



Senator Claire Moore

WEEKLY UPDATE: 15th February, 2019

Phone: (07) 3252 7101; email: senator.moore@aph.gov.au;

Web: www.clairemoore.net; Twitter:

[www.twitter.com/SenClaireMoore](https://twitter.com/SenClaireMoore);

www.facebook.com/SenatorClaireMoore;



THIS WEEK:

Last week we appealed to all our subscribers to generously support the Queensland Floods Appeal, now that appeal must be given even greater support as we discover the terrible damage done to our farming infrastructure from drowned cane fields to the north east, to the likelihood that the floods and their aftermath may have killed 500,000 cattle and sheep in the north west.

For many graziers this could be the last straw after seven long years of vicious drought.

We must do everything we can to support them. All the details of how to donate are above or simply go to:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/emergency/emergencies-services/help-disaster>.

This week also witnessed more unedifying behaviour in a Federal Parliament.

The Morrison/Dutton Government has done everything it can not to govern in the interests of the nation.

From restricting the sitting of the nation's parliament to a paltry ten days in the first eight months of 2019, to filibustering to avoid consideration of legislation such as a Royal Commission into the treatment and abuse of our disabled citizens and delaying other important policy considerations or decisions.

They have no policy in regard to the most vital of policy issues; climate change, energy, infrastructure, low wages and inequality and just this week a [scathing report](#) by the powerful Liberal controlled Parliamentary audit committee has found that the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government failed to obey federal laws requiring school funds to be distributed based on need. The report details concerns about serious compliance problems, "inadequate administrative arrangements", and a "lack of transparency and accountability".

This is a government that has given up on governing that has chosen not to govern.

In the place of decent government the Morrison/Dutton team have resorted to the most base of tactics, lies, deceit, the misuse of proper procedures and fear mongering.

All in a desperate and immoral attempt to save their political skins.

Australia deserves better than this.

SENATOR CLAIRE MOORE, LABOR SENATOR FOR QUEENSLAND

Senator Claire Moore
www.clairemoore.net



CLAIRE'S WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

If there is material you would like included or expanded upon, please let us know. If you think that others would like to receive copies please let us know and we will include them on the mailing lists.

Please contact us by [return email](#) or call on 07 3252 710.

If you no longer wish to receive the weekly update and want to be removed from the mailing list just let us know.

Postal: **PO Box 907 Fortitude Valley Post Shop Fortitude Valley QLD 400**

[UNSUBSCRIBE](#)

WHAT'S BEING SAID ...



MEDIVAC LIES - SHORTEN- CANBERRA

"I totally repudiate the attacks of the Government, seeking to whip up fear and hysteria, seeking to lure people smugglers to entice people onto boats to come to Australia."

MEDIVAC LIES - CAMERON-CANBERRA

"I have never seen a Prime Minister so willing to lie to the Australian public about an issue that he knows is not true."

MEDIVAC LIES - NEUMANN-CANBERRA

"The Government is lying about a whole range of things. They're walking, talking billboards for people smugglers at the moment."

MEDIVAC LIES - SHORTEN- CANBERRA

"The opening of Christmas Island, I believe, was a political gesture designed to fuel domestic political unrest but I'm worried that we'll have tragic consequences because this is a government addicted to slogans and fear."

MEDIVAC LIES - O'CONNOR - CANBERRA

"To misrepresent the truth, to lie to the Australian people and now, most remarkably and outrageously we've seen him announce the opening of Christmas Island. Well if this wasn't the biggest advertisement to people smugglers, I don't know what is, because once an ad man, always an ad man."

MEDIVAC LIES - NEUMANN - BBC WORLD SERVICE

"It's an hysterical and unhinged response from a desperate and dishonest Prime Minister who has lost control of the Parliament. It's a blatant stunt."

MEDIVAC LIES- ALBANESE -RADIO 6PR PERTH

"This is a desperate government that doesn't have a positive agenda that is at war with itself that is now resorting to smear and fear and quite frankly just distorting the facts."

MEDIVAC LIES - O'CONNOR - CANBERRA

"Scott Morrison has been dishonest with the Australian people today. He has acted in a way that was completely against the national interest."

MEDIVAC LIES -MARK BUTLER- ABC RADIO ADELAIDE

"Let's be very clear, we sought the advice and received the advice of security agencies earlier this week and we modified those arrangements to reflect that advice. Very importantly, these new arrangements only apply to people who are already on Manus or Nauru."

MEDIVAC LIES- ALBANESE - SKY NEWS

"And it's interesting isn't it that Derryn Hinch, someone who I think is someone of integrity, got a security briefing and then voted for the legislation."

MEDIVAC LIES - ALBANESE -2GB SYDNEY

"Anyone with a criminal conviction of 12 months or more will be ineligible. Anyone convicted of any serious crime won't be eligible. We ensured that was the case."

MEDIVAC LIES - MARLES - SKY NEWS

"Here's the real thing, the bedrock of border security is this: will boats be turned around? They will under Labor. Will there be offshore processing? There will under Labor. The Government knows that that's what we will do. The Government knows there is bipartisanship on this. If the Government's actually fair dinkum about messaging properly to people smugglers they would be giving that message, rather than what they're doing right now."



MEDIVAC LIES - ALBANESE-SKY NEWS

"Of course what has occurred on this Government's watch is that last year there were more applications for protection than any year in Australia's history. Any year. And the point is that those people are of course coming by plane rather than by boat."

MEDIVAC LIES - BURKE - ABC RN BREAKFAST

"Half of those deaths at sea occurred after Scott Morrison got his party to vote against the Malaysia arrangement. Half of those lives could have been saved. And Scott Morrison doesn't like owning up to that. Tony Abbott has said they made a mistake when they voted against that change. Scott Morrison is still too arrogant to come to terms with the responsibility that he took for not coming to the table to fix that problem during those years."



MEDIVAC LIES - PLIBERSEK – ABC NEWS 24 BREAKFAST

"For what reason have we- has Australia not accepted New Zealand's very generous offer to resettle several hundred asylum seekers, refugees, in New Zealand? That is just bloody-mindedness."

MEDIVAC LIES - ALBANESE – CANBERRA

"It's not about politics, not about positioning, just about doing the right thing. This is a day in which I'm very proud to be a parliamentarian and it's a day in which what we saw was the national interest, I think, put first by overwhelmingly, the Parliament."

ONE NATION - WATT – CANBERRA

"We saw Senator Hanson and her colleague Peter Georgiou vote with the government, to try to stop a Royal

Commission into the abuse of disabled people. If disabled people aren't battlers, who are deserving of the support of Pauline Hanson and her party, I don't know who is."

ONE NATION PUNCH-UP - SHORTEN- CANBERRA

"The footage which I've seen is really - it has no place in parliament. What we're seeing is that some of these small parties are just consumed by themselves. It would be comic except it's not, its violence and un-parliamentary conduct. Clearly the One Nation Party has descended back into chaos which it tends to do."

ONE NATION PUNCH-UP - WATT – CANBERRA

"These people come to Canberra and they say that they want to fight for battlers, but all they can do is fight amongst themselves."

AWU POLICE RAID LEAK - O'CONNOR- CSNBERRA

"Minister Cash has refused to answer all questions that have been put to her in the parliament on the basis of public interest immunity. That public interest immunity was there, she contended, because the AFP were investigating this matter. Well what, of course, we do know now is that the police are no longer investigating this matter, so there is no longer a defence in not answering questions. There's no longer the ability to invoke public interest immunity which now removes any defence at all Minister Cash had for not explaining, in full, her direct involvement in these matters."

AWU POLICE RAID LEAK - WATT – CANBERRA

"What came out in court yesterday was that Minister Cash's former Senior Media Advisor leaked this information, this confidential police information about a police raid, in order to damage the reputation of Bill Shorten. What sort of a desperate move is that? That someone would potentially break the law in order to just damage the reputation of the Opposition Leader of the country."

AWU POLICE RAID LEAK - O'CONNOR – CANBERRA

"Clearly there is somebody lying. Either the former adviser of Minister Cash under oath is lying to the court or Minister Keenan is lying to the Parliament and we need to get to the bottom of this. This is the misuse of the state. This is a misuse of state resources and indeed an agency of the state to go after the federal opposition."

PARLIAMENTARY HOURS - O'CONNOR- CSNBERRA

"A Royal Commission that now has recommendations for the government and the parliament to respond to, and yet the government wants to close down the parliament and not talk about these matters."

PARLIAMENTARY HOURS - BOWEN-CANBERRA

"We could get rid of the grandfathering of Commissions. We could get rid of or we could legislate for the prohibition of hawking of products. We could legislate to bring unfair contract terms into insurance. These are things that the Parliament could do with broad support very quickly, sensible things. Things which would be relatively straightforward to draft. But no, this is a Government focused on itself."

PARLIAMENTARY HOURS - PLIBERSEK – ABC NEWS 24 BREAKFAST

"We have got so many important issues facing us as a nation. Does the Government really believe that Australians will cop a Parliament sitting 10 days in eight months?"

