



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 October 2023

## **MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

### **Palaszczuk Labor Government**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): After three terms and nearly a decade in office the Palaszczuk government has the wrong priorities for Queensland. This is a government that views everything through the prism of its political survival, and today we saw that on display with the complete and utter lack of a plan when it comes to water infrastructure. In a moment the shadow minister will unpack how a decade of poor planning has resulted in chaos, infighting and a policy vacuum from a government that no longer views things through the prism of what it means to people. I want to explain why this matters.

Labor's failure to plan means less water and more bills, less housing and more rent, less industry and more unemployment. That is the flow-on effect from a decade of poor planning. Make no mistake, we do not need to go back a decade to see the chaos and crisis of this government. Let me remind the House what has unfolded since we were in this place last, barely a month ago, in another chaotic episode of this government in Queensland.

The patients tax that was not for reversing, that had to be done on a certain structure, there was no way it could be changed, we were locked into some sort of national arrangement—we heard all sorts of gobbledegook from the Treasurer. In another humiliating backflip in a series of humiliating backflips, the patients tax now has a new iteration. I will make this point. Despite the humiliating backdown, we still have doctors coming and speaking with the opposition, saying that in the Treasurer's failure to admit he got it wrong, the consequence will be more registration, more administration and less time to see people.

**Mr Dick:** We've given a hundred million bucks a year.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Order, Treasurer! You are on the speaking list next.

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** I will take the interjection from the Treasurer who just will not listen to people at the front line. He is part of a government that stopped listening. We saw the clearing house, which we were told could not be done financially or technologically, whatever that means, but after another sustained amount of pressure, the impossible became possible. That is the benefit of diligent opposition when a government is wrapped in chaos and crisis. We saw building codes where the industry pleaded with the government and the shadow minister on multiple occasions and said, 'Follow the lead of the other states. Do this in a sober and a judicious way and allow industry to be able to transition.' The government said that was not possible, yet somehow at the 11th hour it cherrypicked half of the equation and made half of it possible. Somehow they managed to find a way to alienate everybody in the industry by not listening and not acting.

We saw the new royal commission called into the DNA debacle. It took seven months for the first royal commission to be called. For seven months we were told we were politicking. On this occasion a brave whistleblower and the mother of a murdered young woman stood up and refused to take no for an answer. Despite that, a minister of the Crown attempted to play them off like some sort of political

plaything. That is the point we have reached in government in Queensland. However, they did not back down. I say to Dr Kirsty Wright and to Vicki Blackburn, 'You are the heroes of the DNA debacle in calling this out. You are the heroes in ensuring this sordid chapter of a failure that has denied people justice might reach the end so we can finally deliver victims the peace they need and the knowledge that the people who deserve to be behind bars might just be.'

We saw the saga with the Griffith University, and I will leave that to the deputy leader. When government becomes about, 'Hey comrade, the Premier needs to announce something,' you know you have reached the bottom of the pile. When a Labor director-general phones a former Labor MP, a former treasurer, and says, 'We need an announcement. Please help us,' and the result has no details, no planning, no way of delivering and it cost people who were living out of their homes, who were living in vulnerable situations, \$2 million in missed opportunities we see a government that only cares about the announcement.

We passed 150 days in the last month since Albanese announced the 90-day infrastructure review. I can only imagine what the response would have been from those opposite. What would have happened in that review? But this is a government that is no longer about Queensland. This government—

**Mr Janetzki** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order, member for Toowoomba South.

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** It was so bad the member for Miller's fingers did not work on Twitter. He was unable to even tweet about it. That is the kind of paralysis that the 90-day infrastructure review—that has turned into 150 days—has delivered.

Mr Deputy Speaker, let me make this commitment to you: when it was an LNP government in Canberra, this team stood up for Queensland. Now that it is a Labor government in Canberra we will stand up for Queensland.

**Ms PEASE:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The Leader of the Opposition is misleading the House.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! I have made it very clear in the past that I take points of order in silence and I respond to them in silence. Member, there is a process for dealing with misleading the House. It is not to rise to a point of order. There is no point of order.

**Mr CRISAFULLI:** I will point to the number of times we heard about fifty-fifty health funding before the last election and the absolute silence after. I point to how many times we had criticism over infrastructure projects that were not funded before the election and complete silence after. I make this commitment to every Queenslanders: we do not care if it is the red team or the blue team in Canberra; we are on team maroon. We are for Queensland. We are for Queensland and Queensland deserves its fair share.

When industry tells us that as a result of this paralysis infrastructure in this state has become frozen and the pipeline of works has dried up, that means that people who rely on it for work—to be able to go to work and earn a living—do not have the ability to plan into the future and people who are stuck in their car who want to get home to their family do not have the ability to do that either. That is the consequence of a failure to plan.

This government has the wrong priorities for Queensland. What are the priorities that Queenslanders are after? They want to know that when they go to bed at night they are safe. They want to know that a repeat, hardcore offender will not be standing at their front door with a knife or ramming a police car because of watered down laws and fewer police. They want to know when they pick up the phone in their hour of need they will be able to get an ambulance. That matters to them. They want to know their kids can afford to own their own home.

In recent times I have been travelling around Queensland listening to Queenslanders about their priorities. I listened to people in Mareeba who told me what it is like to no longer be able to have babies in that town or to get dialysis treatment. That matters to them. I was in a park in the Redlands when I heard from pensioners who cannot afford a security system to keep them safe and who are not sleeping well. I heard from the owner of a supermarket that has been rammed over a dozen times. Every time there is a cost on them. I heard from a young apprentice tradie who is unable to replace his stolen trailer and what that has meant to him. I sat with the member for Southport and we listened to some young Queenslanders tell us that they do not believe they can own a home. That is the consequence of a government that does not have the right priorities for Queensland.

In just over a year, Queenslanders get to make a choice for their priorities in the future—a choice between a government fixated on clinging to power or an LNP team focused on priorities that matter for Queenslanders; between a government wracked by infighting, bogged down by chaos and crisis, or a united, stable LNP team; between a government that only cares about its own survival or an LNP team that is fighting for the things that matter to Queenslanders; between a government seeking a fourth term—14 years in office—or a fresh start under an LNP team that has the right priorities for Queensland.