




Speech By
Dale Last

MEMBER FOR BURDEKIN

Record of Proceedings, 5 September 2019

MOTION

Newman LNP Government, Performance

 **Mr LAST** (Burdekin—LNP) (11.53 am): It is a great pleasure to stand up to oppose this motion moved by those opposite. It is clear that this government came to Townsville this week thinking that the red carpet was going to be rolled out for them in this community and it has not happened. They have been forced to come in here at the last minute and drop a motion into this parliament to try to claw back some credibility, but we know that they have been copping stick all week.

Ms Trad interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier is warned under the standing orders.

Mr LAST: The Deputy Premier has plenty to say. They have been copping stick all week about their performance in this community. Those on this side know the difference between what they have delivered—which is absolutely nothing—and what we have delivered and will deliver going into the future.

Let us talk about the Adani Carmichael mine. Those opposite do not want to talk about coal and the mine, but this community will not forget that those opposite had to be dragged kicking and screaming. The three local Labor members—there is the headline—were slammed for failing to support the Galilee Basin. It was not until the federal election result that all of a sudden, miraculously, what happened? 'We will approve it now. We will give it the tick because we might need the jobs for this community.' It is absolutely right that we need the jobs in this community. It has the highest youth unemployment rate in Queensland. That is a damning indictment on this Labor government. They come into this place and tell this community and those young people sitting in our gallery that they are creating jobs in this community. This community has the highest youth unemployment rate in the state. That is a shame. Those opposite talk about plans. For two years we have been waiting for the regional plan and finally they come up this week and say we might have some discussion and open up items for a regional plan in North Queensland and Townsville. Where was it for the last two years if you are so concerned? We were calling for it. We want to know.

Mr SPEAKER: The member will put his comments through the chair.

Mr LAST: This community wants to know. Probably the most damning indictment is the fact that the minister who moved this motion, the minister representing the Premier in North Queensland, had her head chopped off. That position does not exist anymore. We have a shadow minister representing North Queensland. They do not even place enough stock in that to retain that position. They do not have anyone. Then the Premier comes in here today and says they are going to establish Rural and Regional Queensland.

Ms Palaszczuk: We are!

Mr LAST: Yes. I wonder why the Premier might be doing that. That says it all. They have heard loud and clear from this community this week that they are not being represented properly.