PARLIAMENTARY HOURS - LEIGH – CANBERRA

"The Liberal love talking about work-shy workers but they're the worst of the lot. Imagine if a worker turned up to their boss and said they're only going to work ten days for the next eight months and they'd like to be paid. The Liberals would be the first saying that they ought to be sacked."

ROYAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS - MCALLISTER-CANBERRA

"The Government is dragging its feet on implementing these recommendations. It's dragged its feet on accepting the need for a Royal Commission and now it is dragging its feet on the implementation. We have the first opportunity today in the Senate to debate laws relating to the financial services sector. Now Labor will be calling for strengthened penalties, we will be calling to increase the jail terms for misconduct from 10 to 15 years and we will be moving amendments that almost double the financial penalties to institutions that do the wrong thing."

ROYAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS - O'NEIL-CANBERRA

"Australians who I talk to have one fundamental concern about banking, and that is the lack of accountability. They feel that if they steal from a bank, they go to jail, but if a banker steals from them, they seem to get a bonus at the end of the year and perhaps a promotion. Well Labor wants that to end."



ROYAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS - SHORTEN- CANBERRA

"I think a lot of Australians are concerned that despite the important Hayne Royal Commission which has revealed scandalous conduct at the various highest levels of trusted business, a lot of Australians are concerned that nothing is going to change, that the people who have been doing all of this scandalous carry on still stay in their big jobs and their big salaries. And we are very concerned, and Australians are very concerned, that this current government wants to bury the Royal Commission."

GOVERNMENT RECORD - PLIBERSEK – ABC NEWS 24 BREAKFAST

"I remind people they have doubled the debt. They can't run on their record. They can't run on unity because they're a divided rabble and they can't run on a vision for the future. All they've

got left is scare campaigns so I'm not surprised they'll use the only tool in the tool box."

GOVERNMENT FAILURE ON TAX REFORM - KENEALLY – CANBERRA

"The Liberal Party, as we saw from Sarah Henderson last night on Q&A, wants to continue these tax loopholes. These tax loopholes that Sarah Henderson, Tim Wilson, and the Liberal Party are supporting are currently costing us more than we spend on public schools. This is the true state of the economy under the Liberals. They're only standing up for the top end of town."

GOVERNMENT FAILURE ON TAX REFORM - LEIGH – CANBERRA

"It is the Liberal Party that fought against Labor's 2012 Future of Financial Advice reforms and then in 2014 tried to remove the duty of financial advisers to act in their best interests of the client, tried to restore conflicted remuneration, tried to remove the requirement for advisers to have people opt in at least every two years."

TIM WILSON - THISTLEWHAITE-CANBERRA

"Yesterday we learned that at least 97 of the submissions that have gone into this inquiry were pro-forma submissions and in many respects were the words of Tim Wilson before they've gone in. All of these actions bring into disrepute the standing of the House Economics Committee that's worked within the Parliament."

TIM WILSON - THISTLEWHAITE-CANBERRA

"Namely, the data that's been collected through his website – what is he doing with it? Is that data protected? Has he handed it over to the Liberal Party or Wilson Asset Management? He also needs to come clean on how many of these submissions were pre-filled out by him."

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS - BURNEY - CANBERRA

"When you look at the record of the Morrison Government in Aboriginal affairs, it is shocking."

HAZAM AL-ALIBARI ARREST - WONG –ABC RN BREAKFAST

"I think one of the key issues is whether the automated Interpol Red Notice system is fit-for-purpose when it comes to people like Hakeem who are refugees. So I think that needs to be explored."

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I think we can have strong border protection without losing our national soul." - Anthony Albanese

"This is arrogant, juvenile undergraduate politicking for which the Australian people are paying a price. " – Chris Bowen
"So loud are the government warnings, it is as if Prime Minister Scott Morrison wants his words to be heard in every fishing village on the Indonesian coast. " – David Crowe (Chief Political Correspondent SMH)

"I think the government's talk about reopening Christmas Island and the flood of boats coming, that's doing more, I think, to stir the beast than anything that the crossbench or Labor are doing," - Senator Derryn Hinch

"It takes real effort to stand out as a liar in Australian politics, but Scott Morrison yesterday lied so egregiously and offensively it was a triumph of political bullshit." – Bernard Keane (Crikey).

"I suspect border security is no longer the issue Morrison wants it to be, with yet another scare campaign on this matter adding to the mounting perception that he and his government are off the pace and out of touch with electoral sentiment." – John Hewson

"The government, and its rotten bureaucrats in the Department of Immigration, have handled offshore detention with brutality, malicious negligence and incompetence; in a just world some bureaucrats would be facing manslaughter prosecution for their role in the deaths of detainees. But it is literally a tenth-order (or lower) issue for ordinary Australians, who are more concerned about an economy that delivers for them, poor services and poor infrastructure."

- Bernard Keane (Crikey)

"It's the Liberals long, deep links with the financial industry will ensure that they never back the little guy and always look after their mates in the top end of town." - **Andrew Leigh**

"The mounting scandal over the Department of Home Affairs' secret tender deal with the mysterious Paladin Company is only the latest example that something is deeply wrong inside the vast Home Affairs portfolio. Its history in recent years is of an agency that has been proven serially incompetent and which has refused to accept well-founded criticisms of its performance."

- Bernard Keane (Crikey)

"Voters are sick and tired of our short-term, opportunistic, mostly negative point-scoring and blame shifting, day-in-day-out politics. They crave authenticity and results. They want to be heard. Mostly, they want honest and transparent leadership on the bigger, important issues." - **John Hewson**

"This Government is dysfunctional, is divided and is incompetent and they are incapable of governing the nation."
Anthony Albanese

HEADLINE OF THE WEEK

"Sea of fear can't save sinking ship" - **SMH**

GLIMPSES GET THE BEST



Claire and the team at the International Women's Day Breakfast @ Parliament House

MEDIVAC – SIX SIMPLE FACTS

The first is fundamental.

- **The medical transfer bill applies only to those already on Nauru and Manus Island, which means it excludes any new asylum seeker who may try to get to Christmas Island next week.**
- **The second is that the bill applies a character test that allows the Immigration Minister to reject a transfer for someone with a substantial criminal record, including for any crime with a prison term of one year or more. For all the government's talk of murderers entering the country, there is a clear power to stop them.**
- **The third fact, more troubling for Labor, is that the Department of Human Services expects its job to become more difficult under the changes. "The effect of the bill will undermine the Australian government's regional processing arrangements," it said in advice prepared in December.**

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

- The fourth fact is that the department's advice was drafted before Labor amended the bill to toughen the safeguards – namely, by limiting the cohort and modifying the character test as set out in facts one and two. The department advice is relevant, but has to be considered with that caveat.
- As for re-opening the Christmas Island detention facility the Department of Human Resources opined in December last year that accommodation may be needed for 1000 people if the new law was passed. However this was before Labor amendments to the legislation. As well, Nick Martin, Australia's most senior doctor on Nauru in recent years, estimates there would be about 300 applications for transfer on medical grounds
- Under the Coalition government 400 former inmates of Nauru and Manus have already been transferred to Australia on medical grounds despite the Morrison/Dutton government spending millions in taxpayer funds in failed attempts to stop legitimate medical transfers that in the courts. Has that encouraged the people smugglers?

LIES & MORE LIES – The Age

The Morrison government is being accused of "fear-mongering" and exaggeration in a growing dispute over border security as doctors reject claims of a "flood" of 300 asylum seekers seeking rapid medical help.

The peak centre handling refugee medical transfers said the government claim was unrealistic, while the Human Rights Law Centre said it had 70 people being assessed, of which a "handful" are urgent because they are critically ill.

The founder and president of Doctors for Refugees, Barri Phatarfod, said there had been 12 preventable deaths in the offshore system in the past five years and a new system was needed.

"There are currently around 25 individuals in PNG hospitals who need urgent medical treatment not available offshore," she said.

"We know of one young man in PNG who has had epileptic seizures of unknown cause since July 2018 and there has still not been adequate investigations performed to identify why he is still getting these.

"There is a 23-year-old man referred by his doctor for coronary angiogram over six months ago. In Australia this would be done within three days.

"A 29-year-old man with five years of abdominal pain has been recommended by his doctor to have a colonoscopy on Port Moresby almost a year ago and is still waiting."

ROLL THE DICE ... David Margan

Call me cynical even conspiratorial but one would hope that in a few years' time that it's not revealed that ASIO/AFP operatives or their contractors commissioned and paid people smugglers to send off a packed boat to Australia between now and May this year.

Already this government has made two things clear- their desperation and then their preparedness to engage in whatever dishonest and unethical behaviour they deem necessary to retain power.

Remember the cry "Children Overboard" which turned out to be a complete malicious Liberal lie and then too. Although it happened nearly two decades ago, the six-week standoff in 2001 between the Howard government and MV Tampa over 433 stranded asylum seekers is an iconic moment in the Coalition's history books.

Not only did it lead to the introduction of offshore detention on Nauru as well as the boat turn back policy that eventually 'stopped' the boats, this was the event that prompted then prime minister John Howard to pronounce that "we will decide who comes to this country and the circumstances in which they come".

