



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Bailey**


**MEMBER FOR MILLER**

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Record of Proceedings, 3 April 2019

**MOTION**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Waste**

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (5.57 pm): It is always a great pleasure to follow the amateur thespian performances from the member for Kawana, a man who was a member of the Newman cabinet who approved 1 William Street—probably the greatest waste of public money we have seen. They were in power for two seconds before they went straight into commissioning a nice big tower for themselves, looking after themselves. While telling everybody else in the state that we were broke and we had to cut, we had to sack, we had to sell, they were building a palatial tower to themselves which was set in stone by the time we won the election. We are getting a lecture from those who built 1 William Street. That is just extraordinary.

When it comes to waste there is no greater practitioner than the LNP when it comes to public money. Let me mention three letters, N-G-R. Under their watch NGR trains were ordered from overseas—not from Maryborough but from overseas. They wasted jobs in Maryborough, that is for sure. They let down the workers of Maryborough and Queensland by ordering them overseas and they were not compliant.

Let me look at the LNP record when it comes to further waste. They spent \$70 million on Strong Choices to privatise everything that moved in this state—privatising our energy assets. They were lined up to privatise Queensland Rail. That was their agenda. If they get another chance, they will be doing it again. As revealed in estimates in 2015, they had a secret branch in Transport and Main Roads to privatise sections of Transport and Main Roads. That was another \$30 million worth of waste there that was absolutely exposed, let alone the former minister for transport wasting a lot of public money putting all those trophies on his wall. He is no longer here; we certainly sorted him out.

As the member for Ipswich said, when it comes to waste, the former deputy premier's waste of money for flights to and from his own electorate takes the cake. That was over half a million dollars worth of waste. The list of waste from the opposition in their three short years in power—three very short years; three mercifully short years—is absolutely very clear.

Recently, some figures were released about taxis in a question from the opposition. The bill was \$493,000. I thought I would look up the record of the opposition when they were in power. In the opposition's first year in government, the taxi bill for Queensland Rail staff was—wait for it—\$532,000. That was a lot more than under us. They seem to have one rule for one and one rule for another.

I was fascinated to see the recent comments by the member for Chatsworth. He suggested, firstly, that it would take six years to get back to a full timetable. The next day he suggested it would somehow take seven years to get back to a full timetable. Then he got his leader to suggest that it would take 37 years to get back to a full timetable. I smell a rat. I think the numbers are moving. Whoever gave that advice to the Leader of the Opposition to say that publicly has not got her best interests at heart. That is a bit of waste that the Leader of the Opposition needs to look at, because saying 37 years is one of the most embarrassing things I have heard in four years in this chamber. It shows the Leader of the Opposition—

**Mr Minnikin** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Member for Chatsworth, you have had a five-minute stint to say your piece. I think that is enough.

**Mr BAILEY:** It shows an appalling lack of judgement, let alone an appalling lack of research, acumen and advice. I will remember that one. We had 43 per cent earlier, and I will remember 37 years in equally the same kind of light.

We had 48 fewer train drivers at the end of the Newman government than at the beginning of it, when they knew a whole new line was opening to Redcliffe and they knew the Commonwealth Games were coming. How do you lose drivers? Firstly, you stop training them. Not a single train driver school started for the entire year of 2014 when they knew those events were coming up. A significant contribution to the rail fail was the LNP sacking drivers and stopping train driver schools. Their record is appalling.