




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Federal Budget

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.03 pm): We have had the unusual admission from the member for Mudgeeraba that the last time her name was put on a plaque—a dusty, worn-out brass plaque—the Minister for Main Roads was still in nappies. It was that long ago that the LNP made any commitment to the M1.

The member for Mudgeeraba and others on the Gold Coast must be desperately disappointed with the federal government, which is not delivering for Queensland. I will turn to the M1 since it has been raised. There has been much hype, but we know that any new funding for the M1 will not happen within the four-year cycle. They have delayed, delayed and delayed that funding. This is vapourware when it comes to putting investment into the M1.

I want to speak about the M1 in my electorate of Logan at Logan West. Fundamentally, the federal budget is desperately unfair for the people of Logan. Logan is missing out. They say that they have invested \$2.5 billion in Queensland infrastructure, but we have heard that much of the funding is past the four-year cycle. That is as much as they are spending on a single new rail line in Melbourne.

In terms of that rail line, there is no alignment and there is no business plan. It is just an idea for a rail line and yet they say they are ready to commit funding to it. Cross River Rail is ready to go, has a business case and has an alignment. It is ready to deliver improved transport across the rail network to serve the city of Logan.

I am not sure that all members know this, but this project is vital to the construction of the Salisbury to Flagstone rail line, which is essential for that growing area. We need to get Cross River Rail built first, but we have zero backing for this crucial urban project from the federal government. They are ignoring Queensland. The federal government is raking in huge revenue from Queensland. What do they want to do with it? Fundamentally, they want to help out big business and especially their mates in the big banks. They want to give big corporate tax cuts to larger businesses.

That means that they cannot deliver on the things that are important like the infrastructure that Queensland needs, especially in growing areas. They are not delivering skills funding. We are missing out on skills funding. We have learnt that the \$40 million cut to Queensland training funding last year will grow to approximately \$50 million.

We have seen a severe impact on our local TAFEs. We need to back them, not cut them. In our growing areas we need investment in education. Again, we are not seeing a commitment to that. When a federal government fails to take responsibility a growing area like southern Logan suffers the most because it needs new infrastructure and new investment. It is the same with health. Logan Hospital needs investment. It is missing out on that in the federal government budget.