Most importantly of all, the Tampa controversy is credited as being one of the key factors (along with the September 11 attacks) that changed the Coalition's election-losing run in the opinion polls into a healthy election win later that year.

HERE WE GO ... David Margan

"A PAKISTANI refugee on Nauru has links with Taliban warlords and was suspected of trying to plan an attack in Australia."

So crows the News Ltd, dowager the Courier-Mail – the shout it's an exclusive and I wonder where the information came from. Mr Baldy and his minions no doubt!

Fact is that under previous law and the new one passed by the Parliament this week the Home Affairs Minister has the power of veto re any applicant for transfer to Australia on medical grounds that are regarded as a security risk.

Fear and distortion is the only therapy Morrison's failed government has left and Morrison and Dutton are regular church goers, more like money-changers in the temple.

DUTTON'S HOMEYS

The federal government chose not to run an open tender process for contracts worth \$423 million to provide security for refugees on Manus Island, raising more questions about how the thinly capitalised and inexperienced Paladin group was chosen. Government procurement documents show the Home Affairs Department ran a "limited tender" for both contracts won by Paladin, which typically means it was the only party invited to bid. A limited tender is often used for advanced technology where there is only one supplier, for amounts under \$80,000 or when the time frame is very short.

The two Paladin contracts are set to be the subject of intense scrutiny at Senate estimates hearings next week, after The Australian Financial Review revealed a \$109 million increase was granted on January 3 despite allegations of deception, lying during the tender process and questionable payments. It has since emerged Paladin founder, Craig Thrupp, has left a string of bad debts and failed contracts across Asia, a track record that would usually make the government wary of awarding him such a lucrative contract. The Financial Review has also been told Home Affairs took the highly unusual step of making an advance payment of around \$10 million to Paladin, as the company did not have the money to begin the contract.

Company filings show Paladin was set up with capital of just \$US50,000, insufficient to fund the start-up costs for such a contract. When asked about the advance payment made to Paladin and the tender process for the contracts, Home Affairs said it "has nothing further to add to our previous response".

The Australian Financial Review (\$) reports that a comparison of Paladin's draft and final PNG services contracts, tabled by Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton yesterday, shows that early attempts by department lawyers to cross out FOI requirements were reversed. The final version also left out requirements for "Commonwealth Procurement Rules" for the \$423 million in Commonwealth contracts, a system Dutton



defended yesterday while again passing the buck to his department and secretary. Home Affairs, for the record, would not respond to questions on either issue.

Paladin was earning up to \$17 million a month for security at three centres despite demonstrating a string of bad debts and failed contracts [across Asia \(\\$\)](#). Until this week, the company was reportedly running its office out of a [Kangaroo Island beach shack \(\\$\)](#). Speaking to [Sky News](#), Dutton shifted blame to department officials while arguing that there are "very few people who can deliver services in the middle of nowhere on an island". *[Clearly Dutton is referring to the failure of the Coalition government over the last five years in Australia. Ed.]*

DUTTON ARRESTS SOCCER PLAYER

The arrest in Thailand of refugee footballer Hakeem al-Araibi was the direct result of a "miscommunication" between two agencies in Peter Dutton's portfolio.

The New Daily has confirmed the failure to raise al-Araibi's protected status as a refugee before the Interpol red notice was issued was the result of a miscommunication between Australian Federal Police and Australian Border Force.

The Home Affairs Department is preparing to launch an urgent review into the automatic notification system this week, which led to the Melbourne-based footballer being the subject of an Interpol red notice and arrested in Thailand before spending months behind bars.

Under Interpol's refugee policy, a red notice cannot be issued against a refugee from the country they initially fled.

Arriving back in Melbourne on Tuesday, al-Araibi said he wanted to thank the people of Australia for campaigning for his release.

"I don't have citizenship yet, but my country is Australia. I will die in Australia and I love Australia," he said.

But serious questions remain over how he came to be arrested.

Take this from Rebekah Holt in Crikey whether Al-Araibi had been given the wrong advice before he travelled to Thailand for his honeymoon; "In an interview Morrison did with Alan Jones on [2GB](#) a week ago in which he referred to people who have been granted permanent protection visas (like Al-Araibi). "Please don't go to countries where you can put yourself at risk in these situations," he said.

Al-Araibi's wife and friends have repeatedly stated that Al-Araibi had asked authorities in Australia if he would be safe to travel to Thailand and was told he would be. The messages are confusing. Morrison's "stay safe" blurt on Jones' show seems a bit late, coming some 68 days after Al-Araibi's arrest in Thailand. The information is perplexing given there were no formal or informal travel warnings in place when Al-Araibi enquired."

Remembering too that while Morrison and Foreign Minister Payne called a late night media conference to announce Al-Araibi's release and return to Australia in order to cloak themselves with some reflected glory - they had nothing to do with his release - it was solely due to the Bahrainis withdrawing their extradition request so there was no proper basis to continue to detain him.

STUART ROBERT – Andrew Leigh – (Talking about the Liberals support of their corporate mates)

"It's no surprise that it's the very same Liberal Party whose members are embroiled in fundraising scandals, sometimes involving their own personal finances. We've got Ian Goodenough, Tim Wilson and Stuart Robert now facing serious questions about their own behaviour. To look particularly at Stuart Robert, we have seen in Mr Robert's case, a donation going via the Fadden Forum worth over \$100,000, from a firm that just months later went into liquidation apparently owing creditors and the taxpayer hundreds of thousands of dollars. We've called on Stuart Robert to return that donation because we see no reason why the Queensland Liberal National Party should be benefiting from a political donation while taxpayers are left out of pocket."

BIG FOUR CARTEL - AFR

The competition regulator is probing the big four consulting firms Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC over allegations the firms operate as a cartel, or in an anti-competitive manner, in the way they sell audit and consulting services.

All four firms were contacted by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission late last year for information, including engagement letters, draft proposals and other notes related to their public sector work, as part of preliminary inquiries to see if a formal investigation into their actions is warranted.

The request is an expansion into ongoing research into the firms by the ACCC. Last September, [Labor asked the competition regulator to investigate the firms](#) over the way they win government work, especially when small and medium enterprises are involved, the structure and level of competition in the audit market and potential conflict between the firm's faster growing consulting arms and their traditional audit arms.

A shift to using consultants in federal agencies for all manner of work has benefited the four firms who have won contracts worth a [collective \\$1.7 billion in the five years between 2013 and 2017](#).

It will also be difficult for the ACCC to change the structure of the highly concentrated market for financial audits.

An investigation by the British competition regulator, the Competition and Markets Authority, into its audit market has proposed radical changes aimed at ending the dominance of the big four in the auditing sector.

While any changes in Britain will have global implications for these multinationals, the ACCC does not have similar powers to the CMA, said Professor Beaton-Wells of the Melbourne University Law School.

"The CMA does have more structural remedy powers than the ACCC does," she said. "So in the UK the CMA can do a market study ... and if it finds the market is not working competitively it can impose structural orders to break firms up or have much more far reach effect upon the market."

CLIVE'S NEPHEW

"He's having a great time. He's fallen in love with a girl in Bulgaria. He's enjoying his trip," Mr Palmer said. "I would like to have him as a candidate if we could." Clive Palmer on his bulbous nephew Clive Mensink for who there are two Federal Court arrest warrants out for Mr Palmer's nephew Clive Mensink, who is wanted for questioning over the collapse of Queensland Nickel and the disappearance of \$70 million in worker entitlements. Clive has repeatedly claimed he has had no contact with the missing nephew and doesn't know where he is.

BANK VICTIMS RISE - Eryk Bagshaw - SMH

The big four banks will face another parliamentary inquiry in the immediate aftermath of the banking royal commission, as victims groups criticise royal commissioner Kenneth Hayne and the Morrison government for failing to provide meaningful redress for thousands of customers. Labor passed the terms of reference for the Senate inquiry after securing the support of the crossbench. It will examine whether



financial service providers have used the legal system to pressure customers into accepting settlements and whether the bank-funded Australian Financial Complaints Authority is doing its job. Farmers and small business owners have been left disappointed by the royal commission's 76 recommendations, which focused heavily on structural issues, but offered few salves to those who have had millions tie



ASIC

PRIORITIES?

The Australian Securities and Investment Commission spent more than \$100,000 on a re-brand consisting largely of a new font in the midst of a royal commission that sharply criticised its performance in regulating the finance and banking industry

NEWMAN!!!!!! (Crikey)

Former Queensland assistant health minister Chris Davis has been awarded more than \$1.4 million in damages after he was overlooked for a senior position at Metro North Hospital and Health Service three months after his spectacular falling out with then-QLD premier Campbell Newman. The *Brisbane Times* reports that Davis has argued in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal that he had been discriminated against when, despite being the only qualified geriatrician of two applicants, no recruitment procedure was established at the hospital and the role was ultimately withdrawn. Davis had earlier that year quit politics after being dumped from cabinet for speaking out against Newman's doctor contracts and Crime and Misconduct Commission amendments.

PAULINE - David Margan



Perhaps we need a new hashtag movement – the PaulineMeToo movement!!

