



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

**MOTION**

**Liberal National Party, Cuts**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (4.28 pm): It is a truly sad day in Brisbane today. The workers of Brisbane are losing their jobs because Schrinner cannot do his job. I have seen him in the media parlaying himself around, trying to turn his cuts into a virtue, describing them as responsible economic management. When you have the resources of the Brisbane City Council to forecast a budget and you forecast a budget and then just three or four months later you have to slash 10 per cent off that budget, that is not responsible economic management. That results in the workers of Brisbane losing their jobs.

I see the failings of this council all the time in my community. When you drive down every street, you see grass growing out of the middle of the street. There are sporting clubs that are not supported. There is illegal dumping and when people ring the council and try to get that dealt with they get no response. I have lost count of the number of letters I have had to write to the Lord Mayor on behalf of constituents who have contacted their local councillors and have had absolutely no response on important issues like this. What we see again is workers losing their jobs because Schrinner cannot do his job.

He put out a budget in June and then he backflipped in October. It sounds like and reminds me of somebody else. It reminds me of the Leader of the Opposition. He walked into the regional sittings of parliament in Cairns and gave a speech about the Path to Treaty and then in October he backflipped on it. He made a solemn vote and then he backflipped on it. It must have been gutting for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

I tell you one thing he will not backflip on, and that is cutting the progressive coal royalties. They are definitely going to be cut. The QRC is banking on that. You have to ask: what projects are going to be cut? Will it be the Holland Park State High School? Will it be the Whites Hill State College? Will it be the expansion of the PA and the QEII hospitals? What are the projects he is going to cut? We need to know this because they are going to cut progressive coal royalties, as it says in this motion, and that means there will have to be projects cut.

Do you know what I thought was really hilarious today and yesterday? I have heard it a few times in this place. Those opposite come in here and start talking about costs on infrastructure projects. Do you know how they controlled costs on infrastructure projects? Do you know what their No. 1 control method for infrastructure projects was? They did not actually build any infrastructure projects. If you want to control the cost of infrastructure, you do not build any. The only thing they built in their three years, a mercifully short time in government, was a large building for themselves. I do not know what happened to the costs on that, but on every other project they did an excellent job of controlling the costs. They did an excellent job of controlling the costs because they built absolutely no infrastructure, and that will happen again. That will happen again with progressive coal royalties being cut.

*(Time expired)*