




Speech By
Samuel O'Connor

MEMBER FOR BONNEY

Record of Proceedings, 29 November 2023

MOTION

Liberal National Party, Cuts

 **Mr O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (4.37 pm): This really is a government on its last legs. I do not think we have ever had a government in this state more obsessed with the opposition. A huge number of government members have been reading our beautiful document 'The Right Priorities for Queensland's Future'. They have all seen it. We hear about it in question time every single day. They are obsessed with the Liberal National Party opposition because they have no plans for our state. This is the fourth of these motions that we have seen in successive sitting weeks. It is a really sad attempt for those poor backbenchers to say to the Premier, 'Please notice me. Please give me a chance to be a minister. Look at Minister Bailey—I can do better than him. Please give me an opportunity.' It really is sad. This is a government focused on a decade ago.

Last week at the Queensland Media Club—and I acknowledge the member for Cooper, who was there listening in the audience, and I say thanks for coming; we appreciated you being there—was a chance for the Leader of the Opposition to outline his vision for the future. It was forward-looking. I say to the poor public servants who are watching: I am sorry that this is what your ministers are spending their time doing but there is a better way. There is the Leader of the Opposition's seven-point plan to restore Public Service integrity, capability and accountability including establishing an independent public sector commission—who could argue against that?—and setting clear goals and KPIs so that ministers and directors-general can be held accountable.

He has previously said that the transport minister 'wouldn't make smoko' under David Crisafulli, the Leader of the Opposition. The seven-point policy focuses on: reviewing the internal complaints procedures to restore integrity, independence and procedural fairness to the process; enhancing graduate programs and opportunities; making the Queensland government an employer of choice for young Queenslanders; requiring all contracts and consultancies to include a substantial training and professional development component to strengthen the Public Service capability—that is all about rebuilding skills from within—providing training and professional development to better suit the individual needs of public servants to embrace new approaches to deliver better infrastructure and services; and, of course, committing to no forced redundancies. It is nothing to be afraid of; it is a wonderful plan for the Public Service. I do not know what the Labor government could find to attack in that because it is a vision for the future. It will end the days of poor management and budget blowouts.

Mr Krause: The little generals.

Mr O'CONNOR: I take that interjection from the member for Scenic Rim, who is not in his seat. It will end the days of staff going around like little generals. I urge Queenslanders to show Labor the door in '24.