



Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**


**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2016

**MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (12.24 pm): Coming from the member for Maryborough, who I think received around 25 per cent of the primary vote at the last election—

**Mr SAUNDERS:** I rise to a point of order. It was 25.9 per cent.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Ms Farmer): Order! There is no point of order.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! I ask members to settle a bit. We are getting very excited.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** Some days in this House the gifts just keep on coming. I know it is the season of Christmas, but the gifts just keep coming. I apologise to the member for Maryborough. At the last state election, the member who is sitting in this great House—

**Government members** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Nanango, I ask you to resume your seat. Members to my right, there are interjections flying everywhere and I can barely hear the member for Nanango. Please cease your interjections and allow the member for Nanango to speak.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** A member who received 25.9 per cent of the primary vote has the audacity to stand in this House and say that he is representing his electorate by toting the Premier around town. Meanwhile, what the member for Maryborough may—

**Ms Jones** interjected.

**Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Minister for Education, please cease your interjections.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** The member for Maryborough said that the Leader of the Opposition, Tim Nicholls, and I went into town. We did. We had a fantastic visit. My husband did get a cup of coffee from A Spoon Full of Sugar Cafe and it was a great coffee. I went to the bakery and bought a pie or a sausage roll. It was pretty good for Maryborough. They had no idea who their member was, as they had never seen him. Obviously they are a part of the 74 per cent of people who did not vote for him. It is important that we visit areas such as Maryborough and speak to businesses such as MSF Sugar and visit cane farms to talk with farmers about irrigation, because people on this side of the chamber do care about rural and regional Queensland. It is the people on this side of the chamber who are out there listening to the rural and regional people of Queensland about their aspirations for the future of agriculture, unfortunately, unlike those opposite.

The current Labor government is completely clueless about many issues. Today in the House we heard about the trains and child safety. We did not hear about housing, although it should have been brought up. All they do is blame everyone else. After nearly two years of this incompetent Labor

government, Queenslanders are giving up hope. Tragically, these are record numbers: one in three Queenslanders are giving up looking for work and the situation is only worsened when we look to the regions and the youth of Queensland. More young Queenslanders than any other demographic are giving up looking for work. Since the ABS started publishing statistics, in Queensland the youth participation rate has never been so low. That is sad news for a generation of young Queenslanders who want a job. Many young Queenslanders have just left school, such as my daughter who is out there looking for a job, are being denied the dignity of work.

The Premier has said that her cabinet needs to work and that they need to redouble their efforts, but the fact is that after nearly two years Labor is not working and Queenslanders are the ones who are suffering because of it. It is not just the young. Since the start of this year nearly 90,000 Queenslanders have given up looking for work. Additionally, 68,000 Queenslanders have just simply lost their jobs. The participation rate for the general Queensland labour force has not been this low since 1993. These figures are disgraceful.

Annastacia Palaszczuk, the Premier, is not leading her government. She is simply reviewing— 130 reviews. The Premier needs to stop hiding. The Premier needs to stop blaming everyone. The Premier needs to stop blaming the LNP. The Premier needs to stop blaming local governments. The Premier needs to stop blaming Malcolm Turnbull. The Premier needs to stop blaming her own public servants and start taking responsibility for the situation not only in rural and regional Queensland but also over the whole of Queensland. This Labor government is failing all of Queensland.