



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2018

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL**

**Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee, Report**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (6.44 pm): I will make a contribution to the budget estimates hearing as it relates to my shadow portfolios. I too want to place on record my thanks to those staff who were involved, to both ministers who attended and also to the committee chair. I think the member for Scenic Rim made a good contribution when he spoke about how the member did chair that session. There were times that I might have disagreed with a little bit of the protection, but he was very fair on time limits given and I want to thank him for that.

I want to start in the tourism area. I agree with the minister when the minister says that estimates are a great time to hold the government to account. I specifically went out of my way to ask questions that related to the Service Delivery Statements. That is my view about the role of an opposition shadow minister during those budget estimates hearings. Whether it was by choice or whether it was by lack of knowledge, I do not believe the minister answered many of the questions that I put, particularly when they related to numbers. There were a lot of references to a government that handed down its last budget about four years ago; in fact I think there were about 18 of them. I am not quite sure that is really the place during estimates.

For the benefit of the House, I am going to list those things that I would like to see the minister return to this place on and give answers to. The first is the return on investment the Queensland taxpayers receive from any of the three funds the government has for attracting additional airline seat capacity. There are three funds and they all have varying degrees of what they need to achieve—that is, the Attracting Aviation Investment Fund, Connecting with Asia and the Attracting Tourism Fund. That is the first thing I want to see—the return on investment.

I want to see exactly how much will be spent to achieve an increase in the minister's own KPI of new additional airline seat capacity. Again, this is a specific thing to the SDS. I want to know the aggregate amount of taxpayer grants provided directly or indirectly to Tigerair, Hong Kong Airlines and Air China for services that they have subsequently scrapped. I want a clear explanation of the performance indicators relating to the government's three different event attraction funds.

I would also like to see a single ecotourism key performance indicator. It is all fine to announce the great intent, but nowhere in the SDS—either in the environment minister's area or in the tourism minister's area—is there a KPI of what we want to deliver for ecotourism. If we are serious about it, let us measure it. If we want to achieve more bed nights in national parks, let us set a goal. What does it look like? What does it look like in 12 months? What does it look like in five years? What does it look like in 10 years? That would be good governing.

I turn to my shadow portfolio responsibility of environment, science and the Great Barrier Reef. I will start with the waste tax. What the budget estimates hearings did reveal is that, despite raising \$1.3 billion, only \$100 million of that, or around seven per cent, will be spent on environmental initiatives for industry. The government can dress it up any way they like. They can say that \$400 million is going

to councils and \$50 million is going to run the scheme, but in the end if less than 10 per cent is being used on an environmental initiative surely it is a tax via stealth. The government, via its own means, acknowledges that a third goes back to consolidated revenue, but there is not the intent to deliver a good environmental outcome. Whether you support a waste tax or not, if there is going to be one, surely you want to get an environmental outcome out of it.

I raise the issue of Baal Gammon Copper. It was in this area that I think the chairman did run a little bit of protection. I want answers to this, and I will not stop until I get answers. This is one mine that in my mind we should use as an example of how responsibility can be transferred and then no-one is held accountable. The government must set itself targets to ensure good rehabilitation is there for the people who rely on the drinking water and for those of us who are passionate about the environment.

On the subject of problem crocodiles, we revealed that the KPI for removing problem crocodiles is three months. I would suggest that in three months you could just about teach them how to speak; that is a long, long time and it is completely exorbitant. We also spoke about the HMAS *Tobruk* and additional departmental fees for pet owners—

*(Time expired)*