

Queensland Parliament Hansard Green

DATE: 16/08/2016

FILE: 16082016\_001130\_LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\_GREEN CHAMBER.DOCX

SUBJECT: (no subject found)

MEMBER: Mr LANGBROEK

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (11.34 pm): I also rise to speak to the estimates report of the Transportation and Utilities Committee. I want to thank the members for Kallangur and Southport, the chair and deputy chair, other members of the committee, the bureaucrats who came to the committee and representatives from Goldoc as well as the DTESB, the Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games.

One of the things we followed up in estimates was the number of people who were employed in DTESB who are coordinating the Commonwealth Games with Goldoc but are based in Brisbane. The member for Southport raised that earlier in this particular debate. I think 61 was the number, all of whom are going to be in Brisbane. Those on our side of the committee made the point that for a government that has been speaking about regionalising the Public Service for some time, that is of great concern. It does seem like there is a shadow bureaucracy in Brisbane working to supposedly supervise the work of Goldoc. It is of concern to us that none of those people can be based on the Gold Coast. That is something that we certainly expressed about legacy issues that these departments are working on coordinating. We also raised our concerns regarding other areas such as Cairns and Townsville where \$1 million is going to be spent just on overlay. The Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games came back to tell us that there are no permanent upgrades happening in Cairns and Townsville. There is \$1 million in contingency if any permanent works are needed. I certainly have concerns that there are no permanent upgrades in Cairns and Townsville and that that \$1 million is for movement around the venues, anti-doping, catering, transport and security. I have concerns—and I think the people of Cairns and Townsville would have those concerns as well—that only \$1 million is being allowed for in relation to the basketball that is going to be held in those areas.

We also raised other issues. I would have thought that the completion timetable for the Carrara Sports Precinct would be something that the minister would be across given that we had a new incoming chair of Goldoc only a few months ago, in May. When I asked the minister about when the Carrara Sports Precinct was due to be finished, it was of great interest to the committee that I was able to table documents obtained under the right to information. I tabled the brief for the incoming chair which says that the Carrara Sports Precinct was due to be finished in October 2016. However, when I asked the minister that very simple question—when is it due to be finished—he said April 2017. With great fanfare earlier in that committee hearing the minister was speaking about Coomera and how the Coomera facility had been opened just that day. In fact, he had been down there to open it with great fanfare. Of course that Coomera facility is now going to be able to be used by teams who want to prepare. That begs the question as to whether the Carrara precinct would be able to be booked by anyone who wished to from October 2016, which was the original intended completion date. They are not going to be able to do that because it will not be finished until April 2017 and the reason is the CFMEU.

In the middle of their enterprise bargaining negotiations with Hansen Yuncken, who are the contractors, the minister showed no interest—and he expressed it in the committee hearing—in meeting with the CFMEU. Even his predecessor, the member for Ashgrove, had met with the CFMEU in the term of this government. He had no interest in doing so and simply said there would be no cost to the state if there are any construction delays. It just shows that this government is not interested in trying to deal with the CFMEU in any practical way. It is the people of the Gold Coast and the people of Queensland who are going to miss out on potential revenue due to Carrara not being completed until April 2017. When Queenslanders and Gold Coasters have read about the CFMEU—and this has been reported in relation to a court case where it is quite openly announced—holding two-hour stop-work meetings twice a day with no work being done, it is obvious that what they are doing is industrial blackmail. We have seen that in the March quarter Queensland led the way in union disputes with more than double the days lost through union disputes than any other state. In the March quarter union disputes in Queensland increased over 25 per cent from the previous quarter, up to 14,700 from 11,700. Our concern at the Gold Coast is that, whilst we want some great games delivered, similar to the ones we are seeing in terms of athletic prowess and ability in Rio, we want the same thing at the Gold Coast. We are not confident this government can deliver them