



Speech By David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

Record of Proceedings, 25 May 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

Mr JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (2.13 pm): The next time parliament sits will be for the budget—the Palaszczuk government's ninth. For the next three weeks, we will witness an avalanche of announcements—some will have already been announced, some will be unfunded blackholes and some will reveal misguided priorities. The opposition is setting three tests.

Firstly, can the Premier provide solutions for the underlying service delivery failures that are driving down Queensland living standards? Queensland is ground zero for the national cost-of-living crisis. Queenslanders need relief now and long-term service delivery reform to secure living standards in the future. The statewide crime crisis is driving up home and car insurance premiums. The Palaszczuk government promised 150 times that power would be cheaper; it is not, as our state owned energy assets have been improperly maintained. An inability to deliver housing lots to the market, infrastructure and social housing is worsening availability and affordability. Fixing these problems through good budgets that target service needs and economic opportunities will safeguard the living standards of Queenslanders.

Secondly, will the budget fund projects today and not push them into the never-never, with accountability commitments to deliver these projects on time and on budget? The Housing Investment Fund has not delivered a house. The hospitals and health plan has not delivered a new bed, ward or hospitals—and hotel beds do not count. Self-proclaimed record health and policing budgets have delivered the worst ramping in the country, blowouts in waiting lists and fewer actual police than this time two years ago.

Thirdly, we need the Premier to deliver a budget with a clear economic strategy. We have seen tax promises given 26 times abandoned, regulatory certainty destroyed and key investors and trade relationships damaged. It is a measure of the chaos and crisis of the Palaszczuk government that not even their federal Labor comrades trust them with spending money: Olympic contributions are capped, key water projects have been scrapped and Bruce Highway funding has been delayed until beyond the next federal election. There is \$15 billion in state building projects on the Albanese and Chalmers chopping block, and the Premier and Treasurer have not said a thing.

We need leadership from the Premier so that the whole of government is empowered to tackle the challenges and seize the opportunities in front of us. Never has Queensland been in this much debt. Never have we seen the wasteful spending of the magnitude that we see today. Never have Queenslanders paid more tax nor the Queensland government collected such rivers of revenue gold. But as each year of the Palaszczuk government passes, Queenslanders have less and less to show for it.