




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 3 March 2026

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Weather Events, Recovery

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (10.05 am): To start the year, Queenslanders across the north, north-west and central regions of our state have experienced widespread and damaging flooding. Properties and pasture land in towns like Clermont, Einasleigh and Rockhampton have been impacted, with communities from Burketown to Birdsville suffering isolation. Right now, large parts of the south-west are preparing for further river rises as large amounts of water flow through the Georgina River and Eyre Creek.

We have seen our emergency services crews assisting people right across the state. Overnight we have seen Queensland's LifeFlight helicopter assist in rescues across the border in South Australia and Northern Territory. There are those who say that Queensland hospitals are for Queenslanders; well, I say that Queensland helicopters are for Australians in their hour of need. We want to thank those heroes for responding. The water will be welcomed by most graziers and tourism operators in the long term, but the challenges with lengthy isolations for many weeks will be met with a diligent response by our government.

The state is bracing for another monsoon trough and two tropical lows which are forecast to develop further in the coming days. While we continue to work on recovery and responding to a vast flooding event, we again must start to prepare. With so much of the state saturated, floodwater could rise quickly if another rain event eventuates. We have pre-positioned assets throughout regional Queensland, and we will respond in whatever way is required. I am really grateful for our police, emergency services, utilities workers, council staff, business owners, neighbours and graziers who continue to work together through these disasters and who are now turning their eye to the next. They show us that during a disaster you can count on a Queenslanders.