



Speech By **Christopher Whiting**

MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (2.47 pm): How underwhelming is this one-year-old LNP government? On Sunday in Petrie a resident said to the member for Murrumba, 'The LNP promised the world and all they did was give us an atlas.' Firstly, it is very clear that the LNP have underdelivered in the area of youth crime. They are touting their 10.8 per cent fall figure, but, digging into their dodgy data, it appears it is 6.5 per cent. A youth worker explained to me that is in line with long-term trends of reduction that have been seen. Essentially what we have seen is a continuation of the fall that started under Labor. What an underwhelming achievement in what they call their signature area of policy.

Secondly, the LNP promised to sort out housing and what have they done? Instead of wielding a hammer and a shovel, all they are doing is wielding a pair of golden scissors to open projects that Labor started such as the multistorey block on Sutton Street in Redcliffe. Soon a project at Deception Bay Road and one at Mango Hill will get the golden scissors treatment from the LNP. There was a block in Portwood Street in Redcliffe that the member for Redcliffe touted as a future site for a project. What was not revealed was that that site was acquired by the then Labor government.

However, the LNP have been using their scissors for something else—that is, cutting affordable and social housing projects. Earlier we heard that 10,000 affordable and social homes have been cut under this government. They are cutting projects in their own backyard: 790 homes at Arundel, 90 at Birtinya, 40 at Tewantin and 73 at Redland Bay have gone, because the first thing that the LNP did when it formed government was to introduce a bill that gave the Deputy Premier the power to scrap and reduce affordable housing. They have cut the policy of buying and acquiring hotels and unused aged-care facilities to help vulnerable Queenslanders and they have cut the requirement for developers to build affordable and social housing across Queensland.

Thirdly, Queenslanders are underwhelmed by the lack of cost-of-living relief under this LNP government. We know that the \$1,000 electricity rebate is gone. It was a real life changer for many people. Car registration has gone up because the rego rebate has been cut. The most proactive LNP action on cost-of-living relief is to support Labor initiatives. Of course, I give you 50-cent fares from 'Mr 50 Cent Fares' himself, the member for Murrumba. They have embraced free kindy. They have embraced the \$200 FairPlay vouchers used to help out families. And that is about it. For most Queensland families that has been pretty underwhelming.

Fourthly, the Premier said, 'We'll do what we promised to do' but they never promised to abandon a hospital expansion project. Construction had already started on the Redcliffe Hospital expansion. The day they announced they were going to build a new stadium and aquatic centre at Victoria Park was the day that the piling contractor pulled the last rig from the Redcliffe Hospital site. There have also been the underwhelming attempts to prop up the member for Redcliffe. They have left her as the face of that abandoned project in Redcliffe. The minister, for example, had to clarify that they want to build a three-level car park after the member said on social media that they were building only two levels. The LNP has been caught out using a picture of the cut Labor project at Redcliffe Hospital to promote

their supposed rescue plan for the hospital. Locals are very unimpressed with how the LNP is running the Redcliffe Hospital. We know that you now wait longer in an ambulance to get into the Redcliffe Hospital. You wait longer to see a specialist at the Redcliffe Hospital. You wait longer for your planned surgery at the Redcliffe Hospital.

Their reason for cutting the project was design flaws, which is distinctly unimpressive. Today the minister said that 1,000 comments from clinicians were ignored, but I have discovered that 27 groups, in four rounds of consultation, were involved in designing the Labor project. From that process, 3,000 pages were generated. It is an insult to those clinicians and non-clinicians to abandon their work after they had worked long and hard on designing this—

(Time expired)