



Speech by

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SERVICE DELIVERY

Mr LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.32 am): This morning in question time we heard confirmation again from the state government about its inability to plan, build and deliver services. In the area of health today we heard the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health use a smorgasbord of abuse. Every time he was asked a question he looked for someone to blame. We had blame attributed to the Howard government, which fulfilled every aspect of the financial requirements of the healthcare agreement that it negotiated with Peter Beattie, the then Premier. He was dragged kicking and screaming to provide more healthcare funding after the Bundaberg crisis. That is why this government then increased spending and said that the federal government should do the same. It had in good faith negotiated its healthcare agreement with the then federal government.

Then the Deputy Premier turned his attention to his parliamentary colleague the member for Stretton, the Minister for Natural Resources. The Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, acknowledged in November 2007 that this state government was failing and that is why he was looking to take over public hospital health services. Clearly, this state government has failed to plan, has failed to build and is desperately trying to spend about 50 per cent of what the entire Beattie government spent in its term of government. It is now trying to build to play catch-up. That is why we have ambulance ramping instead of hospital beds.

The Deputy Premier had a go at Minister Stephen Robertson, the member for Stretton, who has moved on to another portfolio—that is, Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. What do we see there? The 19th and the 20th centuries were the centuries of electricity. But now the Minister for Natural Resources is saying that to save money for infrastructure spending people who build pools and use pool filters will have to use off-peak power to clean their pools.

This government stripped billions of dollars from the electricity sector in terms of dividends. Now it is going to make sure that pool owners in this state—a resource-rich state—cannot use their pool filters the way they should be and they have been able to in the past. It is an indictment on this government.