



Speech By David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

MOTION

Liberal National Party, Cuts

Mr CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (4.11 pm): And then there were four: first we had health minister Fentiman with a failure; secondly we had Deputy Premier Miles with an absolute failure; and then we had Treasurer Dick with a flop. What has now happened is the Premier said, 'Is there anyone else on the front bench ready to defend my honour? Is there anybody?' She looked around and all she could find was the poor lonely assistant minister, who has been quiet as a church mouse the entire term. All of a sudden he gets rolled out in a desperate bid to distract from the Deputy Premier's disastrous trip to Canberra.

Labor might be considering cuts to the Public Service: the LNP believes in an independent Public Service, an empowered Public Service, a Public Service that wants to go to work. When I read the Coaldrake review I see a Public Service living in entrenched fear—a culture where ministerial staff walk around like little generals barking orders, and a culture where a minister can hide cover-ups like massive blowouts without any consultation, without any accountability, without any remorse.

This motion is nothing more than a bid to attack the Brisbane City Council and the opposition on a day when the Deputy Premier's trip to Canberra ended in chaos. The trip to Canberra was supposed to be about bringing home the bacon—all it was was an appetite for a long lunch. That is all we got from the Deputy Premier, who was supposed to go down and defend the honour of this state.

Mr Deputy Speaker, let me tell you what the LNP's vision is for our Public Service. We believe in a Public Service where there will be an independent public service commissioner to break the nexus between the Premier's department and the Public Service Commission. We will set clear KPIs for directors-general and ministers to be held accountable. We believe in making sure the internal complaints process is improved. The graduates program will be the best in the nation. If we are to have the best Public Service, we need the best homegrown public servants. When contracts or consultancies are entered into there must be a capacity-building opportunity for our Public Service. We must have timeliness when it comes to ensuring that training and professional development are delivered to all public servants, and there will be no forced redundancies. The LNP believes there is a better way. Services are crumbling and the priorities of this government are wrong. The only way to fix it is to show Labor the door in '24!