

# Sandy Bolton MP

## Independent Member for Noosa

Our Voice.  
Our Noosa.  
Our Future.



## December 2025 Newsletter #86

Can you believe it is only six sleeps until Santa arrives? This year has flown, and these past two months have been especially full, from responding to our storms to the final sitting weeks of Parliament, alongside the many wonderful Christmas events across our communities. As we wrap up 2025, we give gratitude to everyone for another fantastic year and the incredible efforts that make our home so special. We also remind all residents to not be labelled a 'silent majority' by completing our Noosa MP Community Survey, which helps shape Noosa's priorities, advocacy and voting in the year ahead. It takes just 15 minutes at <https://bit.ly/NoosaMPCommunitySurvey> or by calling for a hard copy on 53193100 when we return on 5 January!



Santa's Classy Helpers 2025



SES 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Energex Crews getting power back on!



With Police Inspector John

## Hot Issues

**November Storms & Disaster Relief** – which left many without power, and in some cases water for days, were a stark reminder that we are now well into storm season. With more than 89,000 properties affected across South East Queensland, Energex crews worked around the clock to restore supply, while telecommunications outages left some residents unable to seek assistance. Many in our electorate experienced significant hardship and we raised concerns with the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) and the Minister to address these going forward, including regarding the state disaster recovery assistance grants. A reminder for anyone that experienced hardship including loss of freezer goods, you may be eligible for support with some grant applications closing on 23 December 2025, at [www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/disasters](http://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/disasters).

**E-bikes & E-scooters** - Following a QPS audit showing most devices were non-compliant, Sunshine Beach, Noosa District and Coolum State High Schools will ban e-bikes and e-scooters from 2026. We understand this difficult decision comes after extensive work by schools, QPS and TMR to address unsafe behaviour, and repeated requests for parental support. We continue advocating for stronger enforcement while awaiting the outcomes from the Parliamentary Inquiry into e-mobility safety, noting the ban may not affect behaviour before or after school, or on weekends. We have also written again to schools, State Government and Noosa Council to consider an e-tag program, like those successfully trialled in NSW. More information is available via [www.sandybolton.com/electric-bikes-and-scooters-update-november-2025/](http://www.sandybolton.com/electric-bikes-and-scooters-update-november-2025/)



Interview with Channel 7



Business of the Year: Noosa Black Garlic



Noosa 2032 Chamber Panel



Zonta Walk Against Violence

**Accommodation for First Responders** – Our local Police Inspector, John, sought our assistance to find six-month lease options for police, paramedics and firefighters, to ensure they can remain close to work while longer-term housing solutions are secured. With extra accommodations sought at the Noosa Heads Police Station site, we have submitted a Question on Notice to the Minister seeking clarity on the anticipated construction commencement date, and whether any subsidies are being provided to support temporary accommodation until permanent housing is available.

**Affordable Housing for Essential Workers** - We continue to seek any avenue to address genuine affordable housing, as well emergency and transitional accommodation as part of ending our workers sleeping ‘rough’ in their cars. This includes with the successful tenderer for the former House with No Steps site who has been supportive, and we have requested that state government assist in addressing the barriers presented or purchase a site that is suitable until housing projects currently in the pipeline are built. In addition to our callouts over the last two years for those with investment properties to head lease with our community housing providers, a plea was sent out to those who are short letting properties in traditional residential areas to make them available for long term tenants, as our businesses need workers to deliver services to our community.

**Sunshine Coast Airport** – Following the delivery of a new runway in 2020, Airservices Australia undertook a Post Implementation Review (PIR) to assess effectiveness and any environmental or community impacts. The review produced recommendations to reduce aircraft noise across the Sunshine Coast including Noosa and improve the information available to residents about flight activity. Airservices Australia have advised that community engagement is open on these, including potential changes to short and long flight paths, which may affect areas such as Marcus Beach, Castaways Beach, Lake Cooribah and Tinbeerwah. Residents are encouraged to provide feedback before 11 January 2026 with information available via [www.sandybolton.com/sc-flight-paths-update-november-2025/](http://www.sandybolton.com/sc-flight-paths-update-november-2025/)

## From the Chamber

**Democratic Inquiry** - Over 100 years ago, Queensland scrapped its Upper House, despite a majority of Queenslanders voting to keep it. This left us as the only state with just one chamber, and in Parliament I asked whether this has led to the deficits we see today such as less transparency, voter disengagement, mistrust in government, and Chamber rules that can silence and sideline communities. With reduced checks on the executive, reports are that we are in an ‘elective dictatorship,’ with a 2020 review finding that the committee system has not filled the gap needed. That’s why I’ve called for an inquiry, so Queenslanders can finally have their say on options to restore accountability, transparency and regional representation, whether that be a reintroduction of an upper house or other reforms. To read my speech, visit <https://bit.ly/497JCqQ>.



