



Speech By  
**Bryson Head**


**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 March 2026

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMALL BUSINESS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE  
COMMITTEE**

**Report, Motion to Take Note**

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (3.13 pm): I firstly want to place on the record my thanks to one of my constituents who was part of this volunteering inquiry, Eric Turner of Thangool, who is a volunteer for both the SES and the rural fire brigade. He puts in a lot of time and effort. He is a passionate volunteer who appeared at the Rockhampton hearing, and I want to place on the record my thanks to Eric and all of the other volunteers who contributed to this important inquiry.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of rural Queensland. They put in a lot of effort and are part of the community fabric in a way that you really cannot overstate. Even during the recent floods I was talking about moments ago we had the rural fires and SES out in force, and many other people across the board gave their time as a community to help one another out. It is great to interact with those volunteers. Some of them travelled from far and wide. I understand some came from as far north as Cairns as well as South-East Queensland to dedicate their time to support Queenslanders in need.

Beyond those important services like our rural fires and SES we have our community groups. Across Callide, from what we can count we have over 300 community groups.

**A government member:** You should have a few more after the redistribution, too.

**Mr HEAD:** I take that interjection. There might be a few more post the redistribution. Further to that, there are 156 rural fire brigades in the electorate of Callide and over 3,000 rural fire brigade volunteers. That is a significant contribution to our state in terms of the effort they put in.

As far as community events go, you cannot go past a local show. As the member who has the most shires of any MP in this House, I spend a lot of time at them and maybe eat a few too many dagwood dogs along the way, but that is all part of the fun! So far we have already had the Bell, Miles and Jandowae shows, and they were all fantastic events. Miles was impacted by the floods and had a reduced show. Nonetheless, it was a fantastic affair. Coming up we have Wandoan, and I understand we will even have a visit from the Attorney-General as that is her hometown. It is great to have a couple of people in this chamber who are from the Western Downs. The Mount Perry show has unfortunately had to cancel.

**A government member** interjected.

**Mr HEAD:** I take that interjection from the minister. There has been a significant uplift in funding to our local shows by the Crisafulli government—over \$3,000 each, from memory. That uplift has been very much welcomed by all of my 19 agricultural shows across the electorate. Unfortunately, it was not quite enough to help Mount Perry out. They had to cancel their show due to uncertainty around fuel and how much they would need to truck equipment and different things in. We have Monto, Eidsvold,

Taroom, Mundubbera, Baralaba, Theodore, the Callide Valley show at Biloela, Biggenden, Chinchilla, Gin Gin, Moura and Wowan, and of course to finish the year off we always have the Brigalow Bush Carnival in the electorate of Callide, my hometown. It is a fantastic affair.

None of these events happen without volunteers, who put in a lot of their time. I was talking to Alan Nauschutz at the Jandowae show the other day. He is a life member of the show and a big part of the fabric of the Jandowae community. He spent a full week at the show in the lead-up to it as well as most of the week before that, I understand. He did say that pack-down is normally a lot easier because you can just load it up and put it away and forget about it until next year. Nonetheless, they are still at it many days after the show as well. It is not only in the actual set-up of the facility. That does not factor in the months of effort in terms of seeking sponsorship, setting up competition portals so people can enter and all the rest.

The Jandowae show committee has done a fantastic job. The pavilion looked fabulous this year. They have received a lot of funding and put in a lot of work, and it has really come up a picture. That is off the back of the efforts of our volunteers across our communities. I am looking forward to seeing the fruits of the efforts of all of our great volunteers, especially at our shows. We have plenty of other opportunities to volunteer in the electorate and plenty of other volunteers who participate through the likes of Kup of Kindness and of course Vinnies. Across the board they are an important part of our state.