



Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 3 April 2019

MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Waste

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (5.51 pm): I was awaking from my slumber of the last five minutes after listening to that. In fact, I learnt something just now. I learnt the honourable member for Mackay is the Assistant Minister for State Development. How far they have come!

Mr Deputy Speaker—Mr Speaker, my apologies. With respect to the members who have spoken, in response to the member for Cooper, who started the contribution whingeing about the big new building across the road: hand the keys back. If the minister did not want to move into it, if it is that bad, get out of the building. The reason that William Street worked so well is that it was the catalyst to start other developments like the Queens Wharf development that is happening. The minister for tourism and the Commonwealth Games then talked about how great the Commonwealth Games were. We supported the Commonwealth Games. We funded the Commonwealth Games. What we reject is the waste of the accommodation. Queensland taxpayers care where the minister slept and the amount of money they spent on accommodation. If they wanted to save more money, I suggest they could have saved a bit on the closing ceremony.

The member for Gladstone talked about asset sales. The only party that has sold assets in Queensland is the ALP. This is the hypocrisy of the Labor Party. As the former member for Bundaberg and now Mayor of Bundaberg, Jack Dempsey, always said in this place, 'How do you spell hypocrisy? A-L-P.' He rarely got it right but he meant the ALP.

I cannot help recalling when we talk about hypocrisy and asset sales the good old myth busters. The member for Mulgrave used to hand these out. He said, 'The myth: the government is selling all of its assets.' Then the member for Mulgrave said: 'Fact: we aren't. In fact, our total assets is over \$200 billion. We are selling Forestry Plantations, Queensland Motorways, Port of Brisbane, Abbot Point Coal Terminal, and the above and below rail businesses for Queensland Rail.' The only party and the only ones who advocated and actually did the asset sales is the Labor Party.

Mr Mander: They didn't tell anyone.

Mr BLEIJIE: And of course they did not tell anyone and they lost the election because they lost the union support. The member for Springwood, the minister responsible for housing and public works, talked about IT. Then he said, 'It's not waste; it's just being agile.' Maybe that is why they gave the money to the fat dog app for agility purposes. Who knows what they did, but now we do not talk about waste; we talk about being agile in the Queensland economy. Whilst I often talk about the Labor Party and union fat cats, Mr Deputy Speaker, now we talk about the fat dog app which is in the motion for waste.

Mr SPEAKER: I will give you one more go, member for Kawana. I am not the Deputy Speaker.

Mr BLEIJIE: My apologies, Mr Speaker. Mr Deputy Speaker—Mr Speaker, I apologise.

Mr SPEAKER: I am not being precious about this, but there is a protocol in this place and it is very hard to believe you had a slip immediately. I will give you one more chance before warning you under the standing orders.

Mr BLEIJIE: Thank you, Mr Speaker. It is not the government's job to put dogs on a treadmill. It is not the government's job. We have gone from (a) to (z) to (aa) with respect to the waste of the Labor Party. No-one likes travelling in this state and international travel as much as the Premier. The member for Mackay or the member for Ipswich talked about the former deputy premier's travel. He is a regional member. What do they have against regional members? Regional members and the deputy premier ought to be able to travel across the state to deal with business across the state. It is a disgraceful attack not only on the former deputy premier but also on regional members who serve in this parliament. The Premier is the queen of excuses. We rarely see her in the parliament unless there is a division on a particular motion. Otherwise what does the Premier do in the state of Queensland? No-one knows—

Mrs D'ATH: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There is a convention of not reflecting on the absence of members in this House, and the member for Kawana has just done so in relation to the Premier.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Kawana, I appreciate you are not suggesting the Premier's absence right now during this debate, but I would be cautious about the tact you are taking. I would ask you to withdraw those comments.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. The Labor Party wastes Queensland taxpayers' money. They have always been doing it. Only the LNP run government effectively.

(Time expired)