



Speech By  
**Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 February 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

***Australian Infrastructure Plan***

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (2.43 pm): Mr Speaker, I want to touch on the subject of infrastructure in Queensland. As you know, it is a topic of mine that I have been following for the last 12 months or so, together with the—

**Government members** interjected.

**Mr Hinchliffe** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Leader of the House!

**Mr NICHOLLS:** They all get excited, Mr Speaker. That is all right.

**Mr Hinchliffe** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Leader of the House, I would ask you to come to order.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** They all get excited, Mr Speaker. That is all right. I can deal with them. I am going to come to the Leader of the House—

**Mr Hinchliffe** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** One moment, please. I might just warn the Leader of the House that if he persists he will follow the lead of some other members from the opposition. I would urge you to control yourself.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** That is a very wise statement too, Mr Speaker. I am going to come to the Leader of the House in due course. Today saw the release of the *Australian Infrastructure Plan* by Infrastructure Australia at a function that was hosted by Infrastructure Australia and Infrastructure Partnerships Australia. As we know, Queensland for the last 12 months has suffered an infrastructure freeze. There has been a dearth of new initiatives and new projects driven by this government. The only projects that are being delivered are projects that were initiated by the LNP. It does not matter—

**Ms Trad** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Deputy Premier, you will have an opportunity to make a private members' statement if you want to respond to what the member for Clayfield is saying. I urge you to allow him to speak.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** Mr Speaker, I forgot to welcome the members from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office. I obviously congratulate their new president, President Tsai, and give my best wishes to President Ma, who is departing. While those members are here today, they may be disappointed to learn that in the last 12 months Queensland has become the place where the least amount of infrastructure is being undertaken and that the only infrastructure that is being undertaken is that started by the LNP.

In the last five weeks, the Leader of the House, the new Minister for Transport, has issued no fewer than five releases extolling the virtues of the new generation rolling stock, consisting of 75 new six-car sets delivered under the model that they hate over there—a public-private partnership. It will be funded for the next 30 years, with twice as many trains for the same price that those opposite were ever able to deliver. We look at the Minister for Education's releases in relation to all those new schools that she was going to at the beginning of the year. It does not matter whether it was at Pallara, Caboolture West, Ripley or Pine Rivers—they were all delivered under a 10 schools PPP organised by this government, another project that they hate.

I do not blame the Deputy Premier. She is doing her best. I think she genuinely does want to do her best. She is hamstrung by a Treasurer who has no economic narrative. We read the paper this morning. His own party room got up his ribs on Monday and said, 'What is the economic narrative? Where are we getting the money from? How are we going to pay for it? Where is it going?' There is no economic narrative. The Deputy Premier is hamstrung. There is no infrastructure.