




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR MILLER

Record of Proceedings, 6 March 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

New Generation Rollingstock

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.28 am): The Palaszczuk government is committed to ensuring that all Queenslanders have the modern, accessible train fleet that they deserve with the rollout of the New Generation Rollingstock trains. In order to support the tripling in train services for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, with 24-hour heavy rail to and from the Gold Coast, NGR trains will operate exclusively on the Gold Coast and airport lines before and during the games.

Make no mistake: the trains will run for the games. I am confident we will deliver our Commonwealth Games timetable. Nine of these new trains have been deployed on the Gold Coast airport line since December last year, exceeding our requirement of eight NGR trains for the Commonwealth Games. This is accompanied by a boarding model to ensure that any passengers who need assistance are able to access it on the platform.

Unlike the former LNP government, the Palaszczuk government will ensure that all new rail manufacturing and retrofit contracts are carried out by Queensland workers after the LNP debacle of outsourcing manufacturing to overseas. We make no apologies for bringing this work back to Queensland workers in Maryborough, a city with a proud rail history.

Mr Saunders interjected.

Mr BAILEY: I take the interjection from the member for Maryborough. In relation to the Human Rights Commission preliminary view handed down last week, we will review the details and make a submission accordingly.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Members, I am having difficulty hearing the minister which means you are too loud.

Mr BAILEY: The House should be reminded that we are dealing with the anti-Commonwealth Games legacy of the LNP Newman government. Just like the LNP's do-nothing approach to preparing for the games—whether it was ignoring the M1, not building light rail stage 2, or not duplicating the heavy rail from Helensvale to Coomera, as we have since—the LNP's mismanagement of the \$4.4 billion NGR contract has come back to bite them.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, please resume your seat. I cannot provide any form of protection if you provoke the opposition. However, I will caution those to my left. I can hear some of you over and above your colleagues and I will start naming.

Mr BAILEY: The impact of the final decision from the commission will be related to whether people are able to make complaints through the usual discrimination complaints process. The commission is not called upon to decide whether the trains can run. Let us be clear: the LNP signed the contract for half-price overseas trains and approved the design. We inherited this and we are fixing it.

Mr Nicholls: You changed it!

Mr BAILEY: It is appropriate that I should get an interjection from the member for Clayfield, because he is the key person who botched that contract and he got a 4.3 per cent swing against him at the election. I am sure people remembered. We are getting on with the job of rectifying the New Generation Rollingstock, working with the disability sector and using Queensland workers—

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There have been rulings by previous Speakers with respect to ministerial statements advising the Queensland public on ministerial matters, not engaging in debate or fighting previous governments. The Minister for Transport seems to be the only minister over there to not understand the history of ministerial statements.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Kawana. Minister, I remind you to keep your comments as non-combative as possible, and I duly note the member's point of order.

Mr BAILEY: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I certainly take your direction. In closing, I want to emphasise that these trains will run for the Commonwealth Games.