




Speech By
Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MOTION

Sunshine Coast

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (5.57 pm): The honourable member wants to know what we know. Well, I will tell you what we know: Bree Watson is coming for that member. She will bring dignity to this place and represent the people of Bundaberg, who have sadly been lacking in good representation for a few years just like the people of Caloundra have been lacking in good representation, as too the people of Pumicestone and Nicklin, which I will get to in a minute.

Let's start with the Palaszczuk government. They promised the world to the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast community thought, 'Wow, we might have some Labor members of government. The Labor government got re-elected. All things will flow to the Sunshine Coast.' Hasn't that been a great disappointment! This Labor government has delivered nothing for the Sunshine Coast. These Labor members have delivered nothing. They have sat on a fence that has grown so big because on every issue on the Sunshine Coast they have been sitting on it. The very first commitment the member for Caloundra made was to build a jail on Bowman Road in the tourist destination of Caloundra. He supported a youth jail, he wanted a youth jail and he advocated for a youth jail. I did the RTI. I saw the correspondence between him and the ministers. It was not until the member for Ninderry, the Caloundra community and I stood up against the Labor member for Caloundra and said 'no way' to Labor's jail in Caloundra that he backtracked.

He said, 'I never wanted a youth detention centre.' Rubbish. He spent a million dollars of taxpayer money on the Caloundra jail. I say to the Caloundra people: if the Labor government get re-elected in 2024, the youth jail is coming to Caloundra. He wants it. Whether he wants it for a future job opportunity, I do not know, but he wants it. The people of Caloundra do not want the youth jail. It is a tourist destination but he has campaigned for it. The member for Caloundra has sat silently as people in Shelly Beach have come to my office about Caloundra House. They have gone to the member for Caloundra about crime in the area, destruction and neighbourhood breakdown in Shelly Beach. He has said absolutely nothing. They are coming to the Kawana electorate office because they are not getting the service from the member for Caloundra.

Do you know who they are going to now? I will tell you who they are going to: Kendall Morton. Oh, my god, Mr Deputy Speaker Kelly; are you ready for this? There is a level of excitement in Caloundra now when Kendall goes around to community events. She is now being introduced at community events as the LNP candidate for Caloundra. She is known in the Caloundra community more than the hopeless Labor member who has been in there for three years. Kendall Morton is going to make a terrific member for Caloundra. She is a fantastic listener, she is a businesswoman, and she is going to make a fantastic contribution for the people of Caloundra. She will not sit on the issues that the current member for Caloundra has been doing as he wants to just sail back into office. Public office is not that easy.

The member for Caloundra has been silent on the Caloundra transport corridor—absolutely silent. When Minister Bailey came to the Sunshine Coast and issued a press release about the Caloundra road corridor, the member for Caloundra did not even go on the press release. He did not want to go on the press release. I have never seen it before where a backbencher in a government does not want to be advocating for a funded program—that the Labor government have just cut, I might add. The Labor Party have just cut from the Caloundra road project. They have also cut the Mooloolah River Interchange, where a huge safety upgrade is needed.

I was going to respond to the member for Pumicestone but I do not think anyone had any idea what she was talking about. The member for Caloundra was talking about crime like everything is good in Caloundra, like no-one should have any issues. I tell you what: when you have got unlawful use of a motor vehicle up 29 per cent on the Sunshine Coast, yes, people should be concerned. Unlawful entry—that is people breaking into people's homes—is up 19 per cent on the Sunshine Coast. Yes, member for Caloundra, people are concerned about this. Other thefts are up 27 per cent in the Sunshine Coast district. The member for Caloundra says, 'It's all good in Caloundra. It's all good. No problem.' That is not what the people of Caloundra are contacting my office about.

The Minister for Police says, 'I get feedback from my family members in Caloundra and it's all good in Caloundra.' That is as inexcusable as me saying, 'I bought three ducks years ago in Caboolture and I know all the local issues in Caboolture.' How ridiculous is the Minister for Police. Let us not even get to Minister Bailey. He says he is 'Bailey the Builder'. He is not; he is 'Bailey the Blunderer'.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): If your point of order is about correct titles, I will come to that.

Mr BAILEY: It is.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, I remind you to use correct titles.

Mr BLEIJIE: The people of Nicklin will have a chance to put Marty Hunt in there and he will be a great representative, as Clare Stewart will be in Noosa. Show Labor the door in '24.