Hanson accuses former colleague Senator Burston of sexual harassment, he then accuses her of same and unwanted advances!!

In denying the sexual harassment charges he claimed in his defence that he, as a 70 year old man, would never use the 'F' word – twenty four hours later that's exactly the phrase he used at a News Ltd journalist following Fight Night in the Parliamentary foyer. He then walked some distance and wiped blood on the door of Senator Hanson's office. What a dignified lot!!

FACT OR FEAR

Rates of selected personal and household crimes in Australia were lower in 2017-18 compared to 2008-09, according to figures released today by

the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

"Results from the tenth annual Crime Victimisation Survey showed a national decrease of 23 per cent for physical assault, 33 per cent for threatened assault, and 50 per cent for robbery over the last decade, although the rate of sexual assault has remained steady," said William Milne of the ABS' National Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics.

"All household crimes types captured in the survey also show a decrease in 2017-18 compared to a decade ago," added Mr Milne.

KILLING THE RIVER

In another failure under the Coalition's watch it seems they may have also just killed the Murray-Darling system under pressure from big business and the National Party. This from the *Guardian*;

Water flows at key environmental sites in the [Murray-Darling Basin](#) are unimproved or worse than before the basin plan was implemented, a scientific report has found, raising serious questions about where the \$8.5bn of environmental water purchased by taxpayers is going.

The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, a group of eminent environmental scientists formed a decade ago to advocate for the river system, have looked at two key sites which they identified when the plan was put in place in 2010.

They have found that environmental flows are not meeting the government's own objectives for improving the health of the river at these sites.

At one site flows have actually declined, compared to pre-plan days.

"The failure to meet the targets is likely due to low flows being pumped by irrigators upstream under the NSW government's dodgy water sharing plan," a Wentworth Group spokesman said.

DEAD PLANET – SBS NEWS

Nearly half of all insect species worldwide are in rapid decline and a third could disappear altogether, according to a study warning of dire consequences for crop pollination and natural food chains.



"Unless we change our way of producing food, insects as a whole will go down the path of extinction in a few decades," concluded the peer-reviewed study, which is set for publication in April.

The recent decline in bugs that fly, crawl, burrow and skitter across still water is part of a gathering "mass extinction," only the sixth in the last half-billion years.

"We are witnessing the largest extinction event on Earth since the late Permian and Cretaceous periods," the authors noted.

The Permian end-game 252 million years ago snuffed out more than 90 percent of the planet's life forms, while the abrupt finale of the Cretaceous 66 million

years ago saw the demise of land dinosaurs.

"We estimate the current proportion of insect species in decline -- 41 percent -- to be twice as high as that of vertebrates," or animals with a backbone, Francisco Sanchez-Bayo of the University of Sydney and Kris Wyckhuys of the University of Queensland in Australia reported.

"At present, a third of all insect species are threatened with extinction."

An additional one percent join their ranks every year, they estimated. Insect biomass -- sheer collective weight -- is declining annually by about 2.5 percent worldwide.

"Only decisive action can avert a catastrophic collapse of nature's ecosystems," the authors cautioned.

The study, to be published in the journal *Biological Conservation*, pulled together data from more than 70 datasets from across the globe, some dating back more than a century.

By a large margin, habitat change -- deforestation, urbanisation, conversion to farmland -- emerged as the biggest cause of insect decline and extinction threat.

Next was pollution and the widespread use of pesticides in commercial agriculture.

The recent collapse, for example, of many bird species in France was traced to the use insecticides on industrial crops such as wheat, barley, corn and wine grapes. Experts estimate that flying insects across Europe have declined 80 percent on average, causing bird populations to drop by more than 400 million in three decades.

ANOTHER ADMINISTRATIVE FAILURE

According to [The Australian \(\\$\)](#), the 11th Closing the Gap report finds that only two of the seven targets set across health, education, employment and life expectancy outcomes have been met, with the employment gap actually increasing by 4.2% over the decade to 2016.

GOVERNMENT FIDDLES REPORT

A draft version of the review into the embattled live exports industry declared the Department of Agriculture had "failed" to regulate the trade and referred to "corruption" risks, but the criticisms were removed after being shown to public servants.



The revelation raises questions why Philip Moss' independent examination of the Department of Agriculture's regulation of the live exports trade was provided to the department ahead of its completion, and why some of the suggested changes appear to have been accepted.

His earlier versions said "the department has failed as the regulator" of the live export trade and stressed that the government's deregulation agenda and disbanding of the Animal Welfare Branch had been contributing factors.

"The regulatory culture therefore also needs to shift to focus on animal welfare rather than excusing incidents in order to facilitate fractured trade practices," said one line in a draft report.

But this observation was removed in the final version after the department objected. So too was an entire section headed "resistance to corruption", which said the department operates in a "complex

environment" with one risk being that "corruption may take hold".

Remember the hue and cry when it was revealed that the banks were allowed to interfere with a supposed 'independent' report into their dubious behaviour?!!

DISABLED



Emoji is thought to be the world's fastest-growing language. It is only right that people with disabilities, as the world's largest minority, are represented in, and able to access, culture and communication like this equally. Later this year, smartphones will have 59 new emojis representing people with disabilities. The new icons include men and women with a range of disabilities. There will be people with a white cane, with a service dog, with prosthetic limbs, using a wheelchair, and with a hearing aid. There is also an emoji of someone using sign language. There is still a long way to go for full inclusion and accurate representation of people with disabilities, but it is a big step forward to be included in the emojis.

ANOTHER RAT LEAVES THE SINKING SHIP ...

Energy giant Shell has reignited climate tensions between big business and Canberra after its call for the reintroduction of a carbon price was slammed by the federal government, which warned the move might threaten jobs and lift power prices. Shell, one of Australia's top foreign investors and largest LNG exporter, said the government needed to consider lower emissions targets and pursue carbon pricing to ensure energy producers continued to invest in the industry. "Part of the role for government will be to encourage consumers and businesses into lower carbon choices, perhaps through government-led carbon-pricing mechanisms that avoid the pitfalls of previous designs," Shell Australia chairman Zoe Yujnovich said in speech notes given to *The Australian* before an address to the Melbourne Mining Club.

FRANKING FIASCO - Crikey

You could feel the disappointment at *The Australian* (Monday), when it was [forced to report](#) that the scare campaign against Labor's proposal to end the franking credit refund rort had failed to register with voters, with opposition to Labor's proposal falling four points to 48%.

The fall is not much bigger than the poll's margin of error, so let's just say there's been no shift in voter sentiment on the issue either way.

That will disappoint both *The Australian* and *The Australian Financial Review*, which have been running aggressive campaigns against Labor's policy. Of course, both newspapers are normally to be found savaging taxpayer largesse to the undeserving, but retirees, especially well-off retirees, make up much of the readership of both, so their campaigns are entirely understandable.



THE LAW

DUTTON'S CITIZENSHIP LOSS BILL GIVES A WIN TO TERRORISTS- Dreyfus

Peter Dutton and Scott Morrison are trying to rush legislation through the parliament that could result in terrorists taking the Australian Government to the High Court – and winning.

The Committee heard expert evidence that the proposed legislation was likely unconstitutional, would not survive a High Court challenge, and risked completely destroying the Government's ability to revoke the citizenship of any terrorist.

Labor always puts the safety of Australians first and approaches national security in a bipartisan manner. There is nothing more important than keeping Australians safe.

We have worked cooperatively with this government on 19 national security bills since the 2013 election, and made hundreds of amendments to make those bills stronger and more effective.

Labor will issue a minority report on this bill on the basis that the government has made no efforts to show it is constitutional. Labor stands ready to negotiate on other parts of the bill which do not risk a High Court challenge.

In 2015, George Brandis lied about the Solicitor-General's advice on the Allegiance to Australia law being constitutional – and we only found out a year later. How can we trust this government?

Peter Dutton has already stuffed up the removal of the terrorist Neil Prakash's Australian citizenship. He has proven himself too incompetent to remove the citizenship of terrorists under existing laws. These new laws practically guarantee he will stuff up more cases, and could result in the Government losing all of its powers to remove citizenship. This would be undermine our national security, and Labor won't risk it.

Labor wants convicted terrorists kicked out and kept out of Australia – not fighting the Government in the High Court.

Eminent constitutional experts Peter Hanks QC, George Williams and Kim Rubenstein have all indicated that this legislation would be likely to fail a High Court challenge.

Without proof that this law is workable, it looks remarkably like nothing but a vanity project for Mr Dutton that could do enormous damage.

We stand by our record. Over more than five years, Labor has worked cooperatively with the three Liberal prime ministers to strengthen and improve every single national security bill put forward.

The Government has walked away from that proud tradition of bipartisanship to try to revive Peter Dutton's shrivelled political career. Labor is putting Australia's national security ahead of Peter Dutton's vanity and Scott Morrison should too.

LABOR WINS \$500 MILLION FINES & GAOL TIME FOR BAD BANKERS - Bowen/O'Neil

After fighting bitterly to stop Labor from increasing jail time for bankers last year, the Liberals capitulated spectacularly last night as Labor's amendments passed through the Senate.

