



Speech By
Tarnya Smith

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

Record of Proceedings, 13 October 2016

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Sale of Public Assets

 **Mrs SMITH** (Mount Ommaney—LNP) (2.33 pm): I remind the House of a speech I delivered in the chamber during the adjournment debate on 11 May this year. I highlighted the situation of the asset known as the former Oxley secondary college in my electorate of Mount Ommaney. I spoke at length about the community consultation and surveys my office had held after many residents had approached me with concerns about the plight of that asset. During my adjournment speech regarding that asset I said—

I want to express the biggest concerns here in the House tonight. The first is that I think Labor will be breaking an election commitment, given that they have been very clear on their position on asset sales.

I also stated—

Another worry is the lack of genuine consultation. The community forums are only now being held after community pressure.

Lastly, I said—

I am also concerned that this is a foregone conclusion and the government has already made a decision. We will be watching this very closely and I will be pleased to report back to the House.

As we all know—the *Courier-Mail* reported it mid last week—the government backflipped and will be breaking the promise of no asset sales. The former Oxley secondary college asset is on the priority list. I am not a psychic: in May I simply recognised that Labor has form when it comes to saying one thing and doing another.

Since the delivery of that adjournment speech I have engaged with two community forums about the site. The member for Mansfield conducted one forum with me. There was follow-up, with extensive community surveys and consultations. There was great attendance at both of those forums.

Those meetings were held after my office had prepared a submission to the Deputy Premier and EDQ highlighting the strong feelings of the people of Oxley regarding this particular asset. Prior to me receiving a response from the Deputy Premier, EDQ decided to hold its own consultation meetings. Interestingly, it specifically excluded anyone from a political party, including the local member.

The crux of the matter with regard to the former Oxley secondary college site is that the community has been told one thing—they were not going to sell assets—but now this is happening.

(Time expired)