




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

Record of Proceedings, 15 March 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Coomera Electorate, Bus Services

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.13 pm): That was a lovely, uninterrupted speech by the transport minister and member for Miller. Let's see how I go. This is the first cab off the rank. In the last three weeks we have had kids and pensioners left behind by bus services on the northern Gold Coast. I have had kids who have been left at the station because a bus has been cancelled that morning. Parents, who have been unaware, have gone off to work and they have had to come back. It has taken them an hour to get back to their children to get them to school. Kinetic is not doing the job. They are cancelling services when there are limited services on the 728 and 729 in particular. There was a bus service, the 722, that was going in the wrong direction on two occasions. It was actually going in the wrong direction in two different directions: one was missing three bus stops; the other one was going to go back the other way and head back to Beenleigh after picking people up in Ormeau instead of going on to Ormeau train station. They are not doing their job.

This has been compounded by the fact that, despite the Gold Coast City Council having the money in the tin since 2021 and the budget of 2022 from this state government making the money available for those bus services to be increased, they have not been increased. They have been delayed. There were meant to be five new bus services on the northern Gold Coast or five increases. Two of them were increased; that is, 40 per cent of the bus services were increased. That is not on. The 728 and 729 were doubled to that number when we were in government back in 2014. Back in 2013 we had 10,300 kids; we now have 20,300 going to school in the Coomera electorate. Since 2017 the number of voters has gone from 37,000 to 52,000. That is up 40 per cent. Since 2016 we have gone from a population of 60,000 to 89,000. That is a 48 per cent increase, yet the 728 and 729 bus services have not been increased. All we have is a promise that sometime down the track the 728 and 729 are going to be delivered to us as an increased bus service.

The point is that the money has been there since June last year. Where has the planning gone? We need the bus service increased. We need it now. There are petitions for people to sign. We need the transport minister to find another bus transport company to deliver those services because Kinetic is not doing it.