




Speech By
Hon. David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

Record of Proceedings, 10 December 2024

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Member for Woodridge

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (2.18 pm): The last five minutes have shown again what a very long 10 years it has been for Queensland without a Liberal National government. It has been a very long 10 years and that last five minutes told us everything about the former government—their pridefulness and their failure to admit everything that they had got wrong.

We have watched for the last 10 years as the previous speaker ran the Queensland budget into the ground. We have watched debt grow from \$72 billion to \$172 billion. We have seen the interest bill go to \$7.73 billion over the forwards. We have seen record debt, record revenue, record taxes, record borrowing and yet we have seen record numbers of people waiting on ramps, record numbers of homeless living in tents and on the streets and record numbers of victims of crime. This was all under the watch of the former treasurer, whom we just had to endure listening to.

When I read my incoming brief to government there were a number of clear messages from Treasury. It was very clear that, because of the fiscal vandalism and the disrespect that had been shown to Queenslanders' money, there is a heightened risk of a credit rating downgrade in Queensland. There is absolutely no RIS to that. Treasury briefed me that there is a structural deficit. Standard & Poor's have been clear. Unlike the former treasurer, we will take the advice of Standard & Poor's seriously. They had talked about waning fiscal discipline in the state budget. They had talked about loosening fiscal discipline and a higher risk of a credit rating downgrade.

What we saw last week after that news was brought to light—the former treasurer always hid it from the Queensland people—was the former treasurer go out. We could not see the shadow treasurer anywhere. She must have been in hiding somewhere. The former treasurer had to go out.

I am a big fan of the first decade of *The Simpsons*. I will tell younger members of the House more about it later. One of my favourite scenes in *The Simpsons*—

A government member: *The Flintstones*.

Mr JANETZKI: Not that old. One of my favourite scenes was when Chief Wiggum was in a very deep hole.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order, members! The House will come to order. The level of interjection is too high.

Mr JANETZKI: Chief Wiggum said to the people down in this deep hole with him, 'No, no. Dig up, stupid.' I thought last week that that was the former treasurer. Last week the former treasurer was in a deep hole and he was trying to dig himself out of the biggest hole ever.

The shadow treasurer was not going to come out because she knew it was indefensible. The shadow treasurer knew that the former treasurer's argument was indefensible. Those on the backbench know. The record of the former treasurer is clear. The shadow treasurer would not come out and defend it because she knew it was indefensible. Without doubt the former treasurer is the worst treasurer in Queensland's history.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Who was the last member to interject while I was on my feet?

Mrs Nightingale: Apologies.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Inala, I warn you under the standing orders. Everyone is having a good go. I know that this is a bit contentious. Deputy Leader of the Opposition, you had a particularly good go. The next time I have to refer to you it will be a warning.

Mr JANETZKI: The former treasurer is not just the worst treasurer in Queensland's history; he has been rejected by the people of Queensland. Last week the former treasurer talked about the budget being in good shape. Let us remember what the *Financial Review* said about the budget. This was before all the state owned service stations, the state owned general practitioners, the state owned energy retailers and the state delivered school lunches. This is what the *Financial Review* said about the former treasurer and his budget. The *Financial Review* called the Queensland budget under the former treasurer a 'populist clown show'. No words have ever been more apt to describe him.