The Liberals did everything they could to continue their protection racket for the big banks but in the end they gave up – they simply didn't have the numbers.

Because of Labor, if banks break the law they will now face half a billion dollar penalties and even longer jail time.

Labor's amendments will increase maximum jail sentences for the most serious corporate crimes from 10 to 15 years. As part of this change, bankers who charge fees for no service will now face up to 15 years in prison. Labor believes this is entirely appropriate given the billions of dollars they've stolen from ordinary Australian families and small businesses.

Thanks to Labor, companies that break the law will also now face a half a billion dollar maximum penalty – a 150 percent increase on the \$210 million proposed by the Government.

The Liberals never wanted these tough penalties. They voted against them in the House of Representatives, they spent months trashing them in the media, and only agreed to them at the last minute in order to avoid an embarrassing defeat in the Senate.

Labor is getting on with the job of cracking down on corporate crime to protect consumers from the rorts and rip-offs exposed by the Royal Commission.

Labor called for the Royal Commission, Labor fought for the Royal Commission, and Labor will work day and night to ensure Australian families and businesses are protected from criminals in the financial services sector.

STRONGER POWERS FOR POLICE AT AIRPORTS – Dreyfus/O'Neil

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security have today handed down a bipartisan report recommending the passage of the *Crimes Legislation Amendment (Police Powers at Airports) Bill*.

A number of recommendations have been made to improve the bill and make it stronger and more effective. Those recommendations, if implemented, would also make it clear that the new powers cannot be used to interfere with the right to peaceful assembly

If legislation is presented by the government reflecting these bipartisan recommendations, and passed by the Parliament, the rules governing

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

the powers of police at airports around Australia will be unified for the first time and strengthened.

Police constables and Protective Service Officers will have the power to direct a person to move on from airport premises – or to prevent a person from taking a specified flight – where that person is reasonably suspected to have committed, is committing or intending to commit an offence punishable by 12 months imprisonment or more or if it is necessary to safeguard aviation security. It also expands the existing power that constables have to direct a person to produce evidence of their identity in specified circumstances.

Labor is grateful to the AFP for the important role it plays keeping Australians safe. Instead of supporting our dedicated AFP officers to perform their critically important work, the Liberals have chosen to cut AFP funding and slash staff.

In the last Budget, the Liberals cut \$205 million from the AFP over the forward estimates – a cut Peter Dutton presided over as Minister for Home Affairs. As a result, the AFP Commissioner last year confirmed that staffing at the AFP was predicted to fall from 6448 personnel in 2018-19 to 5881 personnel in 2021-22 – an extraordinary reduction of 567 AFP personnel.

Labor is absolutely dedicated to giving enforcement and security agencies the powers they need to keep Australians safe.

Labor has always taken a bipartisan approach to national security matters, and will continue to do so – even as the government continually tries to trash that approach. We have helped to make more than 500 amendments to national security bills since 2013 – every one of those has made our laws stronger and more effective.

This report shows the bipartisanship

WIN FOR COMMONSENSE ON ENCRYPTION - Dreyfus

This week, the Senate passed a key Labor amendment to the *Telecommunications and Other Legislation (Assistance and Access) Amendment Act*, designed to tighten the definition of “systemic weakness” and better target the operation of powers in the Act. The government voted against this amendment.

This amendment fulfils key recommendations made in the bipartisan Intelligence Committee report in December. Because the government packed up and went home in the last sitting week of the year, they could not be passed at that time. But Labor has not given up on improving this legislation.

Labor has listened to the many stakeholders in the telecommunications and tech industry who have put forward strong arguments in support of the amendment passed today.

Unlike the government, the majority of the Senate recognised that there was further work that needed to be done to fulfil the recommendations of the bipartisan report.

The amendment passed today is the only one of four put forward by Labor that was able to be considered before debate was cut off.

We call on the government to allow time for consideration of and voting on the further amendments before the Senate rises for the election.

GOVERNANCE

TAXPAYERS TO FORK OUT \$23 MILLION FOR DODGY TAX AD CAMPAIGN - Bowen

There is nothing the Liberals will stop at to tell lies on tax – with Treasury confirming [overnight](#) the taxpayers will fork out \$23 million for a ‘tax integrity campaign’.

The Liberal taxpayer funded TV and online campaign matches up with Tim Wilson’s scandal plagued taxpayer funded committee inquiry into Labor’s reforms to dividend imputation as well as the continued politicisation of the Treasury to cost Labor policies.

The \$23 million pre-election ads binge is a blatant waste of taxpayer’s money spent on Government propaganda and the latest case of the Liberals’ ‘never let the truth get in the way of a good story’ moniker.

What the ads conveniently leave out, is that most of the \$140 billion cost of the income tax package – and benefits – don’t flow until 2022 and 2024.

Labor has bigger, better and fairer income tax cuts for 10 million Australians where the benefits will flow to workers from 1 July this year.

And the billions of dollars raked in from tackling ‘tax avoidance’ are from Labor laws – which the Government opposed at the time.

Everywhere you look, the tax payer is picking up the cost of Liberal Party lies and collusion with vested interests to undermine sensible tax reform.

MORE QUESTIONS FOR TIM WILSON TO ANSWER -Thistlethwaite



Late last Friday afternoon Geoff Wilson of Wilson’s Asset Management quietly confirmed that he is a private backer of Tim Wilson’s campaign website.

These revelations late on Friday afternoon raise further questions for the Chair of the House Economics Committee.

Tim Wilson has ignored demands to explain who owns his stoptheretirementtax.com website arrogantly telling the Australian people that he doesn’t have to disclose the secretive funding arrangements for his anti-Labor site.

Geoff Wilson’s revelation that he ‘partly funded’ the site now raises further questions.

- Who else is the Chair receiving money from to fund his website?
- Have these donors appeared before the Liberal dominated committee?

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

- Who else has access to the personal details and information garnered from this website?

Tim Wilson must resign as Chair of the House Economics committee. If he does not, the Prime Minister must finally show some leadership and sack him.

GOVT COME CLEAN ON UNAUTHORISED LEAK OF AFP RAID – Wong/O'Connor

Scott Morrison must finally show some leadership and direct Ministers Cash and Keenan to provide a full and frank explanation to the Parliament about their knowledge or involvement in the AWU raid scandal.

Media reports of evidence given under oath in the Federal Court this week suggests that:

- Minister Cash's then Chief of Staff was the [source of an unauthorised leak](#) of the Australian Federal Police raid on the Australian Workers Union offices;
- Minister Cash's then Senior Media Adviser, when deciding to leak advance notice of the raids, was [motivated by damaging the Leader of the Opposition's reputation](#);
- The office of then Minister for Justice, the Minister responsible for the AFP, [was advised prior to the raids commencing](#) by Minister Cash's office; and
- Minister Cash's then Senior Media Adviser worked with [the then Minister for Justice's media adviser](#) to leak the raids to the media.

Despite this, both Ministers continue to refuse to give a full and frank account of their knowledge and involvement in the scandal.

Worse still, both ministers have failed to clarify clear contradictions between their statements and evidence given under oath in the Federal Court.

The Prime Minister's representative in the upper house, Government Leader of the Senate Mathias Cormann, stated that "Minister Cash has been entirely forthright in her public statements in relation to those matters".

Given the evidence that two members of her staff are now involved in the leak and subsequent cover-up – and Minister Cash's refusal to give a full and frank explanation to the Senate – this statement is simply not credible.

Does the Prime Minister honestly believe that Senator Cash has been entirely forthright?

Does the Prime Minister honestly believe similar assurances given by the former Minister for Justice, Mr Keenan?

It's long past time Mr Morrison showed some leadership and directed Minister Cash and Minister Keenan to provide a full and frank explanation to the Parliament on Monday.

QLD INFRASTRUCTURE

COALITION TOO HOPELESS TO DELIVER NORTH QLD ROAD UPGRADES – Albanese/Clare

The Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government has failed to deliver nearly \$120 million in promised road upgrades designed to boost economic productivity and create jobs in Northern Queensland.

In 2015 the Government created its Northern Australia Roads Program and the Northern Australia Beef Roads Program, promising they would ignite economic growth in the nation's North.

But according to the Government's own Budget documents, the Coalition has delivered less than half the funds promised to Queensland under the two programs.

Since funding became available in 2016, it has promised Queensland \$155.6 million under the Northern Australia Roads Program, but actually provided \$87.2 million – a shortfall of \$68.4 million.

It has also promised \$86.4 million under the Beef Roads Program, but provided only \$35.5 million – a shortfall of nearly \$51 million.

There is no excuse for this incompetence.

North Queensland has great potential for growth. If we get the infrastructure right, governments working together can supercharge the region's economic development, allowing businesses to prosper and create new jobs for locals, while also attracting new residents.

But the Coalition has proven incapable of delivery. As has been the case in so many of its infrastructure investment programs, it simply cannot match its rhetoric with outcomes.

A Shorten Labor Government would deliver investment under the \$5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, including allocating \$1 billion from NAIF to tourism infrastructure.

Tourism is already critical to the North Queensland economy, but we see potential for its further expansion and in government would back in that potential with genuine investment.

