




Speech By
Ali King

MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

MOTION

Sunshine Coast

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (5.21 pm): What a sad and desperate contribution from the member for Nanango. I rise in support of the motion as amended by the member for Morayfield. As originally drafted, this motion is nothing more than one big own goal from the LNP. For a start, whoever thought that Pumicestone was on the Sunshine Coast?

Mr Mickelberg interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member for Buderim, you are warned.

Ms KING: The people of Pumicestone would be very surprised to hear it described as such. The people of Pumicestone know that they do not live on the Sunshine Coast. They also know that it is only Labor that invests in health and only Labor that builds hospitals. We backed our community with a massive \$399 million redevelopment of the Caboolture Hospital. The hospital has been doubled in size and can offer a whole range of new services. There is a new emergency department, a new paediatric emergency department and new cardiac care services, which were all desperately needed. What did the LNP say about our massive expansion of the Caboolture Hospital when they were last campaigning in 2017? They said that it was a stunt. They said that it was not needed. The Leader of the Opposition should bring his woeful spokesperson for health up to Caboolture and go door to door to tell my constituents that their amazing new hospital is a stunt and is not needed. It is only Labor that invests in health services in Pumicestone and right across Queensland.

Building hospitals is not a part of their right-wing priorities and satellite hospitals are missing from their dodgy dot points. The Leader of the Opposition needs to finally stand up and outline his plans. Will he cut chemo from our satellite hospital? Will he privatise our satellite hospital? The LNP are on the record as saying that the funding to build the Bribie Island Satellite Hospital should have been spent on building a private hospital instead. That is what they back when it comes to health care. They want to privatise. They want to build a private hospital. The LNP vandalised health care in Pumicestone when they marched 732 local nurses out the door. They took a hatchet to health services. The only time we see the LNP in Pumicestone is when they blow in, attack our hospitals, attack our health workers, spread their fake news and then blow out again—back to Glass House in most cases.

They have a hide talking about roads in Pumicestone. Let us remember that, when they were last in government, the LNP cut \$13.6 million from the Bribie Island Road. Queenslanders do not forget that the LNP slashed \$1.6 billion from Queensland's roads budget and they sacked 700 RoadTek workers. That is what they stand for and what a contrast that is with Labor. In Pumicestone, the concept designs for the next Bribie Island bridge will soon be coming up for community feedback. Beachmere Road is getting a start-to-finish upgrade, which is four times the upgrade proposed by the LNP.

Mr Head interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat, please, member. Member for Callide, I cannot see you but I can hear you. You are warned under the standing orders.

Ms KING: We have not one, not two, not three but four separate upgrades to the Bribie Island Road underway right now. When in government, the LNP did not start one upgrade to the Bribie Island Road. In his very first presser as Leader of the Opposition, the member for Broadwater axed his support for a new Bribie Island bridge and he shrunk before our very eyes. Now the LNP are pretending that there have been cuts to the Bribie Island Road. I will stand up for my community every day of the week against the federal government if that is what is required, but the Bribie Island Road project got \$9 million extra under the federal infrastructure review. The LNP is spreading fake news about fake cuts.

The people of Pumicestone are not stupid. They know fake news from the LNP when they see it and hear it and when it lands in their letterboxes and on their social media feeds. They know that the only time we see the LNP in Pumicestone is when they are trying to scam people out of their vote, like they are doing with their dodgy desalination plant scare campaign. The minister ruled it out and the Deputy Premier ruled it out because Bribie Island just does not stack up for a desalination plant, neither environmentally nor financially. We are an awfully long way from the water grid. The LNP has a hide spreading their fake news about a desalination plant on Bribie Island because in 2009 they backed a desalination plant on Bribie Island. They wanted to see a 125-megalitre desalination plant on Bribie Island.

The LNP are bad news for Pumicestone. They cannot deliver roads and they are a disaster on health. All they deliver is fake news pamphlets and dodgy dot points. The Leader of the Opposition is nothing more than an empty vessel. He has no plans, no leadership and nothing to offer Queenslanders except cuts. I will back our government's record and my record in Pumicestone delivering for our community every day of the week against that of the LNP. The people of Pumicestone know that the LNP only stand for cuts.