




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 2 November 2016

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Newman LNP Government, Performance

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (2.55 pm): Haven't we seen a collective display of amnesia from the LNP yesterday and today—well, those of us who could stay awake long enough to listen to the member for Indooroopilly and the member for Glass House. I do not know who put them on Mogadon, but you could hardly pay attention to them. Their full collective response was on display. The Leader of the Opposition had the pomposity dialled right up to 11 yesterday, lecturing to everyone about ministerial responsibility. What did he say? A minister is 'meant to ask the questions, to challenge the CEOs, to challenge his department'. How quickly they forget!

Where was his advice to his colleagues to be cautious when he was treasurer and he was sacking thousands of public servants and smashing jobs? Where was his advice to be cautious when he demanded \$100 million to \$120 million to be cut from the Health portfolio in three months? Where was his advice to challenge CEOs when officials put up the closure of the Barrett Centre? When he was treasurer where was his advice to ask the questions when the LNP was closing the Barrett Centre without a replacement? What we know is there was no briefing note held up by incompetent bureaucrats in a state authority. It was not held up in the department. There was a briefing note that went to the minister's office. It did not lie in the department: it went to the minister's office. It was written expert advice that was provided to the office of the member for Southern Downs. It is a briefing note that was exhibited at the commission of inquiry, and I table it.

Tabled paper: Briefing note, signed 31 July 2013, for noting to the then minister for health, Hon. Lawrence Springborg, regarding the Barrett Adolescent Strategy Meeting [1970].

It was a briefing note that went to his office on 17 July 2013. Even on his own evidence before the commission the member for Southern Downs did not bother to read it, so on 22 August what happened? The then Leader of the Opposition and now Premier came into the parliament and in this House tabled the same briefing note. What happened? The member for Southern Downs still refused to read it. He met patients from the centre; still he would not listen. There was no apology from the Leader of the Opposition for his reckless demand for savings, only pompous lectures about Westminster responsibility. There was no admission of failure from any member opposite. There was nothing from the member for Southern Downs and nothing from the Leader of the Opposition. There was no admission of failure over the ill-fated decision to close the Barrett Centre, only hypocritical calls from the LNP for others to resign. That is all they can do. What we got was a dismissive and disrespectful comment by the member for Surfers Paradise about the commission of inquiry. They called it. The only thing the LNP has said is that it was a political witch-hunt. What an insult to those Queenslanders who were hurt the most by their decision. That insult demonstrates their hypocrisy—

(Time expired)