



Speech By  
**Michael Hart**


**MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH**

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**TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Report, Motion to Take Note**

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (3.35 pm): I rise to add my comments to the debate on the Transport and Public Works Committee report on the Auditor-General's report titled *Monitoring and managing ICT projects*. In response to the comments made by the member for Aspley, I point out that the Auditor-General could say that these systems have improved since 2013 because they did not exist before 2013. The whole reason the ICT dashboard—

**Ms Bates:** I set up the dashboard.

**Mr HART:** I take that interjection. The member for Mudgeeraba has just advised the House that she set it up. The reason she set it up was that we were having massive ICT failures. Who could possibly forget the Health payroll system? It started out at, I think, something like a \$12 million project and it ended up costing \$1.2 billion and it still does not work. Obviously, the Labor Party is just no good at all at ICT.

The ICT dashboard is pretty straightforward. It is just a series of coloured lights. If it is green, it is good. If it is red, it has a problem. It is pretty simple. The Queensland Government Chief Information Officer has set down guidelines that the departments should follow, but that is not mandatory. That is a problem in itself. Even though the government has the dashboard and it is releasing advice to the public so they can see what is going on inside the government when it comes to ICT projects, departments do not have to put information on the dashboard. That was identified in the Auditor-General's report. It states that there are weaknesses with controls over the accuracy, leading to reduced user confidence. Of course, people are not going to have confidence in the dashboard if half the projects are not put up on the dashboard and, of the ones that are put on the dashboard, they do not mean anything.

There are 32 ICT projects with a planned expenditure of \$161.4 million that, despite meeting the guidelines for inclusion, are not shown on the ICT dashboard. The reason they are not there is that this government is not open, transparent and accountable, as it keeps telling us that it is. In fact, if the government cannot keep to a budget, it cannot meet a time frame and things are just not working properly, it changes the scope of the works and says, 'It has now blown out by so many millions of dollars, so we are still on target even though things have changed.' That is how transparent and accountable this Labor Party is.

As I said, we only have to look at the Health payroll debacle. We now have a medical records system that crashes constantly. We have the S/4HANA hospital ordering system. As the member for Hervey Bay said, people are just not receiving payment for their bills. We have the \$24 million SPER ICT program that was axed by the Deputy Premier when it failed. My understanding is that the government is now using something called Microsoft Dynamics, which, apparently, you can just buy off the shelf at Officeworks. It does not even contain a debt recovery module. How that is going to work for the SPER program is completely beyond me.

Energy Queensland has two programs. One is a geographical information system to show where the structure and equipment of Ergon and Energex is. It did not work. There was \$40 million to \$50 million blown there apparently. They also have an enterprise resource planning system that has not worked since 2017.

What is really worrying to me, as I have been hearing on the grapevine from the people who are coming and talking to me as the shadow for this area, is that Treasury have put out an edict that no new software that has already been put in place is to go live because they do not want it to fail before the next election. They want to hide the fact that they are hopeless at ICT. One cannot trust Labor with a calculator let alone the government's ICT program.