



11 April 2025

The Honourable Pat Weir MP Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Queensland Parliament 2 George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

BY EMAIL: speaker@parliament.qld gov.au

Dear Speaker

I write in relation to a number of matters of privilege concerning statements and actions by the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Member for Kawana) during the recent sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament.

MISLEAD THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT – "LABOR'S 2032 DELIVERY PLAN"

There are three elements to be proven to establish that a Member of Parliament has committed the contempt of deliberately misleading the House:

- 1. The statement must have been misleading.
- 2. The Member making the statement must have known, at the time the statement was made, that it was incorrect.
- 3. In making the statement, the member intended to mislead the House.

The Member for Kawana tabled what appears to be a document drawn by himself or his staff members, trying to be, satirical at best, but misleading at worst, in respect of the former Labor Government's 2032 Olympic and Paralympic plan.

The statement by the Member for Kawana and the subsequent tabling of a document, which appears on the Queensland Parliament's Table Paper website as 'Labor's Games Plan' is completely and utterly misleading, as a one page scrawl, made up by the Member for Kawana and tabled in the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament is not 'Labor's Games Plan'.

The Member for Kawana is the Minister responsible for 2032 Olympic and Paralympic infrastructure and has spoken at great lengths in and outside the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament about the matter. He was also the former Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and the former Shadow Minister for Olympic and Paralympic Infrastructure and Jobs and as such, would be fully across the former Labor government's 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Plan.

Phone: 3414 2110

It is clear from the preparation that the Member for Kawana went to, to prepare for the question from one of his own backbenchers, that the Member for Kawana intended to misled the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament. This is clear, when the Member for Kawana tabled a document, which is assumed he created, entitled "Labor's Games Plan" and then proceeded to table it in the Legislative Assembly.

As such Speaker, it is clear that the Member for Kawana came prepared to Question Time with his artwork, gave the document a misleading title and then proceeded to table the document, knowing full well it was not the former Labor Government's plan, as he was the relevant Shadow Minister during that period and now responsible Minister. As such, he would be acutely aware of what the former government's plan was.

To have a document on the public record entitled "Labor's Games Plan", which is searchable in the Record of Proceedings and also the Table Papers website, is misleading and the Member for Kawana would know this. As such, the Queensland Opposition respectfully requests that this matter be referred to the Ethics Committee for its consideration of this matter.

USE OF PROPS

It is a known rule and convention that the use of props in the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament is prohibited. The Member for Kawana has been a Member of Parliament since March 2009 and is aware of these rules.

However, during the Member for Kawana's answer to a question as outlined on pages 724 and 725 of the Record of Proceedings on Wednesday, 2 April 2025, the Member for Kawana proceeded to use two documents as props and present them to the Legislative Assembly. You, as Speaker, subsequently warned the Member for Kawana about the use of props by stating "Deputy Premier, no props!".

Speaker, despite your direction to the Member for Kawana he proceeded to wave around one of the props, and also in full knowledge that props should not be used, posted a photo of him in the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament, during Question Time to his official social media, showing him holding the two props which you warned him about. (Attachment 1).

It is respectfully submitted that the act of posting a photo by the Member for Kawana, of the Member for Kawana holding two props in the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament, in direct defiance of your direction to the Member for Kawana to not use props, is not only disrespectful to you as the Chair, but shows that the Member for Kawana had no intention to follow the rules of no props, and his actions were premeditated.

Speaker, I further draw your attention to a contribution the Member for Kawana made when answering a question during Question Time on Thursday, 3 April 2025, where the Member for Kawana once again utilised a prop in the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament.

This is the day after you, as the Speaker, directed the Member for Kawana not to use props.

Despite knowing that props weren't allowed, the Member for Kawana not only used them again, but also posted on his social media account the clip of him waving the prop around, where watches are clearly able to hear you direct the Member for Kawana "no props". The Member for Kawana even zoomed in on the prop in the video which was posted online.

Speaker, this continued disregard for your directions and rulings regarding no use of props and then subsequent posting of the breach on social media, clearly shows that the Member for Kawana has no respect for the authority of the Chair.

