



Speech By  
**Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 September 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Logan Renewal Initiative**

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.58 pm): Mr Speaker, you will recall that the opposition has pursued the issue of the cancellation of the Logan Renewal Initiative now for a number of weeks in this House and I want to take this opportunity to explain why we are doing so, because this is an important matter. I have just listened to the member for Ashgrove talk about jobs. This is a project that was going to provide hundreds and hundreds of jobs for people in the Logan area. Indeed, on Saturday together with the member for Chatsworth I met someone who had moved his entire family to Queensland in order to work with the non-government sector to provide that Logan housing renewal initiative but who is now out of a job because of this government.

When the member for Ashgrove talks about jobs, she should do what the member for Chatsworth and I do, and that is speak to the people who have lost them because of the capricious decisions made by this government.

The cancellation of the Logan Renewal Initiative represents the triumph of ideology over good policy. Just six months before his decision to cancel the project the Minister for Housing extolled the virtues of the project. I table a letter that he signed in January of this year.

*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 25 January 2016, from the Minister for Housing and Public Works, Hon. Mick de Brenni, to the Chair, Logan City of Choice Leadership Team, Ms Jude Munro AO, regarding the Logan Renewal Initiative [\[1517\]](#).

The letter states—

As you are aware, the Logan Renewal Initiative is the first of its scale in Australia and is a key priority for the Queensland Government.

A couple of paragraphs later the letter states—

I agree that the Logan community should be given a measure of certainty concerning when Logan City Community Housing will commence services.

In the letter the minister talks about assessing the program and then the letter states—

This Committee will provide valuable insight and guidance that will support the successful delivery of the initiative over the 20-year term.

That was the letter from the minister, dated 25 January this year. Putting aside for one moment the impact on the reputation of Logan, which has already been commented on by the mayor and by Jude Munro from the City of Choice Leadership Team, putting aside the impact on business confidence—and the shadow Treasurer has just outlined what this government does to business confidence—the real losers in this terrible decision are the voiceless, the so often forgotten members of our community who rely on social housing, the people who were going to benefit from new housing that was age appropriate, that was location appropriate and that saw people move out of aged, tired

and old housing, simply because this minister is beholden to the dictates of his union mates. It is ideology triumphing over good policy, jobs being lost, business confidence being lost and people not being provided with modern housing.

*(Time expired)*