

Question on Notice

No. 983

Asked on 22 August 2024

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND MINISTER FOR PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON Y D'ATH)

QUESTION:

Will the Attorney-General provide an update on what the Queensland Government is doing to resolve the issues at Couran Cove after 77 weeks without utility services?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the further question about Couran Cove.

As previously advised, the Queensland Government coordinated on the ground support and assistance for residents, providing drinking water, food and fuel vouchers, and referrals to financial counselling, housing support, and mental health services.

Queensland Government agencies will continue to respond to issues arising at Couran Cove that fall within their respective regulatory responsibilities, including in relation to public health, safety, and environmental concerns.

In addition, the Government improved laws applying to developments like Couran Cove by enacting the *Building Units and Group Titles and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022* (BUGTOLA Act). The amendments made body corporate governance more transparent and fairer for unit owners in relevant developments, including through measures to prevent conflicts of interest tainting body corporate decision-making.

The Government also invested increased funding of \$2.455 million over three years to implement the reforms contained in the BUGTOLA Act, which included new information and education services for unit owners in bodies corporate operating under relevant legislation.

In regard to resolving the issues at Couran Cove, it would not be appropriate for the Government to directly intervene in disputes regarding the resort and associated development or to provide legal advice to the parties, including where those disputes are subject to proceedings in the courts or independent dispute resolution processes. I continue to encourage anyone with ongoing legal issues at Couran Cove to seek independent legal advice about their rights, responsibilities, and dispute resolution options.