




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Yarrabilba, Health Services

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (2.18 pm): It is truly bizarre listening to a party talk about Skilling Queenslanders for Work when they spent 10 years railing against it and when previously in government they cut it. I can see members sitting on their own front bench, including the member for Mudgeeraba, who voted to cut it in budget after budget. They knew that it helped ordinary Queenslanders but they wanted to save money and they did not care. I wonder whether the member for Toowoomba South was thinking, 'Oh, that was one of the budget savings we were going to put in place.'

Ms Bates interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Mudgeeraba, you have had your turn.

Mr POWER: We are truly in upside-down world when those opposite talk up Skilling Queenslanders for Work after they voted to cut it. Southern Logan and Yarrabilba in particular have the fastest population growth in Queensland. In the last two years it has been even faster than Coomera's. People in Yarrabilba and Logan Village are crying out for better health services. That why they supported it so strongly when I announced with then premier Steven Miles that we would build the Yarrabilba satellite hospital. It was designed to provide services in Yarrabilba to the residents of Yarrabilba. I would have loved for it to be in the first round, but I made the argument that it would relieve pressure on the Logan Hospital emergency department and we got it in the second round.

Our satellite hospitals provide care from eight to 10, seven days a week, offering out patient and diagnostic services. That would have meant fewer ambulance trips to nearby urgent care at either Beaudesert or Logan hospitals. Logan residents had already extensively used the Eight Mile Plains satellite hospital. They talked it up extensively. They knew how good it was and they knew it was vital to have a local satellite hospital. I told them they had already taken care of 160,000 Queenslanders. Despite this success—or perhaps because of this success—the LNP always hated satellite hospitals. They renamed them and I am not confident of their long-term future. I do not have confidence because they are refusing to build the Yarrabilba satellite hospital.

Opposition members: Shame!

Mr POWER: That is right. Despite making promises to Queenslanders to create local health services, they are not building the Yarrabilba satellite hospital. They looked through the list of planned projects announced by Labor and they said 'No, these are for the LNP chopping block.' If they believed their promises, they could have matched our investment in the health of Yarrabilba. Instead, they chopped this vital project. Let's not forget the nurses and doctors who would have made their homes in Yarrabilba so they could work locally. Their dream of working locally and helping out their neighbours is also on the chopping block.

Who remembers the big promises the LNP made in their right wing priorities document? In fact, there is a quote here that I am a big supporter of. It says, 'Queenslanders deserve a world-class health system they can rely on no matter where they live.'

(Time expired)