



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PROOF

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Buderim Foundation

SPEECH

Tuesday, 12 September 2017

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

Date	Tuesday, 12 September 2017	Source	House
Page	19	Proof	Yes
Questioner		Responder	
Speaker	O'Brien, Ted, MP	Question No.	

Mr TED O'BRIEN (Fairfax) (13:41): I'm concerned that in recent decades we've seen a gradual erosion of civil society, at a time when community has become, unfortunately, increasingly reliant on government. We know that, post GFC, government budgets right across the Western world are under continuous strain, and, as a result, we risk people falling through the cracks. I believe that we do need to rebuild civil society in Australia.

To that end, I want to make mention of the Buderim Foundation. This foundation is a community philanthropic not-for-profit up in my seat of Fairfax on Queensland's Sunshine Coast. Its operating model is simply this: it receives donations and bequests; it invests those funds, generating income; it then takes that income and redistributes it to needy not-for-profit groups in the community.

We need to take inspiration from this group that now has \$1.4 million under management and has distributed nearly half a million dollars. Only last Saturday, it distributed \$65,000 to 17 different not-for-profit organisations. The erosion of civil society can indeed be addressed.