




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.15 pm): Often at this time we witness the Treasurer launch into a personal attack of one kind or another, similar to what we have just witnessed from the Deputy Premier. Picking the petty political point of the day, we watch him yelling and staring down the opposition leader, as he did in the last term with the member for Nanango, or he will be picking on the member for Mudgeeraba. He is always seeking to intimidate—not by the power of his argument but by the vitriolic nature of his delivery. Those petty political points will rarely, if ever, relate to what he is actually paid to do—that is, be the Treasurer. We all know why. The Treasurer is not really that interested in being treasurer. His eyes are on another job. The Treasurer is a policy-free zone—an intellectual vacuum. I cannot remember a single macro-economic issue on which he showed leadership or even interest. In fact, what did the Treasurer do to the one government agency that could deliver him ideas? He shut it down!

The Treasurer survives on talking points and talking big, but deep down there is simply nothing there. If there was something there, we would be hearing from the Treasurer about how Queensland will improve its comparatively poor economic performance and how reform could potentially deliver productivity gains across the economy. If the Treasurer had his mind on the job he would have known the state's debt number. If he had his mind on the job he would have asked serious questions about the taxpayer investment in Virgin. If he had his mind on the job he would not get caught up re-tweeting the health minister's botched tweets. If he had his mind on the job he would have known the location of the Olympic International Broadcasting Centre, which was agreed to by all levels of government pre Tokyo. If he had his mind on the job he would have prioritised business support over media releases and fluffy pooch photos.

If he had his mind on the job the budget would have better considered its assumptions prior to Queensland businesses being locked down in the first month of this financial year. If he had his mind on the job he would not offer irresponsibly gratuitous advice to the federal member for Leichhardt; instead, he would have taken the financial assistance on offer from the federal government. If he had his mind on the job he would have offered a pathway back to a AAA credit rating. If he had his mind on the job he would not obsessively rant about the member for Mudgeeraba and others, throwing about misrepresentations with impunity. However, there is just nothing there.

Recently, global ratings agency Fitch Ratings assigned New South Wales a AAA credit rating with a stable outlook. They highlighted that the state's strong economic management during COVID was one of the reasons. Currently, New South Wales is the only state in Australia with a AAA credit rating. Here in Queensland Labor did not just lose our credit rating at the height of a boom; the Treasurer now corporatises assets like the titles office to prevent another downgrade.

I could not help but notice the image recently produced about the titles office. We know that an outrageous valuation valued the Queensland titles office at about three times its New South Wales equivalent. Surely the government can deliver a more professional front to an asset the government says is worth \$7.8 billion. Is this really how an \$8 billion company presents itself to the world? Is this really the best customer service experience—

Mr KELLY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member is using the document as a prop and I request that it be tabled.

Mr JANETZKI: I will be tabling it, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Thank you. Can you can stop waving the document around?

Mr JANETZKI: I table it now.

Tabled paper: Photograph depicting a drop box at the Queensland Titles Office [2017](#).

Is this really the best customer experience Queensland offers for the country's most expensive titles searches? The Property Council executive director, Jen Williams, recently noted in the *Sunday Mail*—

... broader tax reform is needed to ensure Queensland regains the mantle of the low-taxing state.

How could we forget the horror of the Trad budget that loaded Queensland up with more debt—long before COVID—and taxes including the foreign land tax surcharge and additional foreign acquirer duty? With inflation rising across the western world, supply chain and logistics challenges and serious shortages in supplies and labour, let alone private capital, how will the Treasurer prove that we are open for business and the government is ready to join with the private sector to build the Queensland of tomorrow ready for the Olympic Games?

In 2022 we will continue to call for leadership from the Treasurer on these important questions for our future. My fear is that after waiting for the Treasurer to provide economic leadership there is simply nothing there.

(Time expired)