



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 4 April 2019

**MOTION**

**Federal Budget**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.43 am): I rise to speak against the motion. How dare this government lecture anybody on economic management. They have the hide to stand up and criticise a government that has brought about growth and brought about one of the lowest unemployment rates in years. How dare they do that.

Just this week, we have seen the competence level of this Deputy Premier and Treasurer. Under the cloak of the budget, the Deputy Premier tried to sneak through this little fact: 'We're just a little bit out in our projection for the budget for the end of the year.' Just four months ago, this is what the MYFER said: 'an improved outlook for transfer duties in 2018-19'. Just 100 days later, the Treasurer advised Queenslanders, 'I was a little bit out. In fact, it's not an increase, it's a decrease'—and it is not by a few million dollars but by \$1,000 million. The Treasurer has the hide—

**Mr Bleijie:** The audacity.

**Mr MANDER:** The audacity, I will take that interjection. She has the audacity about the federal budget. The other thing we heard this morning is that the Premier gave no guarantee that they would not increase taxes or introduce new taxes to pay for that black hole, to pay for that blunder by the Treasurer. I fear for Queenslanders in the next budget because they are going to have to fill that black hole some way. This government have introduced five new taxes to bring in around \$2.4 billion a year and still they have this black hole that they have to fill. It is embarrassing.

That \$1,000 million would pay to construct 25 brand-new schools, but they said, 'It's a rounding error. It's nothing. It's a mistake. Everybody's experiencing the same thing'—but other states plan for it, and this Treasurer did not. They thought that the transfer duties would increase, and 100 days later it has come down.

This government has no right to lecture anybody about economic management. It has an unemployment rate of 5.7 per cent, where the federal unemployment rate is five per cent—that is, 5.7 per cent compared to five per cent. When we look at business confidence, this government has the least amount of confidence from small and medium sized businesses in the nation. When it comes to construction jobs, the December 2018 quarter was the worst for construction we have seen since 2006 and was \$7.5 billion below the peak under the LNP. The federal government has brought in a fantastic infrastructure spend and I want to give one example in my area. The linkwood road—

**Mr Powell:** The Linkfield Road.

**Mr MANDER:** The Linkfield Road and the Gympie Arterial Road upgrade—that is \$100 million that Peter Dutton and the federal government have committed to.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Stewart): Order! Pause the clock. Members, let us bring it back to a normal level.

**Mr MANDER:** That is \$100 million that has been committed to this upgrade, where people in my electorate are stuck in traffic in peak hour for a long time as they try to get onto the main road. What has the member for Aspley done? The member for Aspley is touting a \$3.5 million split lane. He put it on Facebook and the constituents started laughing at him. They themselves can see the comparison between a little patch-up job and a total upgrade which is what is needed.

The Morrison government is a government that delivers tax cuts for all Australians and for Queenslanders. It is a government that invests in infrastructure. That is why it has an unemployment rate of five per cent. That is why it will be returned in May this year.