

WINEVVS

Accused stalker of female MP let into Parliament not a risk, Cairns MP Rob Pyne says

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Cairns MP Rob Pyne has defended inviting a man who has been charged with stalking a female MP into Queensland Parliament, saying the man was not a risk and his behaviour was "exemplary".

On Tuesday, the independent MP signed in as a guest a man charged with stalking Keppel MP Brittany Lauga.

Speaker of Queensland Parliament Peter Wellington told the house yesterday the man was left unattended and posed a risk to Ms Lauga.

Mr Wellington has referred Mr Pyne to the ethics committee over the incident.

"I again make it very clear that breaches of our security procedures are a very grave matter because of the risk it poses to members and all staff," he told Parliament.

"I am currently investigating the matters that arose yesterday in more depth."

Mr Pyne denies he knew about the allegations, despite posting about it on social media last month.

He said today that the allegations against the man were false.

In a statement, he said he was advised that the Supreme Court and the Queensland Police Service did not believe the man was a risk to Ms Lauga.

"I must say that of all the guests I have had to Parliament House none have been better behaved," he said.

"I found his behaviour to be exemplary."

Ms Lauga said the Speaker was addressing the issue.

"There's been security breaches in the past so you know I think we'll see what happens as a result of the latest matter," she said.

"I think that when it comes to security at Parliament House ... it's a place of the people but we also do need to make sure that when people visit Parliament House ... the staff who work here and the members of Parliament are safe when they're there."

The lawyer for the man invited to Parliament said he was there for a legitimate reason.

Mr Wellington warned all MPs must comply with the rules, which require guests to be accompanied at all times by a parliamentary cardholder.

"In the world in which we live, the failure to follow security procedures is not acceptable," he said.

"I will consider forwarding any breaches to the Ethics Committee for its consideration.



PHOTO: Mr Pyne said the man's behaviour was "exemplary". (AAP: Dan Peled)



PHOTO: Brittany Lauga is the Labor MP for Keppel. (Facebook: Brittany Lauga)

"I may also stop particular members who are in breach from bringing in guests to Parliament for a period of time."

He was also unhappy that correspondence about the incident was sent to the media.

Topics: state-parliament, parliament, government-and-politics, states-and-territories, law-crime-and-justice, crime, brisbane-4000, qld, australia

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PHOTO: Peter Wellington said tabled documents should not contain words that if spoken would offend.