




Speech By
Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2023

MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government Polling

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (5.12 pm): I am happy to rise to speak in support of the motion moved by the member for Maroochydore. I am happy to touch on some of the points in the amendment moved by the member for Bulimba, particularly point 1 about listening to Queenslanders. As long as I have been in this place I have heard the Premier and ministers come in here and talk about listening to Queenslanders, and now we find that they are outsourcing that key responsibility to the tune of \$400,000. As the minister just alluded to, we all know what the biggest issue impacting Queenslanders is at the moment. It is cost of living. It is amazing that the Premier could spend \$400,000 on that polling, because we know that the only person she needs to call when it comes to setting the agenda for this government and for her future is a guy by the name of 'Blocker'. The amount of \$400,000 has been wasted on polling when we all know what the biggest issue is.

Unfortunately, Queensland is the capital of the cost-of-living crisis in this country. We know off the back of recent CPI data that rent is up 9.5 per cent, health costs are up seven per cent, transport costs are up 6.4 per cent and the cost of community sport is up over 10 per cent. The critical thing with these stats is that every single one of these is a key state government responsibility and all four are the highest in the nation. What is the government doing about this? We know that they have the wrong priorities and that inflation and skyrocketing prices, which are putting an enormous burden on families, particularly leading up to Christmas, are a result of wasteful, excessive spending by this government that is no doubt in crisis and chaos. I would like to mention a couple of examples.

Recently Foodbank released their annual report. They acknowledged that one in five families in Queensland is suffering from food insecurity. They also report that for every \$1 given to Foodbank they can produce two nutritious meals. In the last budget this government allocated \$315,000 to Foodbank. We now know that they are spending \$400,000 of hardworking Queensland taxpayers' money on polling. We now know that, thanks to Foodbank, that \$400,000 could provide 800,000 nutritious meals for Queenslanders. One in five families is suffering from food insecurity at the moment. A lot of us would know about the Eat Up program in schools such as Richlands State School in the Premier's own electorate. An amount of \$400,000 could include another 400 schools in that program and feed vulnerable young Queenslanders in communities right across Queensland.

Closer to home, just last week I went to the electorate of Nicklin, where I caught up with the former and soon-to-be member for Nicklin, Marty Hunt. We caught up with the founders of Trees of Hope at The Shack. Every year The Shack runs a program called Trees of Hope where they call for donations to feed the most vulnerable people in Nicklin and across the Sunshine Coast. For about \$100 they could provide a family—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member, you will not use that as a prop. You will read from it or you will table it.

Mr PURDIE: I am about to table it, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then table it.

Mr PURDIE: I am happy to table that document.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Your Can! Will Make A Tonne of Difference' [1897](#).

This document shows a list of nutritious foods and other items that a family can enjoy on Christmas Day to the value of \$100. An amount of \$400,000 would provide 4,000 of those family meals for Christmas Day. That is a quarter of the families in Nicklin. Similarly, Gateway Care in Caloundra, which I have been to, as has the member for Kawana—I know that the candidate for Caloundra has also been to it and is going to it—can provide meals for 50 cents a meal. How far could \$400,000 go?

Last week I went down to Baby Give Back on the Gold Coast, in the electorate of Burleigh. There I met Carly. For years they have been providing a service to vulnerable young mums and young families on the Gold Coast. They are seeing that, whereas they used to provide second-hand prams and cots to help families, young mums are now turning up asking for boxes of nappies. If they can get a free box of nappies, they can instead spend that money on food for their family. Mums are having to decide between nappies and food. They have never seen such demand for their service. Based on a quick Google search that shows that nappies are now about \$10 a box, \$400,000 would provide tens of thousands of nappies to young families on the Gold Coast.

It is only the LNP that will prioritise policies that will put money back in the pockets of Queenslanders. We do not need polls from Palaszczuk; we need policies. The LNP will devise policies that will ensure that every Queensland family and every Queensland business has money in their pocket and that it is not wasted by this government, which is in chaos and crisis.