




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

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ADJOURNMENT

Budget Week

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (1.54 am): At the end of budget week, it is important that we reflect upon what is very much a high point on the calendar of our parliamentary system. It is a week where we need to celebrate and appreciate the democracy that we share and enjoy in this state and in this country and the benefits that that provides to us for scrutiny of government. Budget week is really a litmus test for both governments and oppositions, especially for newly minted oppositions.

What have we seen this week? In a week where many people around the country and around the world are following the European cup, what have we seen? We have seen five own goals by the newly minted opposition. They failed the first key test.

The member for Surfers Paradise's exuberant hand gestures have resulted in him having to make a humiliating apology, completely overshadowing his leader's budget reply speech. We have had the member for Lockyer having to apologise for a disgusting attack and use of words that were very upsetting to the member for Maryborough. We have had the member for Burnett being held in contempt and having to apologise for his actions. We have had the member for Southport apologising for his misuse of confidential details of a committee proceedings. We have had earlier tonight the member for Callide's embarrassing own goal. He abused government members for incorporating speeches while having a replete and extensive history of doing it himself.

As we know from Elton John's song *Sorry seems to be the hardest word*—obviously, we heard it a number of times because of some people—it is certainly the hardest word for the Leader of the Opposition. He has failed to apologise in his budget reply speech for his first budget as treasurer when he sacked 14,000 public servants.

At the end of this highly important part of the parliamentary calendar, I want to pause and acknowledge—

Mr Langbroek interjected.

Mr SEENEY: I rise to a point of order. Mr Speaker. Are there not rules about the adjournment? There is at least an expectation—

Mr SPEAKER: This is not an opportunity to question me. There is no point of order. Resume your seat, member for Callide. In relation to the member for Surfers Paradise, if you find something offensive you are able to rise on a point of order and ask that it be withdrawn.