



Speech By
Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Gold Coast Commonwealth Games

 **Mrs STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (2.00 pm): Last night during the adjournment debate I said I had written to the minister requesting the donation of some temporary seating for a couple of my schools and sporting clubs as a legacy post the Commonwealth Games. I would like to thank the minister's office for a prompt reply which stated, 'Through our sports asset legacy program a number of schools and sporting clubs will receive sporting equipment—including sports benches—following the games.' I hope that Currumbin will benefit from this program as we are facing considerable disruption to a large area of our electorate. I have asked to be advised of facilities in my electorate that will be receiving these items.

Again today my office dealt with more distressed residents. One resident who catches the train to Brisbane for work has just been informed he will not be able to park at Varsity Lakes train station for the duration of the games and was told to travel to Robina. However, some days even that is closed. The resident said—

This has to be one of the most short-sighted and ill-conceived ideas. The solution to get more cars off the road is to use public transport but you can't park your car at the location of the public transport.

'Instead now I need to drive further north adding to the cars on the road to fight it out with others in the same situation with reduced availability and reduced days.

It is only 27 days to go and we have got to get this right. Honourable members should spare a thought for families. There are 14 childcare centres in total across the electorate. Six centres are impacted directly by the cycling route, affecting 425 families. No vacation care is being offered during the school holidays by Camp Australia, which means their Currumbin and Tallebudgera sites will be shut for the duration of the games.

Centres have also been told by the department that in relation to those children who are anaphylactic or pose a potential emergency situation, such as epilepsy or similar, they should encourage those families to stay home, based on the unknown reliability of emergency closures and road closures. The department has reminded operators that they must remain compliant at all times with regard to staff-to-child ratios so they are to be mindful that if a staff member cannot get to work due to road closures families will need to be turned away if staff numbers are not adequate.

One centre was advised by a Get Set for the Games team member that maybe they should look to meet families at 5 am at entrance points and walk the children to the centre. This would involve massive amounts of paperwork including risk assessments, excursion permission forms and increased staff numbers. Of course, children would then have to remain at the centre until 7 pm, which is over 14 hours—not best practice.

As I have said previously, we want the games to be brilliant, but we deserve to receive some tangible legacy items once the games are finished because we are facing significant challenges and are having to make changes that are causing considerable angst and effort for the good people of Currumbin.