




Speech By
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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Gold Coast, Palaszczuk Labor Government

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (12.25 pm): Since Labor's election, the Gold Coast has been let down time and time again by a Brisbane-centric Labor government that only seems to use our city as a political pawn. Gold Coast constituents are still wrapping their heads around the fact that the Gold Coast was better off before Labor came to govern at the Gold Coast—before its fly-in fly-out visit to the Gold Coast—in August. Gold Coast locals cannot be blamed for feeling short-changed as Labor headed back to Brisbane outside peak hour traffic on the M1, and again today the M1 was blocked because of significant motor accidents, with a 16-kilometre tailback. It is happening almost every day. When it left in August Labor took with it billions of dollars in investment, tens of thousands of jobs and no new projects. We all know that Labor only sticks its head up on the Gold Coast during election time and its own senator for the Gold Coast, Murray Watt, does not even live on the Gold Coast!

Mr Cramp: Old 'Mount Gravatt Murray'!

Mr LANGBROEK: He is a fly-in fly-out senator; 'Mount Gravatt Murray' I am hearing from the member for Gaven. He has a part-time office at the Gold Coast.

As Labor makes a desperate attempt to grab seats on the Gold Coast, let us have a look at Labor's track record in our city. When it comes to the Gold Coast, Labor has proven that it does not think local jobs are a priority. After all, it sacrificed 13,000 jobs for Gold Coasters for one job in Brisbane—the Deputy Premier's. Queenslanders and Gold Coasters are still asking if the ASF cancellation was a payback to the Greens because of Labor supporting the Adani mine plan. What I do support is a master plan for The Spit, not what Labor has done—gotten rid of the ASF and done nothing about height and traffic but just said that it is mandating a three-storey height limit. For a long time I have said that we need a proper master plan to sort out the traffic and height restrictions, not what Labor has done—that is, condemn 13,000 future jobs into the waste basket.

When it comes to serious law and order issues, Labor has failed miserably. Monday's *Gold Coast Bulletin* reported a significant bikie comeback on the Gold Coast which was enough to send shivers down the spine of every local mum and dad. We all know that Labor does not care about the Gold Coast because in justifying scrapping the VLAD laws Minister Grace Grace said—

We have heard a lot of talk from those opposite about what happened, why the laws came about and the fact that it is all about the Gold Coast.

...

All we hear is what happened on the Gold Coast and that this is a Gold Coast law.

If Labor really cares about the Gold Coast, it has a funny way of showing it. Now that we are seeing gangs like Satudarah coming back—it was on the news last night and in the *Gold Coast Bulletin*—it is obvious that Labor—

Mr Mander: The Comancheros.

Mr LANGBROEK: Yes, the Comancheros as well. We do not want to go back to those days when Labor was ignoring the Gold Coast—when Neil Roberts was the minister and Paul Lucas, the Deputy Premier in the Bligh government, said, 'There's no problem with law and order on the Gold Coast.'

When it comes to our health system and front-line staffers, Labor has been quick to blame everyone else for its shortfalls. Again, the *Gold Coast Bulletin* has reported that our system is in crisis and that under Labor Gold Coast patients are being left on stretchers for significantly longer than the recommended time. Almost 40 per cent of people are being ramped at our flagship hospital on the coast. That is just not on. With regard to mental health, the Chief Psychiatrist's report shows that on the Gold Coast 52 mental health patients escaped, there were 60 inpatient absences and 124 failed to turn up for appointments. We have had a nurse stabbed at Robina Hospital. Just a couple of months ago we had mental health patients escape to Robina shopping centre. One attempted to abduct a four-year-old and assaulted the four-year-old's grandmother. That is what Labor is doing with mental health on the Gold Coast.

We have had unpaid tradies who have done some great work at key Commonwealth Games venues given a kick in the guts by Labor. It was only through the pressure that was exercised in this place and by the *Gold Coast Bulletin* that those tradies were paid. Unbelievably, instead of coming up with a solution for those mums and dads, young people, and other locals on the Gold Coast who spend hours in traffic each day just to get to and from work, Labor has told them to not even bother using the M1 during the Commonwealth Games. We have seen the M1 disrupted almost daily with multivehicle and single-vehicle accidents, tailbacks, fires and truck rollovers. Labor has no answers for skyrocketing energy prices. Labor has jacked up the price of registration by 3.5 per cent three times in a row because it cannot manage the budget.

Murray Watt has blamed poor-quality Labor candidates for their lack of success on the Gold Coast in the past. I look forward to seeing what Labor has to offer. The LNP works hard to make sure that the Gold Coast is the best place to live, work, play and raise a family.