



Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

Record of Proceedings, 26 June 2026

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

**REVENUE (COST OF LIVING RELIEF LOCKED-IN LAW) AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (2.19 pm): I rise to address the cognate debate on the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2026, the Appropriation Bill 2026 and the Revenue (Cost of Living Relief Locked-in Law) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. This state budget strengthens the foundations of the fresh start Queenslanders voted for in 2024. When Queenslanders elected the Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government they elected a government focused on the fundamentals, a government focused on responsible financial management, practical cost-of-living relief, safer communities, stronger health services and a clear plan for Queensland's future, and that is exactly what this state budget delivers. Importantly, it does so without introducing a single new or increased tax.

At a time when many Queensland families continue to face cost-of-living pressures, this state budget delivers practical support where it is needed most. It delivers a \$700 million increase in cost-of-living relief, increases the Back to School Boost by 50 per cent to \$150 per primary school student, locks in Play On! sports vouchers and, importantly, it permanently locks in the LNP's 50-cent fares into law. Queenslanders know Labor treated 50-cent fares as little more than a pre-election sugar hit. In fact, Labor spent more on advertising the trial than planning for its long-term future. The reality is that Labor never funded the scheme beyond the trial period. In contrast, the Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government is permanently locking 50-cent fares into law, ensuring Queensland families can continue to rely on affordable public transport and preventing any future Labor government from hiking fares when households are already facing cost-of-living pressures. In my electorate of Moggill, under the LNP's permanent 50-cent fares residents commuting five days a week are saving more than \$1,630 a year, and that is genuine cost-of-living relief.

This state budget also continues the Crisafulli LNP state government's commitment to delivering the health services Queenslanders rely upon. This budget delivers a record \$35.5 billion health budget, providing more free health care than ever before through additional health workers, more ambulances, expanded health services and the continued delivery of our Hospital Rescue Plan. Across Queensland that means new and expanded hospitals and thousands of additional beds to help ensure Queenslanders can access health care when and where they need it. For residents across the electorate of Moggill, particularly those living in Mount Crosby, Karana Downs and surrounding areas such as Chuwar, Karalee and Barellan Point, one of the most significant aspects of that investment is the continued expansion of the Ipswich Hospital under the Liberal National Party state government. Through the Liberal National Party's Hospital Rescue Plan, we are delivering a new multistorey car park and a new 200-bed acute clinical services building at Ipswich Hospital, significantly expanding

healthcare capacity and improving access to services for local patients and families. This investment will benefit communities right across the western corridor and demonstrates our commitment to strengthening frontline healthcare services for the future.

Whilst these statewide measures are important, what matters most to local residents is whether governments actually deliver on the commitments they make. For residents across the electorate of Moggill, this state budget demonstrates that the commitments made before the 2024 state election were commitments we intended to keep. Before the election I said the LNP would be a government of action, I said we would take our commitment seriously and I said the Liberal National Party would deliver for the western suburbs of Brisbane. This state budget delivers and demonstrates exactly that.

It has been terrific to visit local sporting clubs, community organisations, environmental groups and volunteer organisations and see firsthand the positive impact that the delivery of our commitments is bringing to our local community. Whether it is the thousands of native trees now being planted through revegetation projects such as those undertaken by the Kholo Creek Catchment Group and the Pullen Pullen Catchment Group, the fantastic new barbeque trailer now in use at the Moggill Football Club, the significant investments supporting improvements at our local horse and pony clubs, the excellent new facilities and the refurbishments being undertaken through our \$150,000 investment at the Brookfield Showgrounds or the stunning new commercial kitchen and equipment at the Mount Crosby Bowls Club, these projects are making a real difference in our local communities. These are practical investments that strengthen our community organisations, support volunteers and improve the facilities that local residents use every day. Importantly, they form part of the more than \$1.3 million already allocated by the Crisafulli LNP state government to local sporting clubs, environmental organisations, volunteer groups and community facilities across the electorate of Moggill.

