




Speech By
Tim Nicholls

MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2017

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.28 am): This is a government for which success is a stranger, but failure is frequent and the failure of all failures—

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, Premier and ministers! I invite the Leader of the Opposition to start again.

Mr NICHOLLS: This is a government for which success is a stranger, but failure is a frequent companion and the failure—

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, members. Pause the clock.

Mr NICHOLLS: The failure of all failures is the failure of this Premier to lead; the repeated failure of this Premier to take action against one incompetent minister after another. We have the Minister for Corrective Services who pulled a heartless, duplicitous PR stunt on Gary and Leanne Pullen over the pending release of one of the convicted killers of their son—a minister who sought glamour while a family grieved; the same minister whom we discover has struck terror into a Gold Coast woman because she has learnt, only through her violent ex-partner's Facebook page, that he has been released early from jail on parole.

It was the LNP that acted to protect domestic violence victims and their children with a suite of significant laws that passed this parliament in March. That is part of our action to provide safe and livable communities for Queenslanders. One of these reforms was a DV alert system to notify victims and families when a domestic violence perpetrator was being considered for parole. The Minister for Corrective Services, in failing to give effect to the law that this parliament passed, can surely not be anything but an ineffective and incompetent minister. Yet the stakes could not be higher.

It is clear from further reports today that the ongoing and shocking lapses in oversight from both the Minister for Corrective Services and the Minister for Child Safety are placing Queenslanders' lives at risk. Families everywhere fleeing domestic violence have woken up today with their fear redoubled because this is a government that, through its inaction and incompetence, puts violent offenders in front of vulnerable victims.

This is a Premier who is standing by these two inept ministers and once again fails the test of leadership. When the Premier did stand aside the member for Yeerongpilly, it was not in a timely fashion and not because it had always been the right thing to do. The Premier stood the member for Yeerongpilly aside only when cornered and only when the CCC released a reasonable suspicion of conduct finding against him. Let us not forget the member for Bundaberg's efforts as the agriculture minister nor the member for Pumicestone.

This Premier's pivotal promise was a government of honesty, openness and transparency, but the return on that promise has been a series of withheld, redacted or diluted government ordered reports and reviews, while presiding over Queensland's worst rail fail, soaring powering prices and diving business investment and letting incompetent ministers run free. It is time to end the cons, costs and crises of this government.