SEQ NEEDS INVESTMENT, NOT MORE RHETORIC – Albanese

The LNP Government has elevated its rhetoric to new heights, with its latest stunt of a press conference masquerading as a commitment to South East Queensland's City Deal.

This is despite the fact that the LNP Government has not committed a single dollar to a City Deal for South East Queensland. In reality, the rabble of a performance witnessed today is nothing more than cover for a systematic scaling back of Federal investment in South East Queensland's road and public transport infrastructure.

The facts speak for themselves.

Recent analysis of funding data produced by the Government's own Infrastructure Department reveals that the LNP has committed \$5.5 billion towards the delivery of major new road and rail projects during its first six years in office.

This compares to the \$7.5 billion invested by the former Federal Labor Government over a similar period of time.

Worse still, of the funding announced by the Government to date, 40 per cent won't flow until the 2022-23 financial year at the earliest.

The LNP's record has been one of broken promises, delays, and funding on the Never Never.

Indeed, one of the first acts of the incoming Abbott -Turnbull-Morrison Government was to cut all the funding allocated to Cross River Rail by the former Federal Labor Government and redirect that money to build new toll roads in Sydney and Melbourne.

If they had not done that, this project would today be nearing completion.

Without transformative projects like Cross River Rail, the economic cost of traffic congestion in Brisbane and across South East Queensland will increase almost five-fold to \$9.2 billion a year by as early as 2031.

Labor's record of collaboration and investment stands in contrast to the LNP. In addition to investing in Cross River Rail, the former Federal Labor Government also upgraded the major road connecting Brisbane to Ipswich in the west with a \$2.9 billion investment in the Ipswich Motorway. We invested \$455 million in the Pacific Motorway which connects Brisbane to the Gold Coast in the south, and upgraded key sections of the Bruce Highway between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast.

We also cooperated with the Queensland Government to fix congested sections of the Gateway Motorway, and construct a new interchange at the intersection between Mains and Kessels Roads. And we partnered with Brisbane City Council to deliver the \$1.5 billion Legacy Way.

The truth is that the LNP's City Deals program is in disarray at a time when communities across South East Queensland are crying out for real investment and real projects that will make a real difference to their lives.

A Shorten Labor Government will get on with the job and deliver real outcomes for South East Queensland.

KICK-START THE MINES AND MINING JOBS OF THE FUTURE – Clare/Carr/Madeleine King

Labor's *Future Mines and Jobs plan* will kick-start the discovery of new mines across the country, generating new jobs and providing a much needed economic boost.

Booming prices and volumes in some commodities have masked a serious issue – Australia is going backwards in global market share in commodities like gold, copper, nickel and zinc. Commodities where demand is going to increase significantly in the years ahead.

We need to do more to find the commodities of the future – the base and precious metals needed for the renewable energy economy, batteries in electric cars and to meet global demand for products like smart phones.

It is predicted, for example, the global copper production in the next 25 years will be larger than all the copper mined in world history.

Australia is blessed with the geological bounty to continue to lead the world. Despite this, two thirds of potential deposits remain undiscovered because they reside deeper than previous technology could explore. These places are the potential mines of the future.

The Resource 2030 Taskforce report says we need to better coordinate the work we are currently doing to find these deposits. It recommends an overarching body to bring all of this together.

That's why Labor will establish the Australian Future Mines Centre, to co-ordinate exploration work and lead the scientific research and development necessary to explore under deep cover.

The Centre will be funded through a \$23 million Australian Research Council Special Research Initiative, with input from the Australian Academy of Sciences and the sector. We will also encourage industry co-funding as part of the centre's work.

The plan will also help deliver the mining jobs of the future, with \$2 million to provide 100 scholarships to arrest the dramatic decline in mining engineering degree commencements.

And consistent with Labor's commitment to equality for women of Australia, no less than 50 per cent of these places will be awarded to women.

We will also deliver a mining skills and workforce map to harness the opportunities in cutting edge technology like machine-learning and big data analytics.

We know the time between discovery and export potential can span decades, which is why we need to act now to build the workforce to discover the mines needed for the commodities of the future.

The Centre will also deliver on the need for an industry data strategy and explore options for innovation collaboration across the sector – key

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

recommendations of the Resources 2030 Task Force Report.

Labor's plan builds on our announcement last year to support battery manufacturing and hydrogen - to make sure we can develop the industries of the future here in Australia.

Labor commits to a Resource White Paper process, to deliver the long-term vision across Government for the resource sector and to ensure we capitalise on all the opportunities it can bring.

We've also announced a once in generation National Inquiry into Post-Secondary Education that will look at every aspect of the vocational and higher education systems, to ensure they can best respond to the needs of Australia's economy and society.

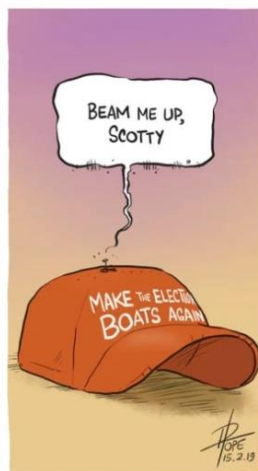
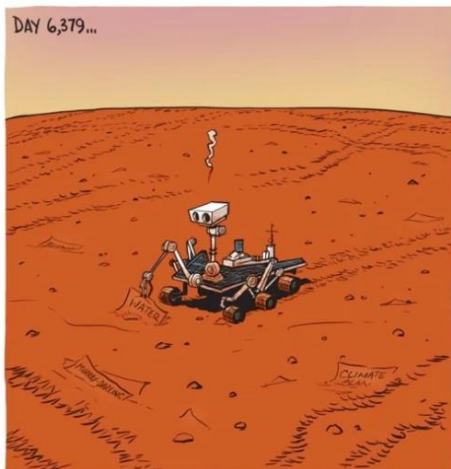
IMMIGRATION

STRONG BORDER PROTECTION AND TREATING PEOPLE HUMANELY - Shorten

Australians understand our nation can be strong on borders and still treat people humanely which is why the Parliament has successfully passed legislation to help sick refugees and asylum seekers currently on Nauru and Manus Island to receive urgent medical care.

This bill was needed because Scott Morrison, Peter Dutton and the Liberals have left vulnerable people to languish on Nauru and Manus Island for close to six years.

This legislation **only** applies to people who are currently in regional processing – removing any incentive, no matter how small, for people to risk their life at sea.



Labor's message is clear – if you try and make it to Australia by boat, you will be turned around and you will never settle in Australia.

Under this legislation, Labor has ensured that the Minister can stop criminals from coming to Australia, that there is enough time to make decisions, and that the legislation only applies to the people currently on Nauru and Manus Island.

There is no difference between Labor and Liberal when it comes to our border protection regime.

We support offshore processing, turn backs when safe to do so, and regional resettlement – there will be no changes to this under a Shorten Labor Government.

Scott Morrison is running a desperate and shrill scare campaign – spreading baseless lies about Labor's strong position on border protection.

Under Labor, there will be no change to Operation Sovereign Borders. Operation Sovereign Borders will be fully resourced, we will maintain Australia's strong border protection measures and strengthen them even further with these new measures to stop people smugglers in their tracks.

Labor has announced we will triple the number of Australian Federal Police officers overseas dedicated to deterring and disrupting people smuggling ventures. This is something the Liberals have failed to do.

Scott Morrison's ridiculous decision to open the Christmas Island detention centre is a hysterical and unhinged response from a desperate and dishonest Prime Minister.

He is encouraging the people smugglers to restart the boats and should be ashamed of himself.

Our Parliament should be good enough to approach these matters in a grown-up and rational way – which is what Labor has done.

The next important step is to resettle those refugees and asylum seekers, who are still on Nauru and Manus Island, safely in third countries.

Labor, if elected, will accept New Zealand's generous offer to resettle refugees with appropriate conditions – and negotiate other third country resettlement options as a priority.

DISABILITY

"It's been Labor policy since May 2017 to have a Royal Commission into the abuse and neglect of people with a disability" – Tanya Plibersek

MORRISON STONEWALLING ON DISABILITY INQUIRY – Plibersek/Burney/Brown

It's time for Scott Morrison to end his trickery and stonewalling on a royal commission into violence and abuse against people with disability.

He needs to end the uncertainty, and support this royal commission, after previously voting against it again and again.

After his Government's shameful and disappointing antics in the Parliament yesterday, it would be the decent and respectful thing to do for

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

people with disability, their families, carers and advocates.

Yesterday, during the Government's shambolic attempts to obstruct a vote on a royal commission, the Prime Minister misled the parliament when he said:

"I have not resolved not do this, I have been considering this matter".

And yet, just hours earlier his Government voted against the royal commission in the Senate.

The Government also voted against an almost identical motion in the Senate in December last year.

For years, the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government has opposed the royal commission.

15 months after the Senate report into violence, abuse and neglect against people with disability in institutional and residential settings, the Government rejected the recommendation for a royal commission:

"The Government does not consider that a further inquiry is needed."



Scott Morrison cannot airbrush history. He needs to do the right thing by people with disability.

People with disability have waited long enough. And Scott Morrison has had plenty of time. He voted against the Banking Royal Commission 26 times. He cannot make the same mistake with this.

