




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Record of Proceedings, 1 March 2017

MOTION

Queensland Rail, Timetable; Order for Production of Documents

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (6.11 pm): I rise to support the motion moved by the member for Glass House and oppose the Deputy Premier's amendment to the motion. We know that Labor likes to keep commuters waiting on the station, and now they just like to keep commuters waiting. The Deputy Premier needs to come clean on this: when will she report to parliament and tell commuters the truth?

Ms Trad: When the work is done!

Mr CRANDON: There we go again: 'When the work is done.' More reviews! In 2009 when I came into this place the Gold Coast line was known as the *Bombay Express* because it was so packed. For three years I fought with the Labor government to try and get that changed and no action was taken. Then we came into government, and over a two-year period in 2013-14 we increased the number of services on the Gold Coast line by 93 a week. Services were increased by 4,800 or thereabouts every year by the LNP government. The interim timetable that we are talking about today has taken 10 per cent of those services away again. We have gone back to before 2013.

When we talk about services in the interim timetable, around 10 per cent of the services have been lost. What else has happened? What about the percentage of services on time? The new interim timetable came in on 23 January and how is it working? Yesterday afternoon, 85.71 per cent of services on the Gold Coast line were on time. Almost 15 per cent were behind time, out of time or maybe did not even turn up because the figures are not exactly clear. What about last Wednesday morning? You would not want to be catching a train to go to the airport to catch a flight overseas or interstate, because last Wednesday morning 73.33 per cent were on time. Twenty-seven per cent of the services at peak time last Wednesday morning did not turn up on time. You would not want to be on a time clock at work in the middle of Brisbane when more than a quarter of the trains were late. Was it any better in the afternoon? Not much better, because 78.5 per cent of the services were on time. It is pathetic. We have a reduced service—we have lost 10 per cent of the increase that we got back in 2013-14—with the interim timetable coming into place. We have also now gone backwards as far as service is concerned.

We have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to duplicate the line between Coomera and Helensvale in time for the Commonwealth Games, which is less than 400 days away. The problem is that we are going to have plenty of trains during the Commonwealth Games to get people backwards and forwards but, based on the feedback we have been getting from the government, we are not going to have train services on the duplicated line anywhere near the services that we have today. We are looking at a situation where we have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to satisfy the needs of the Commonwealth Games, but the question is where will we be when it comes to giving people a good, reliable service from 2018 going forward?

What happens when the trains are late? My constituents lose interest in catching trains and they start to hop on the M1. What happens on the M1? I have roadblock after roadblock of people—

Mr Boothman: Cars queuing.

Mr CRANDON: Cars queuing on exit 49. The member for Albert tried to raise a question this morning about the upgrade of exit 49 and it was ruled out of order, but the point is that we have ramping on the M1 onto exits 49, 45 and 41. Why do we have that sort of ramping? Because we have more and more cars in the fastest growing area in Australia, and our train service is unreliable so people are abandoning the train service. The Deputy Premier needs to come clean. When will she report to parliament and tell commuters the truth?