommend significant change and confirm what we already knew.

Throughout their decade of decline, the former Labor government left police woefully ill equipped to enforce regulations. The former Labor government introduced a botched subsidy scheme for e-mobility devices. It was the former Labor government that turned a blind eye to the rise of illegal high-powered devices. It was the former Labor government that left Queenslanders to pay the price because of their inaction. Not only did the former Labor government turn a blind eye but they also poured fuel on the fire. They used \$2 million of taxpayers' money on an e-mobility rebate scheme that unleashed hundreds of illegal, dangerous, high-powered e-bikes and e-scooters on Queensland roads and footpaths. They put lives at risk funding illegal e-bikes and e-scooters that should never have been on our roads and footpaths and it was all because they wanted a pre-election cash splash.

Decisions have consequences. Because of the decisions taken and not taken by those opposite, more than 6,000 injuries related to e-scooters were reported at emergency departments across 36 Queensland hospitals between 2022 and 2025. Unlike the former Labor government, we will not bury our heads in the sand and we did not bury our heads in the sand when we came to government. We heard the concerns of the community about injuries and fatalities linked to unsafe and illegal e-bike and e-scooter use. The Crisafulli government took a calm, methodical and evidence-based approach by setting up a parliamentary inquiry and listening to police, the community and experts to deliver practical, enforceable reforms to keep Queenslanders safe.

One of the recommendations in the report is that police should have the power to conduct random breath tests for riders. However, this recommendation should not need to be in the report. The former minister, the member for Aspley, confirmed in 2023—three years ago—that he was thinking about amending the law so that police officers could breath test riders but, as we saw so often under the former Labor government, he did nothing. This is just another example of the former Labor government—

Mr MELLISH: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence and ask the member to withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Minister, will you withdraw please?

Mr MICKELBERG: I withdraw. It is just another example of the former Labor government refusing to give police the powers they needed to do their jobs, putting Queenslanders' lives at risk because of their incompetence and their inaction. The committee report makes robust, comprehensive and

practical recommendations. Our government will now review each of those recommendations and make the necessary changes to keep Queenslanders safe, while backing those Queenslanders who do the right thing. We will ensure there are consequences for action, we will fix the mess left behind by the former Labor government and we will keep our promise to deliver nation-leading laws.