




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2016

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

LNP Economic Plan

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (10.21 am): After 18 months there is no economic plan from the LNP. So far there is nothing but a blank page. The only opposition that we have seen to anything of any substance has been the Palaszczuk government's opposition to the federal government's thought bubble around GST changes. What we know is that we stand to lose hundreds of millions of dollars. If we saw a 50 per cent floor put in place, we would lose \$317 million this financial year. If it was a 75 per cent floor, we would lose \$720 million.

The Leader of the Opposition has not bothered to raise his voice. He has taken the lazy way out and he has said nothing, although I will say at least he was party to a submission in 2012 of Liberal states, but that was recommending a 100 per cent floor so who knows how much we would have lost out under that deal. He wants to stand for Premier but he will not stand up for Queensland. We expect that they will raise their voice. He has also said consistently that we only have three choices. How many front-line services would the Leader of the Opposition cut and how many front-line workers would he sack to accommodate the additional moneys that we would lose under the GST plan if they do not want to go into bat for Queensland, as the Palaszczuk government is doing?

Eighteen months have elapsed and there is no policy and no revenue plans. He made a few promises but he cannot say how they will fund them. I table an article from the *Sunshine Coast Daily* in which he was reported as making some promises on the Sunshine Coast.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Sunshine Coast Daily*, undated, titled 'Where's road funding: Opposition Leader calls for commitment' [\[1305\]](#).

The *Sunshine Coast Daily* reported—

Mr Nicholls couldn't confirm funding plans, saying it was time to question the Labor Government on how it would deliver infrastructure.

Yet again, they clearly do not read the budget papers. Our commitments are fully funded. They are fully laid out through the budget process—two years in a row, a \$40 billion infrastructure program over four years. We have boosted front-line services. We have investments in innovation and job creation. Our budget shows where the money is coming from. Those guys over there do not even have a plan. It is very concerning because they are supposed to be the alternate government in Queensland.

The Leader of the Opposition cannot say where he will get the money from because he does not know. He has certainly rejected revenue sources. He has rejected \$2 billion from the defined benefits scheme. There goes the State Infrastructure Fund. That is where that money was going. That is gone. \$2 billion of the surplus was going to pay down debt. We will be up for another \$800 million in interest repayments because they will not support that. He certainly did not support the contribution freeze that we put in place in terms of employer contributions for the defined benefits scheme—another \$2 billion over five years.

He rejects the three per cent surcharge on foreign buyers of residential property. Will he table the correspondence that he has written to Mike Baird in New South Wales criticising them for their four per cent policy? No, he will not, but that will add another \$90 million to the budget black hole that they are creating. When you throw in their rejection of the 3.5 per cent indexation policy, which was their policy, that budget black hole is up to about \$8 billion. They have to show where they are going to come up with the money, because right now they are showing that they are poor economic managers in government and they are very poor in opposition.