




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Health Services

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (12.58 am): And so it begins. I am speaking, of course, about LNP cuts to Queensland's health services. It has not taken long for the Premier's mask to slip, has it? This week we have seen the first sign of betrayal to Queenslanders. Time and again before the last election the Premier refused to answer questions about impending cuts under an LNP government. 'Nothing to see here,' Queenslanders were repeatedly told by Mr Crisafulli. The Premier ducked, weaved and dodged his way through packs of journalists. Now we know the truth. Cutting health services is in the LNP's DNA. This week it has become apparent that the LNP has cut services to nurse-led clinics and incentive schemes to attract health professionals and transfer nurses to regional Queensland which have been hugely successful.

I like to give people a chance. I take them at face value, at their word. It is every Queenslanders' trait: we give people a fair go. I was even hopeful of working with the LNP to improve the health services on Brisbane's bayside. Health services on the bayside have always been a priority to me. I have worked so hard to ensure we have access to good quality health care after—wait for it—the LNP shut down our hospital and shut down our Moreton Bay Nursing Care Unit. That is right: they shut down a hospital and an aged-care facility. Some 85 residents lost their home, with no regard from those opposite. That is what the LNP did when they were last in government.

There is an opportunity for the Crisafulli government to right the wrongs of the past and for the new Premier to forge a new identity—one that cares about vital human services—and break away from his LNP predecessor. This week's revelation about cuts to nurse-led clinics and incentive schemes makes the hope of improving, and even keeping, health services on the bayside a pipedream.

There is an old adage: if someone shows you who they are, believe them the first time. Worryingly, Crisafulli is now showing us who he is. It begs the question: what services will go at Gundu Pa under this LNP government? Will they close down the 24-hour primary care clinic that takes the pressure off GPs and emergency rooms? How many staff will be sacked from Gundu Pa under this LNP government, or will they just write off public health on the bayside altogether and sell Gundu Pa to the highest bidding private consortium? Show us who you are, Premier.

I call on the member for Broadwater to rise in this chamber and guarantee that he will not cut the funding to Gundu Pa, palliative care and the range of health services on the bayside and that he will not sell Gundu Pa. The Premier will not do that because we know the answer: the cuts will keep coming.