




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (2.53 pm): The Brisbane-centric Palaszczuk Labor government has let down many of our most vulnerable population and those tasked to look after them time and time again. Whether it is our mental health system or our public health system, Queenslanders know that the only thing Labor has delivered during their term in government is a toxic culture of failures and furbies. I want to refer to one of those furbies today.

On numerous occasions the health minister has misled the parliament by claiming that the previous government sacked nurses. The Premier as opposition leader said the same thing about teachers. In Ethics Committee report No. 154 it is stated at page 13 that members have a responsibility to refrain from acting recklessly by making unqualified statements and that members have a duty to ensure that their statements in the House are accurate and clear. The member for Inala subsequently was directed to make a brief statement clarifying statements that she had made.

In Health let me make it very clear: the advice given to me is that we offered redundancies or redeployments. I will be writing to Mr Speaker to outline my concerns about what we have seen from the minister today. We have also seen concerns and reports of a hazardous mould outbreak in the ICU—intensive care unit—at Ipswich Hospital which resulted in four patients being transferred out of the ICU and two to other hospitals. I table an article from the ABC.

Tabled paper: Article from *ABC News online*, titled 'Mould outbreak forces shutdown of Ipswich Hospital intensive care unit' [\[712\]](#).

In it infection specialist Rashmi Dixit said that an engineering report indicated that the mould outbreak had reached a level that was potentially hazardous to people with weakened immune systems like patients 'on chemotherapy for cancer, patients with organ or bone marrow transplants or patients with untreated HIV'.

It appears that this issue is not limited to Ipswich Hospital. On 4 May the *Sunshine Coast Daily* published an article revealing that Bundaberg's intensive care services will be relocated within the hospital for 10 days for upgrades and maintenance to address the growth of mould in the hospital. The Palaszczuk government is yet to come clean on claims that hazardous mould outbreaks have been plaguing hospitals across the state. How can we have confidence in our health system when patients and Queenslanders have to learn about these serious health hazards by headline? The government needs to stop sweeping these serious issues under the carpet.

On the Gold Coast we saw strong words in the *Gold Coast Bulletin* on 27 April, which reflects the dire concern that Gold Coast residents have for the safety of our emergency services staff. I table the article, which states the 'state government continues to back away from its responsibilities' and that 'the government cannot keep looking the other way and hope for the best'.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, undated, titled 'Send paramedic thugs to jail' [\[713\]](#).

We have had up to a third of our Police Service stripped, which has led to triple 0 calls going unanswered. We have also seen the Labor government reject outright stiffer sentencing for those who assault our paramedics. We have had the effects of ambulance ramping on 17 April. What we are seeing is that the only thing Labor has achieved in their term so far is washing their hands of all responsibilities affecting Queenslanders and their future.