Noosa Bisphere Awards



Kin Kin 'Moby'

**Illegal Tobacco & Vapes** – Retailers supplying illegal smoking and vaping products are now the focus of strengthened laws giving Queensland Health greater powers, including doubling penalty closure periods, seizing stock and terminating leases. With vapes proven toxic, addictive and linked to seizures and cancers, reports that 87% of young people aged 14 to 17 said accessing illegal vapes is “easy” are alarming, especially following incidents of products laced with deadly nitazenes. From tobacco wars to youth vaping and retail firebombings, these harms are impacting our communities, and these reforms are an important step forward. To read my full speech, visit <https://bit.ly/3Mvm8TX>.

**Gambling Reform** – With Queenslanders losing more than \$6 billion to gambling each year, and one in three children aged 12 to 17 already engaging in the ‘bet’, stronger reforms are needed. This includes removing gambling advertising from public transport and addressing the risks of ‘groom games’ targeting young people. Governments should not promote or profit from gambling, nor should political parties or MPs receive donations from it, and I reiterated the need to end these contributions, as South Australia has done. We also acknowledged the Noosa Yacht and Rowing Club for their leadership removing all gambling activities from their premises, and Noosa Council in reviewing gambling on sites they manage. These are meaningful steps toward healthier, safer and happier community spaces.

**More Rushed Legislation** – We again saw the use of ‘urgency’ motions, allowing bills on major issues to be pushed through Parliament with limited debate. This included the Energy Roadmap bill, which abandons renewable targets, extends the life of ageing coal stations beyond 2042, and, through a last-minute amendment, scrapped a QLD owned renewable project, ending 10 years of planning, consultation and a \$25m investment. Health amendments were also expedited, with changes to Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART), where I had intended to again highlight the need for a national donor register and stronger regulation of private sperm donations arranged through social media. Rushing complex legislation leads to future amendments, and silencing Queenslanders and their representatives furthers the belief that our system is broken.

**Before & After Hours** – Amongst, was the celebration of 100 women elected to parliament, the Brisbane 2032 Leaders’ Reception on preparations for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and many catch ups! Whether with the Queensland Firebirds, Sunshine Coast Lightning and Queensland Suns, or the Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women’s network, which was a wonderful opportunity to reminisce! Good policy development for bipartisan agreements was the theme with the McKell Institute, and extra special was meeting the incredible Jade Sharp whose inspirational story had us in tears. In the last sitting, the sessions were plentiful, with Bicycle Queensland, World AIDs Day, UQ’s Productivity Showcase and the Down Syndrome and intellectual Disability Queensland Coffee Catch-up. What I especially loved was how many Noosans I encountered, including Holly who heads DFV Centre Against Domestic Abuse. Even though this year we did not get to light the Parliament Christmas tree, nor did I have time to get the usual festive pic, I thoroughly loved serving the exhausted parliamentary and ministerial staff at the Speaker’s End of Year Celebration.



Down Syndrome and Intellectual Disability Queensland



Meeting Coach Jade Sharp



With Sunshine Coast Lightning



@Bicycle Queensland



Rural Regional and Remote Women’s Network



Queensland Water Alliance



Remembrance Day March



With our Veterans



Sunshine Butterflies Xmas



@ Kin Kin State School



Cooran Organic Garden



With our frontliners

## On the Homefront

**Remembrance Day 2025** – The annual service at Tewantin was a moving tribute to all our service men and women who never returned home and those who came back carrying visible and invisible scars. It was a privilege to speak, release a peace dove and share deep gratitude with our veterans and their families. Heartfelt thanks to the Tewantin Noosa RSL Sub Branch team and all involved, as well current and former servicemen and women and frontliners for all that you have done and continue to do for us. We will always remember. Lest we forget.

