




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Shadow Cabinet

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (2.10 pm): Do you know what? Keep it up, I say!

Opposition members interjected.

Dr MILES: Keep it up! Every day the Leader of the Opposition outsources the LNP's strategy to the member for Kawana is a good day for us. In fact, he has left the member for Kawana to do so much that I am not sure what the Leader of the Opposition does anymore apart from those social media videos sometimes viewed by up to a dozen people. He has not proposed any real policies. They have not introduced any private member's bills: they are leaving that to the Katters and the Greens. The 'Emperor's Only Clothes' was a made-up story about a laptop which is now thoroughly discredited.

They are clearly not discussing anything at their shadow cabinet meetings because now we know their shadow cabinet does not really meet at all. The shadow cabinet only met 10 times last year. That is a massive \$6,200 for every one of those plodders to go to each meeting. There is not a single one this year declared in his official parliamentary diary. Now he stands up here and says, 'No, we did meet. I just didn't put it in the diary.' 'You didn't put it in the diary?' 'I did last year but I didn't this year.' What other meetings are you hiding?

Opposition members interjected.

Dr MILES: Meetings with developers? Meetings with donors?

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

Dr MILES: Or just the meetings with your own shadow cabinet 10 times last year?

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. The level of interjection is extremely high. Comments will all come through the chair. I will start to warn people.

Dr MILES: He now claims there were 31 meetings in total. We met 41 times last year alone while those opposite could only meet 10 times, and every single meeting is in the Premier's diary, my diary, the Treasurer's diary, the Minister for Transport's diary, the Minister for Energy's diary, the Minister for Housing's diary—all of our diaries include every single cabinet meeting.

The Leader of the Opposition has egg on his face and should explain why he has misled this parliament in his tabled diaries. I guess he was too busy meeting with himself to check his diary entries when his office prepared them. Maybe, just like the former prime minister, he thinks he is too good for a team. He thinks he can do it all by himself.

While the Leader of the Opposition continues to meet with himself, on this side of the House we are working hard to deliver jobs and skills. The Premier just launched our government's workforce strategy, focused on making sure Queenslanders have the skills our future economy needs. Those opposite cannot even do the job they have now. In a major achievement the Leader of the Opposition has achieved something today: they fixed their website. Until question time when you clicked on the shadow cabinet button it said, 'Sorry, this page cannot be found.' Now they have fixed it. I hope they did not have to have a meeting to do so. They may not meet together very often as a shadow cabinet, but they do meet. I have seen them. I am sure you have all seen them. They meet in small groups in corridors, at the cafe, in corners—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members! It is not Halloween yet. Control yourselves.

Dr MILES:—in chosen little bars around town after the House rises. It is always the same: heads down, shaking, hushed tones and serious voices. 'It's just not working out,' you hear them say to each other. 'He's not one of us. He's not cutting through.' They know. Look at them up there: they know. The Leader of the Opposition has his little subcommittee of Nats and his subcommittee of Gold Coast MPs. He does not have a subcommittee of regional MPs; they do not have any of those. We will continue governing for Queenslanders. We will continue to deliver on our agenda to provide the skills and workforce our state needs for the future. We will not be distracted by this little sideshow.