¹ https://www.facebook.com/reel/563140206787887

It should be noted that the second use of props and posting on social media was undertaken on the very day that you provided guidance to all Members of Parliament regarding "respecting the authority of the chair". As such, I respectfully ask that this matter be considered by you for referral to the Ethics Committee for the Member for Kawana's continued disregard to the authority of the Chair.

In addition, it is submitted that the Member for Kawana has breached Standing Order 266 (1) by "breaching or interfering with any of the powers, rights and immunities of the House", namely your authority as Speaker and continuing to not follow your directions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

I thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely,

HON MICK DE BRENNI MP

SHADOW CABINET SECRETARY

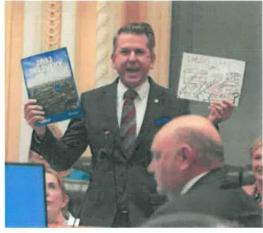
MANAGER OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS

ATTACHMENT 1



Jarrod Bleijie MP • is at Queensland Parliament.

Our 2032 Delivery Plan See Labor's Olympic-sized shemozzle... See more



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ME





Your Ref:

Our Ref: 250414-OUT-Deputy Premier-b

14 April 2025

Hon Jarrod Bleijie MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Minister for Industrial Relations
PO Box 15009
City East Qld 4002

By E-mail: deputy.premier@ministerial.gld.gov.au

Dear Deputy Premier

The Office of the Speaker received correspondence on 11 April 2025 from the Manager of Opposition Business. The said matter concerns whether you have deliberately misled the House. A copy of this correspondence is attached.

Deliberately misleading the House is listed as an example of behaviour that the House may treat as a contempt (see Standing Order 266 (2)).

Standing Order 269 (5) provides that in considering whether such a matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, the Speaker may request further information from the person the subject of the allegation. Accordingly, I am writing to you pursuant to that Standing Order.

Standing Order 269 (4) provides that in considering whether the matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, the Speaker shall take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter.

I wish to stress that I have not yet formed a view as to whether this particular allegation should be referred to the Ethics Committee. However, as a matter of course, I remind all members who are the subject of such allegations of the long-established convention that should a Member become aware they have inadvertently misled the House, they should, at the earliest opportunity, correct the record and apologise for their inadvertence.

Parliament House George St Brisbane Queensland 4000 Australia Should you wish to provide me with further information to assist me in making a determination as to whether the matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee under *Standing Order 269* please provide your response by COB 1 May 2025.

In the meantime, should your office have any queries relating to this matter, they may be directed to my Executive Officer, Coral-Leah Kemp, by email to Speaker@parliament.qld.gov.au or on 07 3553 6700.

Yours sincerely

HON PAT WEIR MP

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Par notes

Enc.



Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP, Deputy Premier Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Minister for Industrial Relations

2 May 2025

The Hon. Pat Weir MP Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Queensland Parliament 2 George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

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LABOR'S GAMES PLAN - REFERRAL TO ETHICS COMMITTEE - RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM MANAGER OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS

Dear Mr Speaker,

I refer to your letter dated 14 April 2025 with regards to the letter from the Manager of Opposition Business, pursuant to *Standing Order 269 (5)*.

I would like to respond to the three points that the Manager of Opposition Business is trying to allege that I deliberately mislead the House, which is categorically false.

1. The statement must have been misleading.

Mr Speaker, I referred in my speech on 2 April 2025 and in response to the Member for Caloundra's question, to the Crisafulli Government's Games Delivery Plan, and 'alternative approaches'.

My response covered the 2032 Delivery Plan released by the Crisafulli Government, an extensive 36-page document detailing the venue locations and legacy infrastructure required for the 2032 Games, including where the main stadium will be located. This document referred to in my speech, and which I tabled, can also be found here: Queensland Government-2032 Delivery Plan.

Per Standing Order 113 (1), the question without notice related to public affairs with which I am officially connected to and responsible for, as the Minister for Infrastructure. Per Standing Order 118 (b), my answer was relevant to the question, as I explained the people of Queensland finally had a Games plan they could be proud of.

Under Labor, the lack of consistent decision making in relation to the main stadium location is well-documented.

