



Speech By  
**Ali King**


**MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE**

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Record of Proceedings, 31 March 2022

## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

### **Federal Budget**

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.46 pm): The federal budget was a dud. Scott Morrison has fudged it and Queensland, as expected, is not getting its fair share. In 2019 when he smirked from the podium and proclaimed 'How good is Queensland', we at least hoped he might deliver for Queensland, but he has proven to be a sad sack of disappointment. My federal budget wish list was not fancy, but it would have made a real difference for Pumicestone communities.

I wanted the Prime Minister to front up with fifty-fifty health funding as promised under the national health partnership agreement so we could have more doctors, more nurses, more beds and more infrastructure. I wanted to see him fix our GP crisis by increasing Medicare rebates for doctors so people are not waiting up to four weeks for an appointment in my community. We wanted to see fair flood recovery funding for flood impacted households in our communities. I wanted to see an end to the cuts to NRAS housing that will see 140 Pumicestone families turfed out of their homes.

**Mr Hart** interjected.

**Ms KING:** Member for Burleigh, that is not the way to refer to people who are losing their homes. I wanted to see funding to upgrade Bribe Island Road brought forward to this year, not four years from now. But Scott Morrison has duded us. He is the Prime Minister who cut health funding during a pandemic. We watched the Queensland LNP march in to the chamber all fired up to talk about health, but then they sat there in silence because the budget of their mate Scott Morrison has ripped \$21 million from Queensland hospitals next year and \$176 million over the next three years. There was nothing for GPs and there was nothing for aged care. Unlike our federal Labor candidate, Scott Morrison totally failed on bringing forward that key Bribe Island Road funding that will get people home sooner and safer.

Shamefully the budget did nothing to fix the flood injustices that Queensland communities are facing. Under Scott Morrison, if you are flooded in Beachmere you can only get \$1,000 in grants, but in Ballina you can get \$3,000. In Ipswich locals can get \$1,000, while in Alstonville they get \$3,000. People in Gympie get \$1,000 but in Grafton they get \$3,000. How is that fair? Our \$771 million flood recovery package has seen no response from the Prime Minister. As usual he is missing in action. At least if he was in Hawaii he would be making Jenny happy. As it is, not even the Queensland LNP will speak up for him. It is not just that he is bad at being Prime Minister; it is that he is a bad person and it leaks into everything he does.

Just ask his friends. He is an empty autocrat with no moral compass who is all announcement, no delivery. He offers nothing but a merry-go-round of distractions. His comments about renters were a distraction from the texts, which were a distraction from the RAT crisis, which were a distraction from the booster shortages, which were a distraction from his failures on women, which were a distraction from his vaccine strollout, which was a distraction from the bushfires. The Prime Minister needs to be voted out.