




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 20 May 2020

MOTION

Coronavirus, Economic Response

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (4.22 pm): In responding to what we are debating, I firstly have to put on the record that not one of the items listed by the Premier has not been backed by both the Leader of the Opposition and everyone on this side of the House, with one exception: road funding, where we have asked for and committed to significantly more. We understand the importance of roads to get rural communities going. We understand their importance to the tourism industry. We understand their importance for the agriculture industry.

The Premier listed many projects including CopperString, which this side of the House supported long before yesterday's road to Damascus conversion of the Premier. The LGAQ spoke in favour of it. The government decided to give the LGAQ one-third of what it asked for, but I respect that it is a contribution that will be valued and so too will the contribution to tourism.

When the government quotes QTIC as saying that it will help them prepare for the consumer of the future, it does not raise the issue in the immediate vicinity, and that is the opening of state borders. For the member for Keppel to selectively quote Daniel Gschwind is wrong. What the Queensland Tourism Industry Council has said, and what all sorts of representative bodies and chambers have said, is that they are prepared to back good medical advice, but when dates continue to change without any change in the medical advice people quite rightly question it. We had the Premier say July and then 24 hours later she said September—

Mr Harper interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Direct your comments through the chair, member for Thuringowa.

Mr CRISAFULLI:—and yet there has been no change in the medical advice. What people want is certainty. They want an end to the mixed messages. People are trying to lift their businesses from the canvas. They were gearing up for July. The business community said, 'If the medical advice changes, we are glad to accept that and we will go back into hibernation.'

As a result of one comment on ABC Radio which was in contrast to what the Chief Medical Officer agreed to only a few days before in relation to the road map and which is still in contrast to the federal government's medical advice that the borders can safely open—that is not good government and that is not clarity; those are mixed messages—right now the state is yearning for clear direction. Right now the tourism industry and all those who survive as a result of it just want clarity. When there has been no change to the medical advice but a flip-flopping of dates, people lose faith in government. The matters put forward are ones the opposition supports and we would like to add further to.

(Time expired)