



Speech by

# John-Paul Langbroek

MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

Hansard Wednesday, 9 June 2010

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## BUDGET

**Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.39 am): After seeing the performance by the member for Thuringowa and the member for Mount Coot-tha, I think there must have been something in the water in 2004 when they came into this place. What we have learned from the budget, which we are discussing now, is that you cannot believe a word this government says. On the cusp of a federal election, it will do and say anything and, as we make a detailed analysis of the budget, we will see that it will hide everything.

We have now had different reasons from the Treasurer about privatisation. Over the past couple of years privatisation has been about delivering better services for Queenslanders, repaying debt and replacing the lost income. But of course, the government has its income back and now it is all about restoring the AAA credit rating. I note that today the Treasurer says that the \$603 million from the sale of Forestry Plantations will provide services to disadvantaged families in Logan and Beenleigh. So privatisation is not about repaying debt.

This morning on ABC Radio the Treasurer came out with the statement that householders in Queensland are probably spending less because they incurred too much debt, which they put on themselves during the boom years. That is exactly what this state has done. But of course, the Treasurer does not acknowledge anything like that. All he comes out with is statements such as 'brick by brick', 'tough road to hoe' and 'it is not a blockbuster fairytale but one that turns the page'. He also says, 'The task is not done.' This morning the Treasurer also said, 'It is a theoretical proposition that has not been undertaken so that makes it of no real utility', 'The bigger they come the harder they fall,' and 'climb down out of their trees'. This morning he also said that the budget was 'a helping hand to those who need it most, as is our calling'. He thinks he is Churchill. Then we heard him say, 'The budget will stand the test of the time'—of course, until the midyear economic fiscal review. The Treasurer also says, 'It will require our resolve—something we have in spades', 'roll up the sleeves' and 'do the hard yards'. That is all we get from the Treasurer: words, not action.

*(Time expired)*