




Speech by

Shane Knuth

MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE

Hansard Thursday, 2 August 2012

NEWMAN GOVERNMENT, PERFORMANCE

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (3.35 pm): Yesterday I was stood down during the debate on the Criminal Law (False Evidence Before Parliament) Amendment Bill as I questioned the accountability and truth in election promises by this government. I bring to the attention of the House the fact that during the election campaign in the electorate of Dalrymple, particularly in the township of Charters Towers, my home town, the LNP absolutely pounded the streets. There were visits from the president, the vice-president, Senator Joyce, Senator Macdonald, the member for Aspley, the member for Burdekin at least five times, the member for Hinchinbrook at least five times, the member for Maroochydore, the member for Glass House, the member for Gympie and the Premier. As they pounded the streets, they knocked on the doors of businesses. There were billboards and mail-outs. We had never seen anything like it. Their promises were that they would care, that they would be accountable, that they would be Public Service friendly, that they would grow the four pillars of the economy, that the party would be a party of honesty and integrity—‘Stick with us and you’ll never go hungry again.’ These were the promises made to the people of Dalrymple and Charters Towers.

Look at this headline: ‘Program cut: Health funds slashed’. Two former shadow ministers visited that neighbourhood centre, had their pictures taken in the paper and bragged about what a wonderful service it was. They said, ‘We’ll look after the neighbourhood centre.’ And what did they do? They have cut three major programs after they promised that they would look after them. The article states—

An award-winning neighbourhood centre program has been axed as part of the State budget cutbacks, which could have a ripple effect on the organisation and the greater community.

Two former shadow ministers stood outside this centre and bragged about how they were going to look after that neighbourhood centre. The other thing is that they received the letter one day and the next day they were gone. Here is another example—

A nationally recognised indigenous health program will be shut down as part of the fallout from the State Government budget cuts.

Then they promised that they would get rid of the bats. Here is one headline: ‘Campbell’s promise: bats will go’. The article quotes Campbell Newman as saying—

“One way or the other, the bats will be gone,”

Government members interjected.

Mr KNUTH: Another headline reads ‘Bat fight’. In another article the member for Glass House is quoted as saying—

“It will depend on each community, but the LNP has given a commitment to give councils all possible approaches to get rid of the bats,”

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr KNUTH: The bats are still there. The ALP blamed the council; you are blaming the council. Go there and get rid of the bats at all costs.

Tabled paper: Various articles from the Northern Miner regarding various issues [\[664\]](#).