Firstly, former Labor Premier Palaszczuk announced in April 2021 the Gabba as the proposed main stadium prior to Queensland being award the hosting rights. At the time, media reports confirmed the so-called 'upgrade' was meant to only cost taxpayers \$1 billion.

¹ https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/91915

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Then, in August 2022, the former Labor Government announced the Gabba would instead be fully demolished and rebuilt at an estimated new cost of \$2.7 billion.²

Further, in March 2023 it was revealed in a parliamentary committee by Queensland's Auditor General that the only source for the original \$1 billion estimate came from a "press release" and he said, "I don't think there ever was a business case supporting the billion dollars".

In July 2024, the then Department of Premier and Cabinet Director-General confirmed reports that the announced \$1 billion figure to upgrade the Gabba was "not based on any analysis at all".4

Then, in March 2024, newly minted Labor Premier Miles announced a Gabba rebuild would suddenly not proceed, and temporary stands were planned for the Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre (QSAC) at a cost of \$1.6 billion.⁵

Last month, after a change of government, it was revealed the former Labor government failed to disclose documents which show QSAC would have cost a staggering \$2.25 billion – more than \$650 million over budget.

It is clear in my statement to the House and to all Queenslanders how Labor's Games Plan – with the credibility of a scribbled piece of paper – was revamped, dumped, switched and changed multiple times since Brisbane was announced as the host city.

The document I tabled did not mislead the House, as it was indeed a representation of Labor's Games Plan. As I outlined in my response to the Question Without Notice, the document I tabled was my representation of the mess that the new government inherited and a visual way of illustrating the former government's Games chaos and crisis.

I was asked about alternative approaches in the Question Without Notice and this visual representation was a way in which I could contrast the two opposing approaches between the former Labor Government and the Crisafulli LNP Government.

2. The Member making the statement must have known, at the time the statement was made, that it was incorrect.

At the time I made my statement and I tabled 'Labor's Games Plan' on 14 April 2025, the above timeline is and remains true of Labor's more than 1200 days wasted on delivering a plan for Queensland.

Therefore, at the time I made the statement and at the time of writing, my statement and the document I tabled remains correct.

3. In making the statement, the Member intended to mislead the House.

For the reasons above, I did not mislead or intend to mislead the House, as the document I tabled represented Labor's Games Plan from the time Brisbane and Queensland was

² Gabba redevelopment to deliver affordable housing - Ministerial Media Statements

^a <u>Original estimate for Gabba rebuild for Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games came from a press release | The Australian</u>

⁴ https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/qld-politics/gabbas-1bn-cost-figure-sensationally-not-based-on-any-analysis/news-story/451dfa989e24b5f2f7fed9ce9f2a6956

⁵ https://www.couriermail.com.au/sport/brisbane-olympics-and-paralympics-2032/the-true-cost-of-rebuilding-the-queensland-sport-and-athletics-centre-revealed/news-story/4b61f69cda56ea4c7188447e1edaed67

announced as the host city, to the announcement of the Crisafulli Government's 2032 Delivery Plan.

With regard to the use of props, I was simply holding up and tabling both Labor's Games Plan and the Crisafulli Government's 2032 Delivery Plan, as I was comparing and contrasting the two plans – for the awareness of the House.

As is the case when a direction is given by you Mr Speaker or the Deputy Speaker or Temporary Speakers, I comply with said directions.

It is clear that Labor are embarrassed by their failure to properly plan the 2032 Games. They should be. They messed it up. The LNP Government is getting on with the job of delivering the generational infrastructure outlined in the 2032 Games Delivery Plan.

Mr Speaker, it is my view that this complaint is so "technical and trivial" in nature and therefore, pursuant to Standing Order 269 (4) "does not warrant the further attention of the House."

Further, it is becoming increasingly clear that the Labor Opposition are misusing and abusing standing orders with respect to allegations of misleading the house. It is a deliberate attempt to pry resources away from government staff members by responding to their childish and silly political complaints. No doubt, Mr Speaker it impacts on the resources of your office too.

I respectfully ask for your consideration and dismissal of these matters.

Yours sincerely

JARROD BLEIJIE MP DEPUTY PREMIER

Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning

Minister for Industrial Relations