**Christmas Galore** – What a season it has been so far! From Santa’s Classy Helpers supporting more than 650 families and 1,500 children with groceries, toys and fresh produce, through to festive catch ups with our business community at the combined Chambers ‘do’, Sunshine Butterflies and the Noosa Aquaticers at luncheons, and much treasured visits to our matriarchs and patriarchs in care. The Sunset Christmas Carols on Noosa Main Beach was magical, and as I said on Facebook, WOW! We are now prepping for this year’s Community Christmas Lunch with Salvos, Making Lives Matter and Chef Tony Crossin, which includes my famous, or infamous, punch!

**Awards for Noosans!** – How fabulous! Our businesses shone at the Sunshine Coast Business Awards with Noosa Black Garlic named Business of the Year, with Noosa Junction Chiros, Gregson and Weight, Eastwell Farms, Laguna Pest Control, Helitak and Thirlestane Farm taking out their categories, huge congratulations to all! The Noosa Biosphere Awards paid tribute to the late Dr Jane Goodall, and celebrated Environmental Stewards Chaka Wood and Paul Ryan, as well Zero Emissions Noosa, Plastic Free Noosa and Eastwell Farms again!

**Mobile Offices** – We headed out to Kin Kin to set up shop at the monthly markets, sharing important information with residents, particularly around the November storms and the disaster grants available. The Community Recovery team was also on hand to assist people with navigating applications and understanding eligibility. We also made it out to Cooran to catch up with local business owners and share information on the latest business grants and supports. This included the Business Growth Fund Program, which provides direct financial support for small and family businesses to purchase equipment to help them grow, and the Secure Communities Partnership Program, which assists businesses to install safety measures such as cameras to deter crime and create safer business areas. For more information on these grants, visit <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/>

**Events Abound** - From heartfelt gatherings including Zonta’s 2025 Walk Against Violence, to celebrations for Noosans such as Di and Doug for their 15 years of service to our environment and our local State Emergency Service (SES) unit for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of these selfless volunteers in Queensland. The Noosa Chamber of Commerce hosted a panel discussion on the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Noosa & District Landcare showed us all the awesome work they accomplished this year at their AGM. And that is just a sample of the incredible volume of events held monthly as part of sharing, caring and informing, we are so blessed.



Noosa Aqua Group Xmas



Presenting Alexandre with his English Award

**Country Noosa 'Roadie'** – The Kin Kin Community House was the venue for our update on issues relevant to 'KKers', including the maintenance on Pomona Kin Kin Road and upcoming upgrades, and the morning tea was divine! Then over to Kin Kin State School to deliver a Queensland flag, and great fun with the students when hoisting it into position! The drop into Cooran Organic Garden saw some get a bit of a sprinkle when I tested their new irrigation system via our Noosa MP Community Grants, and we were in awe of the delicious fresh produce being grown. We had a ball catching up with everyone, how I love our beautiful countryside and all within.

**Graduations** – Due to being in Parliament sadly I missed our highschoolers this year, however I deeply appreciated presenting awards to the Year Sixers at Tewantin and Noosaville State Schools. To listen to their highlights and watch their joy as they embark on their next journey is treasured, and I send our gratitude to parents, teachers and carers for these amazing youngsters.

## And Finally...

With only six sleeps until the big day there are understandably mixed emotions given the Bondi tragedy as how can we celebrate when so many are grieving? As I have said to residents, it is important during these times to support one another, and keep committing to ending violence in our world, whether outside or inside our homes. There is no shame in finding joy over the coming days, giving gratitude to all who are providing protection and care to victims and their loved ones, and to the beautiful people around us.

Due to James's retirement, and Dylan defecting to Canberra (lol) we have two new staffers, Gerry and Kim who are absolutely amazing, so if you are going past drop in and welcome them before we close for the break this Friday! And if for any reason you missed our 2025 Connect in your 'snail' mailboxes, copies are available on the counter with the digital version at [www.sandybolton.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/CONNECT-2025-digital-Sandy-Bolton.pdf](http://www.sandybolton.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/CONNECT-2025-digital-Sandy-Bolton.pdf)

A reminder that calls and emails to [noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au) will be responded to as quickly as possible when we return on January 5, and keep our key contacts list handy for emergencies. Everyone, please have a wonderful festive season, and I look forward to seeing you over the break across our wonderful community for a special Santa hug!

Merry, merry Christmas and may the New Year be everything you wish for!