This state budget also continues delivery of the significant commitments we made to local residents in the electorate of Moggill. We are continuing to progress the integrated road and public transport plan for the western suburbs of Brisbane. For too long local residents have experienced increasing congestion, pressure on local roads and a lack of coordinated, long-term transport planning. The Crisafulli LNP state government is changing that. Community consultation has been extensive and local residents have embraced the opportunity to help shape future transport priorities for our region.

We are also continuing delivery of our \$75 million commitment to improve safety and address the congestion at the Kenmore roundabout and Our Lady of the Rosary intersection. This remains one of the most important transport projects for the western suburbs, and local residents can be confident that this commitment remains firmly on track. We are also progressing the extension of the 444 bus service to the Moggill District Sports Park alongside delivery of a dedicated pathway connection to improve accessibility and safety for local residents. The Crisafulli LNP state government is also progressing planning and delivery of active transport improvements at the Moggill Road and Moordale Street intersection in Chapel Hill. This is a significant project that I have been advocating for.

We are also progressing education and school infrastructure, which remains a key priority. We are already delivering a multimillion dollar investment at Kenmore State High School including the delivery of a new outdoor learning area. There is significant money allocated in this budget in relation to maintenance and improvement works across local schools. This budget also supports ongoing work with respect to the delivery of a community and neighbourhood centre for the electorate of Moggill. This will certainly provide additional opportunities for community connection with services and community organisations for residents right across the electorate of Moggill.

From cost-of-living relief and health care through to transport infrastructure, school upgrades, community facilities and support for local organisations, this budget demonstrates that the Crisafulli LNP state government is delivering on the commitments we made to local residents. It is a state budget that delivers practical outcomes today while planning responsibly for the future.

Earlier I heard the member for Ipswich West reference the Mount Crosby and Warrego Highway interchange. It is important that we put some facts on the table in relation to that interchange. This project was promised by Labor for \$277 million, funded 50-50 between the state and federal governments. The Crisafulli LNP state government revealed in March 2025 that the budget had blown out to nearly \$500 million because of Labor's failures when in government. Labor's inability to adequately fund this project and manage the planning has resulted in a significant unfunded cost blowout which impacts the ability to deliver this project in line with the original timeframe. Planning remains ongoing to determine the final cost, which will then inform decision-making and determine appropriate future procurement and construction milestones for the delivery of the project. Final construction scope, timeline and budget are subject to approval of the project's obligations under the EPBC Act by the federal government and further budget discussions with the Albanese federal government.

If the member for Ipswich West and the opposition actually understood the project they would know that it was their failures in government—their failures to work with the federal Albanese government, their failures to plan—that caused delays with respect to this project. It is related to the inability of the former state government and the federal Albanese government to get their act together. That is the simple reality of it. Those are the facts when it comes to that project.

In the meantime work is continuing on the Warrego Highway including on the Bremer River bridge strengthening works, which are happening on the ground right now despite Labor's neglect and inaction during their time in government. That is simply the case. The people of Queensland know the failures of the former Labor government here in Queensland, of the Palaszczuk and Miles Labor government. They know of their failures to deliver projects on time and on budget. They know that is the case.

Ms Grace interjected.

Dr ROWAN: What the member for Ipswich West and many of those members opposite, including the member for McConnell, whom I can hear interjecting, need to do is get on to the federal Albanese government; they need to get onto Shayne Neumann, the federal member for Blair, and actually do the heavy lifting and the hard work and fund these projects properly.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Since coming to Government, the Crisafulli LNP State Government has been focused on delivering practical outcomes in the areas that matter most to Queenslanders, including cost of living relief, community safety, health, housing, education and infrastructure.

This State Budget continues that work.

It strengthens the foundations of the Fresh Start Queenslanders voted for in 2024 and demonstrates that responsible financial management and strong service delivery can go hand in hand.

Importantly, it continues budget repair while maintaining lower debt, reducing deficits and returning the Budget to surplus, all while delivering these outcomes without introducing any new or increased taxes.

At a time when Queensland families continue to face affordability pressures, this Budget delivers the largest ongoing cost of living relief package in Queensland's history.

