



Speech by

Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard Wednesday, 2 September 2009

INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN QUEENSLAND GREEN PAPER

Mr BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (11.51 am): I rise to address the House this morning with great disappointment. On Wednesday, 26 August 2009 the Attorney-General held a forum at the Innovation Centre at the University of the Sunshine Coast to discuss the *Integrity and accountability in Queensland* green paper released by the Bligh government. The Bligh government has boasted about being 'open and accountable', but this government does not even come close. This government is all about cover-up and propaganda.

Imagine my surprise when the local media rang me the day before the forum asking whether I was going to be contributing to the open forum, to which I answered that I had no idea about the forum. When I became aware of the open forum, I telephoned the Attorney's office and was advised that invitations had been sent out to local businesses and other stakeholders. I note that an invitation did arrive at the Independent member for Nicklin's office but not to opposition members on the Sunshine Coast.

The Premier stated in the Premier's foreword in the discussion paper that she wants 'all Queenslanders to feel they have access to, and are part of, a healthy democracy in this state'. The Premier previously addressed this House saying that she is 'absolutely confident that there are people' in Queensland 'who will be interested in putting forward their ideas'. She knows that 'this is an issue that Queenslanders have strong views on and it is time ... for a broad-ranging discussion'.

I put it to the House that if the Premier wants open and broad-ranging discussion then wouldn't the government have an open and accountable forum? Wouldn't all members of political persuasions be invited because isn't that what we are elected for in this place—to represent our community? To have the disrespect to not even invite LNP members to an open public forum is nothing but dishonest, nothing but incompetent and completely unaccountable.

(Time expired)