



Speech By  
**Kim Richards**


**MEMBER FOR REDLANDS**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 November 2023

**MOTION**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government Polling**

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (5.38 pm): What we have heard in the last four contributions from the opposition is discombobulating. The member for Lockyer said ‘do not talk to Queenslanders’, ‘talk to Queenslanders’, ‘do not talk to Queenslanders’, ‘the government should stop talking to Queenslanders’. This motion very much says that the government should not be talking to Queenslanders. That is absolutely crazy. We have literally just heard the member for Lockyer say that the government should not be talking to Queenslanders. Those opposite are trotting around the precinct and the chamber with that little blue pamphlet. Maybe the member has not yet read what is in it. I think it says that it is important to listen to Queenslanders. That is what the Palaszczuk government will do. That is what the Palaszczuk government has always done.

I was listening to the contribution from the member for Ninderry in terms of the spend. When we think about the \$70 million that was spent on the Strong Choices campaign, what does that look like? That is 2½ Jacaranda Places. If you put that back into the math of the day—I am not sure what the Barrett centre cost when they closed it, but I think \$70 million would have probably been at least two Barrett centres.

If we talk about cost comparisons and draw it back to nappies, I can tell the member for Ninderry that that is seven million boxes of nappies. That is an awful lot of nappies. I wonder if they have picked up the phone to call their friend Ian Macfarlane from the Queensland Resources Council. I know what \$40 million looks like in an advertising campaign because I have seen it on the TV. Imagine what \$40 million would do in our communities. That is a stark contrast. Back in the day, \$40 million would probably have built a satellite hospital. That is what our progressive royal royalties are doing. They are ensuring that our Palaszczuk government will continue to deliver the Big Build for all Queenslanders.

I am extraordinarily proud of the track record that we have in delivery for the Redlands. People have tapped me on the shoulder to talk about the satellite hospital and what a fantastic asset it is for our community. We know what the LNP’s agenda is. I would not be surprised if there is a secret little plan in some of their polling that has them saying, ‘I think we might privatise those satellite hospitals because that is in our DNA.’

They talk about costs, but let us look at their track record. The member for Maroochydore spoke about the Public Service. I was thinking, ‘Wow, have you forgotten that you sacked 14,000 public servants? Have you forgotten that?’ It is selective. They talk about transparency and accountability, but have they forgotten that they sacked the PCCC in the middle of the night? That is their track record. I have previously asked members opposite to put up their hands. Fifty per cent of them sat in the Campbell Newman government, but they are not keen to put up their hands and say whether they are tied to that track record and that history, which was appalling.

I think about how they closed the Wynnum hospital and the Barrett centre. They cut Skilling Queenslanders for Work, which is a program that we know delivers for our young people. Skilling Queenslanders for Work is an extraordinary program. We know what their plan was for our TAFEs. You only needed to look at how Alexandra TAFE had been absolutely gutted to know what their agenda was in that space.

Queenslanders are smart. Our communities can absolutely see that that blue pamphlet contains absolutely no content whatsoever. There is no real plan in there. It is just marketing spin and glossy words. The Palaszczuk government will always work hard to deliver for Queenslanders and we will do it in the Redlands. I want to talk about Cleveland-Redland Bay Road—

**Mr Smith** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Member for Bundaberg, you are warned under the standing orders.

**Mr McDONALD:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member for Bundaberg is not in his proper seat.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Lockyer, I maintain the order in this House. I had warned the member for Bundaberg. I do not need the assistance of members in managing the behaviour of this House. You are warned as well.

**Ms RICHARDS:** I am sorry for that little interruption. It is designed to interrupt. We have put \$110 million into the stage 1 duplication of Cleveland-Redland Bay Road. The LNP was not going to look at that project until 2026. It is in the records that 2026 was when they were going to look at that road. We have committed a further \$80 million to continue the duplication.

We know that pruning, cutting, sacking, selling and privatising is absolutely in the DNA of the LNP. To bring forward a motion that says 'don't talk to Queenslanders' is absolutely outrageous. I think that it speaks to their track record and to what Queenslanders can expect from an LNP government. If they ever get in, heaven help us.

*(Time expired)*