




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 1 November 2018

CRIME AND CORRUPTION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (12.55 pm): The member for Stretton may like following the member for Maroochydore, but nothing gives this side of the House more satisfaction than following the member for Stretton. The member for Stretton wants to talk about Halloween and a house of horrors, but perhaps he should get out of the costume he is still wearing from last night.

The member for Stretton needs a history lesson about why the LNP implemented the changes that we did. It was a bill that we introduced, and I know that the member was not here and he needs a history lesson. The bill was the CCC negligence rectification bill, for the member's information, because the CCC—the CMC at the time—released witness details from the Fitzgerald inquiry. They conducted their own internal investigation as to how the CCC—the CMC at the time—came to release private witness testimony. Not only that, but they released witness details from the Fitzgerald inquiry. There was an almighty mess at the CCC. By their own admission they absolutely stuffed it up and they had to fix it. That was the first bill we introduced, the CMC negligence rectification bill, in relation to those who gave out private details and witness testimony from the Fitzgerald inquiry. The CMC admitted the mistakes they had made. Former respected High Court judge Ian Callinan conducted a thorough investigation into that issue.

By the CMC's own admission they were getting over 5,000 complaints a year, and most of them were not even looked at or followed through because they were complaints of things like missing pencils from departments. There were bulldog clips missing from departments. Do we really expect a crime and corruption body to conduct months and months of investigations into a missing bulldog clip? I think not; but under the new definition, yes, it will. What happens when you put police into the CCC to investigate missing bulldog clips is that they are not going after real criminals like organised crime, paedophile rings and drug traffickers. That is what the member for Stretton does not understand. Under the definition of 'corrupt conduct', the member for Stretton may think it is the CCC's intention to go looking for missing bulldog clips. If that is what the member for Stretton thinks the CCC should spend its time on, then his priorities are all wrong. That is what the definition of 'corrupt conduct' will do, and it puts it down to the level where the CCC will get thousands and thousands of complaints. I think that the CCC's resources—paid for by the Queensland taxpayer, of course—are better spent elsewhere.

If the member for Stretton wants to know what we think about the CCC: yes, we want it. We think it should be strengthened, and that is why we increased its funding. If the Labor Party wants to speak about the politicisation of the CCC they should look at what they did to Paul Favell, who was the parliamentary crime commissioner. He applied for the position as the chair of the CCC but no, they could not have him, the independent parliamentary crime commissioner. Then they dodged up the committee system by getting the now member for Traeger in through a loophole. They did not have opposition support for the chairman's appointment, so they got it through by subbing one of their own members out and putting the member for the then seat of Mount Isa in. Is that accountability and integrity?

I am not going to be lectured by the member for Stretton on this issue. What absolute hypocrisy! We do not have to mention section 57 of the Criminal Code and Gordon Nuttall. The Labor mob recalled parliament to cover up the corruption of Gordon Nuttall. Which party brought back section 57 of the Criminal Code? It was the LNP. The Labor Party has had more of its former ministers in jail on corruption charges than the LNP. There is a history lesson for the member for Stretton. If he wants to come into this place, he should make sure he gets his facts straight.