



Speech by

Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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SUNSHINE COAST HOSPITAL

Mr BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (11.57 am): Last Sunday, 8 November, up to 2,000 Sunshine Coast residents marched en masse to protest at this government's decision to delay the Sunshine Coast Hospital. The outraged residents used the catchcry of 'Hospital delay, no way', to demonstrate their reaction to this government's lack of commitment and planning for the Sunshine Coast. The feeling of disgust towards the Bligh government was obvious.

The bipartisan rally included health professionals, business operators, union members, returned servicemen, grandparents, mums and dads, children and even a couple of poodles, but I note the Deputy Premier and the Premier could not turn up. While the crowd was diverse, the message was not. The people of the Sunshine Coast have had enough of this government and its arrogance in not listening to the people. Instead of making the tough decisions, when will the Premier and this government make the right ones?

What was the response from the government to the message from the Sunshine Coast? To reannounce that planning for the Sunshine Coast Hospital is underway. Deputy Premier Lucas said that Conrad Gargett will undertake detailed site master planning of the new hospital and surrounding health campus, with master planning work now underway. Deputy Premier, did we forget to check the file on the hospital, did Robertson forget to hand the file over, or did we forget to take a look at the government's own website detailing the project?

The master plan was already done. It was done in 2007. Is the government wasting more taxpayers' dollars on a master plan that has already been done, or are the original plans for the hospital now off the table? Either way it is more spin and no substance—broken promise after broken promise. If Guinness had a record for broken promises by an elected government, this one would have smashed it.

The government went to the election in March this year and said that the decision to build the Sunshine Coast University Hospital was locked in gold, yet two months later we had a complete backflip. The people on the Sunshine Coast have had enough of this government and its continued arrogance in this place. The Deputy Premier may attack me personally in this place. He may shamefully in this place attack the local community groups, but take this message: we will not go away. We will not let the government forget this decision, and we will keep fighting until the government honours its commitment to the good people of the Sunshine Coast and builds this hospital.

(Time expired)