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SUBJECT: Budget, Health

MEMBER: Mr LANGBROEK

Budget, Health

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (10.22 am): As we have just heard, the budget on Tuesday had lots of fancy words and lots of fancy figures but not so fancy results, whether in Police and Corrective Services or Health. Adam Davies, a journalist from the *Queensland Times*, belled the cat on Tuesday in his article entitled 'Don't let the fancy words fool you'. Here is what he said is Labor's economic plan. He stated—

Firstly, announce infrastructure projects with no business plan and then try to blackmail the federal government to coming to the party.

What does that sound like? It sounds like the Townsville stadium and Cross River Rail. He continued—

Secondly, use the fact it is an election year to scare Queenslanders into thinking the federal government has neglected the state.

Who does that sound like? It sounds like the health minister. Since May last year this health minister has 33 times mentioned the supposed cuts of \$11.8 billion; the funding that this state was not getting—not getting because of the second Abbott budget that supposedly took \$11.8 billion. Bill Shorten only restored \$2 billion last week. The health minister said this in two ministerial statements, one private member's statement, seven answers to questions without notice, three estimates hearing answers and one second reading speech. What have we heard from him last week since Bill Shorten wshed in his second budget reply? We heard absolutely nothing about only \$2 billion coming to Queensland. Adam Davies continued—

Thirdly, scream bloody murder at the fact the federal government will not hand over money from its Asset Recycling Initiative ...

We certainly heard a lot about that. He continued further—

Lastly, if the first three fall, which to date they have, use other people's money to spruik your economic plan.

That is what we have seen from this government. Last year it was long service leave. This year it is Queenslanders' superannuation that the State Actuary did not even recommend. They are raiding it.

Then we also have fancy figures and fancy numbers—the performance measures. We have specialist outpatient figures known as the waiting list for the waiting list. It is now expected to grow to nearly 250,000. The budget papers reveal that over the past year category 1, 2 and 3 patients waited 39 per cent, 50 per cent and 26 per cent longer than the clinically recommended time. Elective surgery statistics show little or no improvement. Emergency department statistics show little or no improvement. Queenslanders are paying more and getting less.

In the local hospital and health services 10 of them are running deficits totalling \$100 million when they were budgeted to be \$14 million. Once again, centralised control at Charlotte Street is affecting our front-line services in the hospital and health services.

This Labor government, with fancy words and fancy numbers and not so fancy results, is like a drug addict. They beg, borrow and steal. They beg from the federal government, they steal from our savings, they borrow from hardworking public servants' superannuation. Only the LNP will deliver more in Health.