Labor committed to a separate and dedicated royal commission for people with disability in May 2017.

And Labor senators were integral to drafting the Senate report recommending a royal commission back in November 2015.

People with disability, their families, carers and advocates know far too well and have known for far too long, the widespread prevalence of this violence and abuse.

And they know that only a broad-based, separate and dedicated royal commission which covers incidences of abuse and violence in a wide range of sectors, including in health, mental health, education and the justice system, will suffice.



LABOR'S REFORMS DELIVERING FOR THE BUDGET – AGAIN - Leigh

The Australian Tax Office has [confirmed](#) that \$2.7 billion of revenue was protected from being lost to the Black Economy in the 2015-16 financial year as a result of the Taxable Payment Reporting System introduced by Labor in the 2011-12 Budget.

To put this beyond doubt before the Coalition tries to steal credit: yesterday's result is solely due to Labor's tax integrity measures in the building and construction industry.

This result came on the same day the Coalition backed down in the House on their proposal to introduce a new tax loophole, which would have allowed taxpayers to self-assess depreciation schedules on intangible assets. Labor opposed it last year when the Coalition said it would cost the budget \$80 million over the forward estimates. When they conceded and dropped the measure, the Coalition sheepishly admitted that the tax loophole had been recosted by Treasury as \$425 million over the forwards. Without Labor holding the fiscal line, the budget would have been nearly half a billion dollars worse off.

Labor has welcomed the Coalition's embrace of Labor's Taxable Payment Reporting System reforms, including the expansion to other sectors of the economy such as courier and cleaning services.

But, as usual, it is Labor's reforms and policy positions that are doing the heavy lifting. More often than not, the Liberals opposed Labor's reforms.

It was Labor's laws – opposed by the Liberals – that helped deliver the Tax Office's \$300 million win against Chevron in the High Court.

It was Labor's laws – opposed by the Liberals – that underpinned the Tax Office's \$529 million settlement with BHP.

It is Labor's laws – opposed by the Liberals – that delivered the majority of the \$5.6 billion collected from multinationals and high net-worth individuals by an tax office taskforce. (The Government's Multinational Anti-Avoidance Law only applies from 1 July 2016, but most of the \$5.6 of assessments are for prior years).

All that the Coalition have left are lies. Yesterday, Stuart Robert lied – again –by claiming that Labor voted against the Government's soft multinational laws. In fact, [Labor supported](#) that bill through both the House and the Senate.

The truth is, the Liberals have more than doubled net debt to record highs and seen gross debt crash through half-a-trillion dollars for the first time ever in the country's history. Only Labor can tackle tax avoidance and pay down the Coalition's record and growing debt.

FRYDENBERG'S BLUFF AND BLUSTER ON SUPER ENDS IN CHAOS – Bowen/O'Neil

At the eleventh hour – after months of dysfunction, incompetence, bluster and delay – the Liberals have partnered with the Greens to completely gut their Protecting Your Super package.

The changes the Government has agreed to will ensure that Australia's youngest superannuation members and those with the smallest balances

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

continue to be sluggish with fees for insurance that they don't simply need.

The Liberals have behaved like shrill, ridiculous hypocrites. For months, Labor has tried to work constructively with the Government to pass this package. We made our position clear in November 2018 – we support the bill but will move amendments to protect workers who obviously need insurance and ensure accounts are consolidated faster. In every regard, our amendments protected the interests of members. Our position has not changed.

Throughout this process, the Government's chaotic approach has beggared belief. Even as late as this week, they could not tell Labor which Minister was responsible for the bill, who the relevant adviser was or even if they would be moving amendments.

Josh Frydenberg and Kelly O'Dwyer have spent the last year bloviating endlessly about this issue. They should both apologise for the column inches and oxygen they have wasted lecturing Labor about this issue, only to bizarrely gut the centrepiece of their very own bill when Labor wanted to pass it. It's embarrassing.

Here are just a few recent examples:

"We have legislation before the Parliament which is very important to getting the members' best interests advanced, in particular this idea around allowing younger members to opt-in to insurance policies in their super. That would give 5 million members the opportunity to choose and would save them up to \$2 billion a year as well.... And for the life of me, I can't understand why the Labor Party seems to be blocking these important reforms endorsed by the Productivity Commission."

Josh Frydenberg, 10 January 2019

"We would stop the rorts and rip-offs of the superannuation system that would see people defaulted into insurance premiums that they either do not want or do not need."

Kelly O'Dwyer, 27 November 2018

"Much-needed reform to our superannuation system with legislation before the parliament that will boost the retirement incomes of millions of people. This will be done by... avoiding the cost of inappropriate insurance within their super."

Josh Frydenberg, 22 January 2019

"And it's why the government, through this bill, is taking action to ensure people's hard-earned savings are protected from inappropriate fees, insurance arrangements and the inefficiencies which result from holding multiple accounts."

Kelly O'Dwyer, 21 June 2018

"These reforms will better target default insurance cover and will address the inappropriate erosion of retirement savings by insurance premiums for cover that members either don't need, do not know they have, or which they cannot even claim on."

Kelly O'Dwyer, 26 July 2018

GOVT MUST BACK LABOR ON SMALL BUSINESS AFTER SENATE HUMILIATION-Leigh

The Coalition suffered a humiliating loss last night after being forced to admit it didn't have the numbers to block Labor's Small Business Access to Justice policy, which helps small business to bring cases of anti-competitive behaviour to court.

Scott Morrison must stop backing the big end of town and change his position on our Access to Justice policy, which passed the Senate last night without division after Mathias Cormann admitted:

"I actually believe that the Government doesn't have the numbers for this amendment, we accept that."

The Coalition previously [voted against](#) the measure in a 2017 Private Senators Bill.

Currently, small businesses are less likely to take up private litigation against anti-competitive behaviour. Big businesses have deep pockets and armies of lawyers, so the risk of small businesses being bankrupted by legal fees is a significant disincentive to taking action against anti-competitive conduct.

Labor's Access to Justice policy will level the playing field by allowing a small business to request a 'no adverse costs order' early in a court case. If the judge decides that the case is in the public interest, the small business won't have the risk of paying the other side's costs if they lose. It's backed by peak small business groups.

Now that the amended bill passed the Senate, it will return to the House of Representatives, where Scott Morrison has the chance to perform a last-minute backflip, and finally support small business and competitive markets.

The amendment can be found [HERE](#).

ENERGY POLICY

LIBERALS GIVE THE BIG STICK THE FLICK - Bowen/Butler

This week the Liberals have dumped their 11th energy policy since the 2016 election, its so-called 'big stick' legislation.

This is another embarrassing backflip from a divided and chaotic Liberal government who has no plan to bring down energy prices or take real action on climate change. It's plain for all Australians to see that they remain as clueless, as hopeless and as divided as ever on energy policy.

The fact is under the Liberals power prices have gone up, and up, and up and Australian businesses and households are paying the price.

Electricity prices have gone up 15 per cent under the Liberals. Future prices are already predicting a 30-40 per cent increase in wholesale power prices in New South Wales and Victoria.

Yet, all the Liberals have been focused on is spending billions of taxpayers' dollars on new, expensive, polluting coal-fired power stations – and

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

indemnifying operators at a cost to taxpayers of \$17 billion per station.

Morrison is anti-renewables, anti-jobs and anti-cheap power.

Only Labor has a plan for more renewables and cheaper power. It's time the Government came back to the table, listened to all the experts, and worked with Labor on a National Energy Guarantee.

COALITION ENERGY DIVISIONS SKYROCKET - Mark Butler

Further reports today show the internal divisions within the Liberal Party means they will either go to the election with no energy policy, or a policy that spends billions of taxpayers' dollars on new, expensive, polluting coal-fired power stations – and indemnifying operators at a cost to taxpayers of \$17 billion per station.

One Liberal backbencher is reported describing the Liberal plan to underwrite coal as, "subsidising Kodak to make camera film."

The chaotic Coalition just in the last 24 hours:

- **Dropped their 11th energy policy since the election – the so-called 'big stick' legislation**
- **Saw the Nationals call an emergency meeting because they were unaware the Treasurer had made a captain's call to drop the legislation**
- **Are facing divisions in their two largest branches over the plan to underwrite new coal**

Meanwhile, Australian households and businesses are left paying the price with higher energy bills and rising pollution.

While the Liberals continue to fight their internal ideological battles, investment uncertainty in the energy sector means Australians are missing out on thousands of good new jobs.

Only Labor has a plan for more renewables and cheaper power. It's time the Government came back to the table, listened to all the experts, and worked with Labor on a National Energy Guarantee.

EDUCATION

LIBERALS' SCHOOL FUNDING SLAMMED BY LIBERAL COMMITTEE- Plibersek/Hill

A [scathing report](#) by the powerful Liberal controlled Parliamentary audit committee has found that the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government failed to obey federal laws requiring school funds to be distributed based on need.

The report details concerns about serious compliance problems, "inadequate administrative arrangements", and a "lack of transparency and accountability".

To help clean up the Liberals' mess, the Committee has recommended significant changes to the way the distribution of school funding is monitored and reported.

