




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR THEODORE

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ADJOURNMENT

Theodore Electorate, Bushfire Preparedness

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (6.22 pm): As I have said to many people many times in this chamber, the Theodore electorate is nestled in the green emerald hills of the Gold Coast. In regards to recent media articles, similar to the speech of the member for Cooper, I want to talk about the upcoming bushfire season. Over the last few years, we have had extensive rainfall which has created an enormous amount of vegetation in my region, especially in the western regions of the electorate along the Tamborine Mountain and Guanaba-Wongawallan areas. This vegetation certainly is a danger, especially when it is drying out. During our current season, we have not had any decent rain since late last year and the situation is becoming very precarious.

I want to thank the City of Gold Coast for holding an information seminar at the Coomera Valley rural fire brigade recently. Unfortunately, not many people were able to attend this information seminar, but some very good information was delivered on what people can do in regards to fire management on their properties. The rural fire brigade officers gave some good tips and advice. One matter I am concerned about, though, is there was some information which was handed out which cannot be found on the internet but which is very good information to disseminate to residents in my electorate on vegetation clearing under fire management laws. It is a quick cheat sheet, and I will table that for the information of the House.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Vegetation clearing—fire management' [1665](#).

Also, to add confusion to the situation we face, City of Gold Coast and other councils have local laws when it comes to vegetation clearing and vegetation management, some of which contradict state vegetation management laws. That is creating a fair bit of confusion for a lot of my constituents.

On another topic, our bushfire condition signs, unfortunately, have been removed. A lot of residents see them as a subtle reminder of what the bushfire conditions are for the area. They are not only for the benefit of local residents but also for tourists travelling through the area. Here is an example: Maudsland Road near Guanaba Creek Road used to have one of these signs. About 7,000 vehicles per day, according to the Department of Transport and Main Roads, would travel past that sign. There was a sign on Tamborine-Oxenford Road around Kreiderman Road which was also removed. The closest vehicle count was carried out a couple of kilometres away, but we are looking at about 10,000 cars per day. That is 17,000 cars per day which would drive past these signs. They are a subtle reminder to drivers of the bushfire conditions for the area. We ask the minister to please reinstate these signs because they are a good information source for my residents.