



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 8 November 2022

**MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): We have reached the halfway point in this term of government. Today during question time we saw a government without a vision, without a plan—a government that is running out of puff. In response to questions, ministers barely lasted 30 seconds before going on the offensive and trying to run the same old scare campaign. This is a government that will be a decade in the wilderness by the time of the next election, a government that after seven and a half years cannot articulate a vision for the future, a government that continues to put politics over people. That was shown during the lead-up to the federal election campaign when on a number of occasions the Premier injected herself into that campaign and said a change in government would deliver fifty-fifty health funding. That was the same election campaign where the now Prime Minister said governments do not get better in their fourth term. Only one of those statements has proven to be correct.

Let me list some of the achievements of the opposition in the last two years: we have exposed the crisis of Queensland Health—we have shown that under this government ambulance ramping is at 44 per cent, three times what it inherited; we have exposed what happened at Caboolture, at Mackay, the lack of birthing services at Gladstone and satellite hospitals in name only; we helped families locked out of Queensland; we put a spotlight on youth crime that is running out of control; we forced a Fitzgerald analysis into the CCC and a Coaldrake review into the Public Service and we are going to keep fighting until there is a review into the government; we called for and secured a royal commission into the forensic services lab when those opposite said we were politicking; we stood up for the homeless and we said that if the Premier was not willing to convene a summit we would; we killed the renters tax; and we exposed \$220 million of Wellcamp waste that was used to make a political point to save the Deputy Premier's credibility.

On the last weekend of October we took to the streets. While those opposite were talking about themselves, we went and listened to Queenslanders. I want to thank all of our volunteers. I want to thank every member on this side of this House. We were on street corners from the north to the border. We were out in places like Longreach and everywhere in between. Queenslanders told us they want better services. They want to know that if their relative falls and breaks a hip maybe, just maybe, an ambo will not be stuck at the end of the ramp and might turn up in their hour of need. They want to know that if someone breaks into their home while their child is asleep maybe there might just be a blue uniform with the laws to back them up. They want to know that when it is time for their daughter to buy her first home she might be able to do so. They want to know that a vulnerable relative might have a social house put over their head. They want to know that they can turn on the power point and electricity will be affordable, reliable and sustainable. They want a government to act with integrity. They want an economy that works for everyone, and cost of living remains front and centre.

Our approach for the next two years will be the following: the government has stopped listening to Queenslanders—we will listen harder than ever; the government is only interested in how things look—we will be relentlessly focused on how they are for Queenslanders; the government is slow to

address problems—we will seize every opportunity to act on their behalf. That means more Queensland Health crisis town halls; that means more scrutiny in question time, even when those opposite feign all manner of reasons why they should not be put under scrutiny; and that means more focus on this government's failures inside and out of this House.

Today we took up the fight on youth crime. Question after question was asked on behalf of Queenslanders—Queenslanders in Cairns who have experienced a rise in crime the likes of which they have never seen before and, as the shadow Attorney raised, a resident is fearful to go out to get milk from the shop. We raised issues from mums and dads who have wayward children and want laws to be able to put them back on the straight and narrow. We raised issues from families that will never again hold a son or daughter. We raised them because they asked us to. We will continue to give them a voice. Those opposite will run through all manner of the words we heard today. We heard the word 'complex' many times. We heard the word 'reviews' many times. We even heard the Premier say it is only 10 per cent of offenders. If it is only 10 per cent, deal with it—fix it up. How can you sit in this House with the eyeballs of—

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Order! Comments will come through the chair.

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** How can the government sit in this House with the eyeballs of Queenslanders who have lost loved ones on them and not feel the need to act? How can the government believe that laws they changed when they immediately won office have not led to a generation of young offenders who know their way around? Question after question came forward on behalf of Queenslanders. If you boil it down, it is about consequences for actions. A good system allows those who stray early in their journey of crime to be given every opportunity to turn their life around—with compassion, with decency, with the ability to get educated, to get employed. For those repeat habitual offenders—the 10 per cent—eventually the government has to acknowledge that after 7½ years the laws they changed have led to a Queensland that is not as safe as it once was.

The questions we asked today were on behalf of Queenslanders; they wrote those questions. Feel free to cast barbs at us, but in doing so the government is criticising families who want and deserve action. The Premier is walking away from the responsibility of the legislation the government introduced. Today we heard the Premier talk about politicians not making these decisions. Courts enforce the government's laws. The government makes the law. Every day judges are not given the tools to do their job. Queenslanders will judge this government.

They have seen it time and time again. They have seen what occurs when a government waters down laws for political favours and to buy political favours from mates. Queenslanders are living it. They are living it on the border towns, they are living it in the Far North, they are living it in the west, they are living it in Brisbane, they are living it on both the Sunshine and Gold coasts, and they are living it in Townsville and Mackay. We can tell the stories. We can point to the changes that are needed. We can talk about the government's so-called tough laws that had GPS trackers fitted to barely anyone. However, in the end, the best synopsis comes from Ben Beaumont, a man who will never again have the opportunity to hug his son. He said, 'Under Labor's youth justice laws there is no better time to be a juvenile criminal.'