




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 30 March 2022

MOTION

Federal Budget

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (4.38 pm): What is the modus operandi of this government? It is: if you cannot deliver the services yourself, blame someone or something else. That is what this motion is all about. It is about blaming the federal government. I am amazed that Campbell Newman's name is not mentioned in this motion. I am amazed that COVID is not mentioned in this motion. I am amazed that the Brisbane City Council is not mentioned in this motion. I am amazed that Winton, the Premier's dog, is not mentioned in this motion for biting her a couple of years ago.

It is amazing that this government consistently look for somebody else to blame when they cannot deliver the services themselves. There is no truer statement to prove that than what they have done, or have not done, with housing. Over the last seven years, the public housing waiting list has increased not by 10 per cent, not by 30 per cent and not by 40 per cent; it has increased by 70 per cent in the last seven years. There are 50,000 people on the social housing waiting list and 80 per cent of those people are regarded as being very high need. What is this government's response to that? This government in the last five years have delivered a miserly—

Mrs Frecklington: Measly.

Mr MANDER: Measly, and miserly as well. They have delivered an increase of less than one per cent in public housing bedrooms. This is a government that have failed miserably. We have even got the member for Capalaba blaming the Redland City Council for the housing crisis. If it was not so serious, it would be funny.

This motion reminds me of a Monty Python skit in the *Life of Brian*—'What did the Romans ever do for us?' I can imagine Minister Enoch sitting around with her advisers saying, 'What did the feds ever do for us? Absolutely nothing.' Then one of them says, 'Oh, Minister, there is the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation that delivers a billion dollars for community housing,' and the minister goes, 'Okay, other than the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation, what else have the feds done for us?' Then an adviser says, 'Well, there is the Commonwealth Rent Assistance program which provides tens of millions of dollars every year to help them pay their rent,' and the minister goes, 'All right, other than the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation and the Commonwealth Rent Assistance program, what else has the federal government done for us with housing?' The adviser says, 'Well, Minister, there is the First Home Loan Deposit Scheme deposit guarantee to help young people buy new houses,' and the minister goes, 'Well, other than the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation, the Commonwealth Rent Assistance program and the First Home Loan Deposit Scheme deposit guarantee, what have the feds done for Queensland with housing?'

This government is a total and absolute joke. The Treasurer has come in here and talked about cuts to the health budget when he attempted to decrease the health budget—well, not decrease it; he tried to smash it to pieces—by \$1 billion. It was only because of the pressure and the leaks from his own department that he had to back down cowardly and walk away from his commitment.

Mr Watts: He hasn't got the numbers.

Mr MANDER: I will take that interjection; he does not have the numbers. How predictable was this government motion? We were surprised it did not happen straight after question time. How predictable.

An opposition member interjected.

Mr MANDER: Exactly, we could not wait for it. We have a housing crisis in this state. Rather than blame every man and his dog—or every woman and her dog—this government needs to look at itself and work out what it has to do to deliver services. This government needs to grow up and act like an adult government—not a government that simply blames everybody for its own shortcomings. This is a government that looks for every cover it can when it is engulfed in an integrity crisis. I heard the Treasurer ask earlier, 'What's happening with the integrity crisis?' I can tell him, 'It ain't going away, trust me. You'll get cover for a week with regards to the budget.' Grow up and be an adult government.