



Speech by

## John-Paul Langbroek

**MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE**

Hansard Wednesday, 10 February 2010

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### **BLIGH LABOR GOVERNMENT**

**Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.31 am): In light of what has happened in this parliament yesterday and today, it is obvious that minister after minister and the executive have no idea about Westminster responsibility of ministers. Clearly, more and more ministers think that coming in here and performing is more important than answering responsible questions about their portfolios. We saw that yesterday with a bumbling performance by the Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Sport, and we saw it again today with the Minister for Transport. Clearly, these ministers are being sidelined by the Premier. It is obvious that previous ministers have been sidelined as well. It is fairly obvious that even Terry Mackenroth, a former Treasurer, is some sort of figurehead. We have seen the way he carried on business when he was the chairman of the Gold Coast Motor Events Co. He was conned by a smooth-talking South African. Due diligence and other procedures were not followed and there was no written communication.

Yesterday, the Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Sport could not or would not answer questions about lobbying fees and success fees. He said that if we had information it should be referred to the CMC. We were asking him whether he satisfied himself about lobbying fees and success fees. He took no responsibility for what happened with the Indy and the A1GP. He could not guarantee that Mr Mackenroth would not be appointed again and had no idea about due diligence.

Today, the Minister for Transport tried to tell us that on 1 May last year she had no idea about privatisation and assured the House that Queensland Rail would not be privatised. However, subsequently she came back here and told us who told her and when, but clearly that was not the case. She cannot guarantee that rail lines or services will not close. She cannot tell us about levels of foreign ownership. She will not confirm or deny that revenues from the sale of Queensland Rail will pay the interest on our \$85 billion debt for only 18 months. Of course, the Treasurer's own advisers tell us that, by his level of questioning, he is unaware of simple principles of business. He is a figurehead and should be condemned.

*(Time expired)*