Sandy 🙋  
Independent Member for Noosa  
Our Voice. Our Noosa. Our Future



With our care residents



Noosa Main Beach Carols



Staff Secret Santa

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## KEY CONTACTS

<b>Emergency</b>			
Cooroy Police Station	5442 5030	Suicide call back service	1300 659 467
Crimestoppers	1800 333 000	Women's Health QLD	1800 017 676
Emergency Services	000	<b>General Support</b>	
Lifeline	13 11 14	Animal Welfare League Qld	5509 9000
Noosa Police Station	5440 8111	Australian Red Cross	1300 885 698
Pomona Police Station	5485 2586	Child and Family Services	1800 177 135
Policelink	131 444	Child Safety	1300 703 921
State Emergency Services	132 500	Good Shepherd	1300 050 150
<b>Housing &amp; DFV Support</b>		Making Lives Matter	5238 8181
Better Together Housing	0427 465 148	National Debt Helpline	1800 007 007
Caloundra House		Pomona & District Community House	07 5485 2427
(NDIS focused, no children)	3517 0166	RSPCA Pet in Crisis Program	07 3426 9999
Centacare	1300 236 822	Salvos Mates Support	0423 317 375
Community Action Inc		St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland	1800 846 643
Gympie	5482 6188	The Hub Food Outlet	5449 9658
DVConnect – men's line	1800 600 636	The Salvation Army	07 3001 6288
DVConnect – women's line	1800 811 811	Waves of Kindness Care Centre	0499091352
Homeless Hotline	1800 474 753	<b>Seniors</b>	
IFYS Limited (Youth)	5438 3000	Elder Abuse Hotline	1300 651 192
Kybara Community Association Inc	5441 3837	Seniors Card QLD	137 468
Maroochydore Housing Service Centre (Dept of Housing)	5352 7333	Seniors Enquiry Line	1300 135 500
Pomona Community House	5485 2427	U3A Noosa	5440 5500
SunnyKids – 07 5479 0394		<b>Legal</b>	
The Salvation Army Supported Accommodation Service		Community Legal Centres	02 9160 9500
Sunshine Coast (Nambour)	5447 1184	Legal Aid QLD	5433 6200
Youturn Youth Services	5442 4277	LGBTI Legal Services	3124 7160
<b>Health Support</b>		Public Trustee of Queensland	1300 360 044
1800Respect	1800 737 732	Queensland Ombudsman	1800 068 908
Alcoholics Anonymous Australia	1300 222 222	Suncoast Community Legal Service	5376 7800
Blue Care	1300 258 322	Women's Legal Service Qld	1800 957 957
Blueknot	1300 657 380	Youth Law Australia	1800 950 570
Carramar - Aged Care Tewantin	5449 8799	<b>Noosa River</b>	
Head to Health	1800 595 212	Australian Maritime Safety Authority	1800 627 484
Headspace	5409 4900	Coast Guard Noosa QF5	5474 3695
Katie Rose Hospice	5471 1468	Fishwatch Hotline	1800 017 116
Lives Lived Well	1300 727 957	Maritime Safety QLD	5373 2310
Medicines Line	1300 633 424	QLD Boating and Fisheries	5449 7555
Mensline Australia	1300 789 978	<b>Energy and Water</b>	
Mental Health Carer		Engerex	13 12 53
Arafmi QLD	1800 554 660	Energy and Water Ombudsman	1800 662 837
Mental Health Access Line	1300 642 255	Unitywater	1300 086 48
Narcotics Anonymous Australia	1300 652 820	<b>Federal</b>	
Alcohol and Other Drug Hotline	1800 250 015	Fairfax - Ted O'Brien	5479 2800
National Home Doctor	13 74 25	Wide Bay - Llew O'Brien	4121 2936
Noosa Community Health Centre	07 5449 5944	<b>Noosa Shire Council</b>	
Noosa Hospital	5455 9200	General Enquiries	5329 6500
Ozcare – Aged Care Tewantin	1800 692 273	<b>Other Services</b>	
Parent line	1300 301 300	QPWS (National Parks)	13 74 68
Poisons Information	131 126	Noosa District Animal Hospital 24/7	5473 0004
QLD Health	13 43 25 84	Sippy Creek Animal Pound	5494 5275
Quitline	13 78 48	State Roads (Urgent Issues)	13 19 40
Sexual Assault Helpline	1800 010 120	Translink	13 12 30
StandBy	1300 727 247	Wildlife Noosa	0419 046 999
		Wildlife Volunteers Association Inc	07 5441 6200