




Speech By
Les Walker

MEMBER FOR MUNDINGBURRA

Record of Proceedings, 6 March 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Mundingburra Electorate, Investment

 **Mr WALKER** (Mundingburra—ALP) (7.27 pm): This morning Premier Steven Miles reminded us of the involvement of the LNP opposition leader, David Crisafulli, in the savage cuts inflicted on Queenslanders when he was in government with Campbell Newman. I was reading a *Courier-Mail* article dated 4 September 2012 in which the LNP premier Campbell Newman is quoted. The article states, 'Premier Campbell Newman denies cutting frontline services despite 200 health jobs—including 45 nurses—being axed.' Those 45 nurses were in Townsville.

The rot did not stop there under the LNP's reign of terror—cutting, sacking and selling. The opposition leader, David Crisafulli, cut and ran from the state seat of Mundingburra, knowing that his LNP government had caused so much damage across North Queensland. The opposition leader was a minister in the Campbell Newman LNP government that closed the 123-year-old Stuart State School in my seat of Mundingburra. I was there with the mums and dads and their children who were crying about the loss of their beloved school. The care factor from the opposition leader, David Crisafulli, was nil! There is a shopping list of LNP asset sales, sackings and cuts right across Townsville. The LNP opposition leader, David Crisafulli, was there all the way and did nothing but support it and promote it. There is a stark difference between the Miles Labor state government, which has the Big Build program that is already delivering positive results for Queenslanders, and those opposite, who walk around with their empty folders collecting stamps. There is a very stark difference.

I am immensely proud to say that I am delivering for the people of my seat of Mundingburra and the region. I will remind the deserter of Mundingburra what is being delivered for my constituents—things he failed to deliver: the \$530 million expansion of the Townsville University Hospital with 143 new beds, new theatres and a new rooftop helipad; \$99 million for the second bridge for Bowen Road, making it a four-lane river crossing; \$97 million for the upgrade of Stuart Drive to four lanes; \$17 million for the Townsville Community Learning Centre upgrade, with a new school hall and new classrooms with state-of-the-art teaching aids to assist those with a disability; \$13.5 million for the new William Ross School Hall; \$9 million for the new active transport corridor for the residents of Wulguru, Stuart and Fairfield Waters; and the list goes on. I have done that as a first-term state member for the seat of Mundingburra and I will continue to deliver for the people of Mundingburra.