Nearly \$9.3 billion in cost of living support will be delivered in 2026-27 alone.

In addition to permanent 50 cent fares, the increased Back to School Boost and Play On! Sports Vouchers, the Budget increases support through electricity rebates, freezes South East Queensland bulk water prices for two years, expands free kindergarten health checks and extends the boosted First Home Owner Grant.

These are practical measures designed to support Queensland families and strengthen household budgets.

This Budget also continues the Crisafulli LNP State Government's commitment to making Queensland safer.

Queenslanders voted for stronger laws, greater accountability and a renewed focus on community safety.

The Government has responded through initiatives including Adult Crime, Adult Time, Daniel's Law, stronger youth justice measures, increased support for victims and additional investment in frontline policing.

The Budget builds on those reforms through a \$7.2 billion investment in community safety, including more police, better resourced courts, targeted early intervention programs, domestic and family violence initiatives, child safety reforms and greater support for victims of crime.

The Budget also delivers significant investment in child safety through the Keeping Our Kids Safe package, implementation of the In Plain Sight recommendations and establishment of a new Queensland Protection Commission.

The Budget also delivers significant investment in housing and supporting more Queenslanders into home ownership.

A total of \$12.3 billion is being invested to unlock more land for homes, support social and community housing, assist first home buyers and support Queenslanders at risk of homelessness.

This includes continued investment through the Residential Activation Fund, the Infrastructure Activation Fund, the Boost to Buy program and a record pipeline of social and affordable housing.

Queensland's future prosperity also depends upon investing in the infrastructure needed to support future generations.

That is why this State Budget delivers a record \$119.2 billion capital program over four years.

This investment will support transport, health, education, energy and water infrastructure across Queensland while helping create jobs and strengthen economic growth.

For local residents, this broader investment complements the delivery already underway across the electorate of Moggill.

Whether through transport planning, school infrastructure, community facilities, environmental restoration projects or sporting infrastructure, the focus remains on delivering practical outcomes while planning responsibly for the future.

As Assistant Minister to the Premier and Leader of the House, I also wish to acknowledge the appropriation of just over \$154.8 million for the 2026-27 financial year to support the ongoing operations of the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service.

The Parliament of Queensland remains one of our State's most important democratic institutions.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the Speaker, the Clerk of the Parliament and all members of the Parliamentary Service for their professionalism, and invaluable contribution to the effective operation of this House.

The work that is undertaken by the Queensland Parliamentary Service is fundamental to the functioning of representative democracy here in Queensland, and I wish to extend my appreciation for their work.

In my capacity as Assistant Minister to the Premier and Leader of the House, I also have the privilege of engaging with many Queenslanders, community organisations and service groups across our State, including those within Queensland's veterans and defence community.

I am particularly proud of the Crisafulli LNP State Government's continued support for veterans and their families through practical initiatives, including the Honouring our Veterans Program.

Queensland's veterans and broader defence community have made a remarkable contribution to our State and our nation, and it is important that governments continue to recognise that service and support their ongoing wellbeing.

In that regard, I particularly would like to acknowledge Air Vice-Marshal Professor Hugh Bartholomeusz OAM RFD Retd, Chairman of the Reserve Forces Day Committee and the Australian Air Force Cadets National Council.

I congratulate him, the organising committee and all participants on an outstanding Reserve Forces Day Parade and Recognition Ceremony held in Brisbane on Sunday.

The event was a fitting recognition of the service and sacrifice of Australia's Reservists and highlighted the ongoing contribution of veterans, serving personnel and cadets to our community.

The 2026-27 State Budget strengthens the foundations of the Fresh Start Queenslanders voted for.

It delivers practical cost of living relief.

It invests in health, housing, education and infrastructure.

It continues the task of making Queensland safer.

It supports local communities, and it demonstrates that the Crisafulli LNP State Government is keeping its promises.

For the electorate of Moggill, it means continued delivery of commitments, continued investment in local priorities and continued planning for the future.

Most importantly, it means a Government that is listening to local communities, and delivering practical outcomes where they are needed most.

I commend the Bills to the House.