



Speech By  
**Joan Pease**

**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 20 August 2019


## **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL**

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#### **Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)**

#### **Appropriation Bill**

#### **Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, Report**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (4.16 pm): I rise today to speak to report No. 23 of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee. The committee has recommended that the proposed expenditure, as detailed in the Appropriation Bill 2019 for the committee's areas of responsibility, be agreed to.

Firstly, I would like to thank the committee and the chair, the member for Thuringowa, and my parliamentary colleagues, although we did not get a chance to hear from them during the estimates hearing. I would also like to thank the secretariat for their constant professionalism. I also acknowledge the Hon. Steven Miles, the Hon. Coralee O'Rourke and the Hon. Di Farmer, who each displayed an outstanding in-depth knowledge of their portfolio areas. I thank them for their vision, commitment and dedication to the people of Queensland. I also thank the chief executives and departmental officials who assisted in the inquiry process. I would also like to acknowledge the great work of all departmental staff who each and every day tirelessly work to deliver for Queenslanders. We value their contribution and I value their contribution—unlike those opposite, who have a track record of sacking Queenslanders including nurses, midwives and healthcare workers, with no regard at all for the impact that would have on families, the community and our economy.

The process of estimates is an important one, providing an opportunity to hear about government expenditure for the coming year in detail. Therefore, members can imagine my disappointment when, rather than examine the expenditure, the LNP members, with their usual lacklustre performance, turned their backs on the budget. They have a habit of doing that. We all know that, and baysiders have well and truly felt the effects of this total disregard. With the flick of a pen the former LNP government—with its current leader, the member for Nanango, who sat at the CBRC table—decided to slash health services and other services in Lytton: the Moreton Bay Nursing Care Unit closed and 85 residents lost their home that day; the department of housing closed; child safety closed; bayside tenancy advice closed; manufactured home advocacy closed; 24-hour primary care closed; mental health services closed; and Skilling Queenslanders for Work was just gone.

These services were so important to my community, local traders and our economy, but apparently baysiders were not entitled to good local health services. Nor did we need an aged-care facility, palliative care beds, rehabilitation beds or 24-hour primary care, but we know differently and we know that we deserve best practice healthcare services that are free, easily accessible and state-of-the-art. We needed to be listened to, because the LNP surely did not.

Thank goodness the Palaszczuk government listens and we now have a fabulous range of outstanding, free, accessible health services, and more services are being delivered continually. The palliative care beds at Camellia Lodge deliver palliative care services within an aged-care setting ensuring that, at a very difficult time, each and every person is cared for in a familiar, homelike environment that can include personal touches such as soft lighting and their favourite music. The extra funding that was allocated in the budget is welcome.

As I have said, the LNP slashed services by closing the Moreton Bay Nursing Care Unit and cutting the 24-hour primary care service. It was the Palaszczuk government that restored health services and ushered in a new era of healthcare services for the region. It opened Gundu Pa, the state-of-the-art Wynnum-Manly Community Health Centre. It really is an impressive and state-of-the-art facility. Gundu Pa is delivering a wide range of expanded services and continues to expand these services, including a 24-hour primary care centre for treating minor injuries and illnesses, with weekly specialist outpatient clinics of endocrinology, diabetes, gastroenterology, podiatry, respiratory medicine, cardiology, child development and mental health, among many others. Between 1 July 2018 and 31 May 2019, Gundu Pa delivered 4,479 specialist outpatient services. During that same period, 13,124 visits to Gundu Pa were made. Obviously, Wynnum Manly did require good quality health services—unlike when the opposition decided with the stroke of a pen that we did not.

Baysiders will also benefit from the increased number of paramedics who are operating out of the state-of-the-art ambulance station located right next door to Gundu Pa. I can also report that 70 patients were cared for at Pandanus ward, our rehabilitation ward, and 96 patients were serviced by the hospital in the home service. This is a budget that delivers for all Queenslanders. Unlike the proforma negative speeches from those opposite, I am proud to be part of the Palaszczuk government that has delivered another great budget because that is what good governments do and that is what the Palaszczuk government is.