This is further proof that Scott Morrison and the Liberals cannot be trusted with schools. Not only has Mr Morrison ripped \$14 billion from schools, his Government has been busted being dodgy with the funding that's left. Clearly the Liberals think following the law should be optional for them. It shows just how out of touch they are.

This week's report follows a [damning assessment](#) of the Liberals' school funding regime by the Australian National Audit Office back in late 2017.

LABOR'S PLAN TO GET MORE CHILDREN LEARNING LANGUAGES - Plibersek/Burke

A Shorten Labor Government will invest an extra \$8 million in community language schools so more Australian children get the chance to learn other languages.

Currently, community language schools teach mostly school age kids. But the younger someone starts learning another language, the easier it is to pick up. That's why we'll help more community language schools open up their classes to pre-schoolers as well as school age children.

Grants of up to \$25,000 per school will allow language programs to be expanded to preschool children. The grants could also go towards the costs of setting up a new school, better teacher training, or classroom resources.

Community language schools have been operating in Australia for more than 150 years. There are now about 700 community language schools across the country, teaching around 100,000 students in over 80 languages.

Community language schools are not-for-profit and operate outside mainstream school hours, often on a Saturday. They are open to all students regardless of their linguistic or cultural background. The schools can assist children of migrants retain the language and culture of their parents, grandparents and community members who may have learned English as a second language.

The more Australians we have learning languages other than English, the better for our economy, and our society. Community language schools contribute to Australia's standing as a successful multicultural nation. They help preserve and celebrate cultures and traditions and promote diversity, inclusion, and respect.

ENVIRONMENT

REPEAL THE 1500GL CAP ON BUYBACKS IN THE MURRAY DARLING BASIN – Wong/Burke

This week, Labor introduced legislation to repeal the 1500GL cap on water buybacks to help protect the Murray Darling Basin.

The extraordinary fish kills over summer, the Productivity Commission review of the Murray Darling Basin Plan and the report of the South Australian Royal Commission into the Murray Darling Basin are dire warnings about the health of the Basin.

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

Labor is taking urgent action by introducing a Bill that will repeal Barnaby Joyce's cap on water buy-backs. Labor is undoing the harm done by Barnaby Joyce when he was Water Minister.

When the Abbott Government legislated the cap, Labor made clear that we would oppose it if it compromised our overarching goal— the delivery of the Basin Plan and securing the health of the River. It's clear that every step of the way, Barnaby Joyce attempted to undermine that goal.

Labor's Bill will help ensure irrigators and state and territory governments deliver projects that return water to the river, and it will provide flexibility to give the Basin the water it needs if they fail to do so.

The cap on buyback was never part of the original Murray Darling Basin Plan.

As we get closer to the period where the Murray Darling Basin Plan will be due for review, and the quality of the 605GL of "down water" or "supply projects" is yet to be determined, we need to make sure our options are open to recover water.

By removing the cap on buybacks Labor is removing legislative barrier to providing more water for the Basin, if that is what is needed.

Labor has always fought for a healthy Murray Darling Basin. We fought to deliver the Murray Darling Basin Plan in Government, and have fought in Opposition against the Liberal and Nationals attempts to undermine its delivery. Labor is considering the full report from the Productivity Commission, the South Australian Royal Commission and we have sought advice from the Academy of Sciences in regard to the fish kills. Our response will continue our ongoing fight to protect the Basin.

Labor's *Water Amendment (Purchase Limit Repeal) Bill 2019* repeals Division 5 of Part 2 of the Water Act 2007, removing the entire section related to the 1500GL cap on buybacks.



LABOR WILL FUND DROUGHT RESILIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE – Fitzgibbon/Albanese

A Shorten Labor Government will help farmers build defences to drought, lift productivity and secure sustainable profitability while also funding nation building road and rail infrastructure.

Labor's Caucus meeting tonight resolved to vote against the Morrison Government's raid on the \$3.9 billion held in the Building Australia Fund to pay for its belated Future Drought Fund.

After more than five years of inaction on the drought resilience front, the Government has come to the party but says only at the expense of important road and rail projects, many of which will benefit our farmers and regional communities.

Labor will spend the same amount of money as the Government plans to spend but without cutting road and rail investment. And we'll invest in resilience sooner and more effectively.

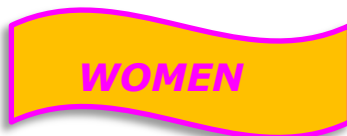
The more you look at the Government's Future Drought Fund the more it looks like another National Party slush fund.

The Senate scrutiny of Bills Committee has expressed concern about a lack of Parliamentary accountability and the extent of the Minister's "broad powers" to spend without process.

Labor's *Farm Productivity and Sustainable Profitability Plan* will be developed by an expert panel including scientists, economists, research bodies and farm industry leaders. The *Panel of Guardians* will be in place within 60 days following an election and will report to Government within 12 months.

Labor's Plan will be funded on-Budget: \$100 million each year, the same amount of money the Morrison Government proposes to draw from its Future Drought Fund, no tricks, no spin, just real money.

But Labor's strategy will be science and evidence based rather than conjured up in the Nationals Party Room.



GOVT REVERSING CUTS IS NOTHING TO BE GRATEFUL FOR Burney/O'Connor/Cameron

Scott Morrison deserves no congratulations for reversing the Liberals' own cuts to the housing and support services that women and children fleeing family violence rely on.

The simple fact remains that the Liberals cut \$44 million in annual funding for emergency housing in the 2014 horror Budget. Their housing announcement today doesn't even make up for what they have cut.

After five years of neglecting these crucial services, Scott Morrison has admitted he got it wrong.

He's copy-and-pasted many of Labor's existing funding commitments on emergency housing and the *Keeping Women Safe in their Homes* program – they are following our lead.

The Liberals' record shows that leadership on preventing family violence simply hasn't been a priority for this Government –

- Scott Morrison is still refusing to back Labor's plan for 10-days paid domestic violence leave.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

- They dragged their feet on funding for legal aid as part of cross-examination reforms to prevent perpetrators from directly cross-examining victims in court.
- The Government had to be shamed into reversing part of their cuts to Community Legal Centres.
- The Liberals' abolished the Women's Budget Statement to hide the harmful impacts of their policies on women.
- They abolished the National Plan Advisory Group which guided the development of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children.

With the Liberal and National parties going backwards on women's representation in the Parliament, it's no wonder they lack leadership on gender equality policy.

Preventing family violence requires consistent leadership and Labor has demonstrated this with our long-standing commitments to serious reform.

A Shorten Labor Government will:

- Legislate for 10 days paid domestic violence leave;
- Quickly begin work on a new 10-year National Plan;
- Reinstall a National Plan Advisory Group, and the Women's Budget Statement;
- Meet our target of 50 per cent women's representation in Parliament; and
- Provide \$88 million over two years for a new Safe Housing Fund.

LANDMARK SENATE REPORT CALLS FOR NEW LAWS TO STOP DOWRY ABUSE - Pratt/Hill

The final report of the Senate inquiry into dowry abuse has recommended new laws nationally to recognise dowry abuse as a form of economic family violence, along with a suite of changes to Australia's migration program to protect vulnerable women.

Dowry extortion has been recognised as a direct cause of family violence including horrific murders and suicides.

The Senate Committee found that the approach recommended by the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence should be adopted nationally.

While acknowledging that dowry is generally undesirable in modern Australia – as it perpetuates a culture of ownership or control of women – the report did not recommend dowry be criminalised stating that:

"Criminalisation may have the unintended result of driving this pernicious cultural practice underground, further isolating CALD women and causing greater harm...criminalisation of dowry in other jurisdictions such as India [has not worked] in preventing dowry abuse...there is no benefit for society in creating a system that fosters false and vexatious complaints – often against men – when marriages break down as appears to be the case under the current Indian law."



Instead, the report recommends that the Australian Government amend the Commonwealth Family Law Act to recognise economic abuse including dowry abuse, and work with the states and territories to adopt this approach nationally in laws regarding intervention / violence orders.

The inquiry heard shocking evidence that the promise of Australian permanent residency and citizenship has turned marriage into a lucrative money making business. Marriage is being sold for tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars, driving dowry related extortion.

The Committee heard evidence from numerous submitters that Australia's migration program was facilitating dowry abuse and failing to protect vulnerable women.

Many women are tricked into marriage on false pretences by Australian citizens, and are then unable to access family violence protections because of their visa status.

The Committee did not accept the view of the Department of Home Affairs that the status quo is sufficient, recommending changes including consideration of:

- broadening the definition of family violence in the Migration Regulations to include dowry abuse, as recommended by the Victorian Royal Commission;
- extending the family violence provisions in the Migration Regulations to apply to other family visa sub-classes they currently do not apply to;
- the creation of a new temporary visa available to non-family temporary visa holders who have suffered serious and proven family violence;
- changes to how decision makers consider the nature of alleged family violence when assessing whether a relationship is genuine;
- innovative use of the sponsorship mechanism to prevent perpetrators from sponsoring multiple spouses; and
- requiring sponsors to provide disclosures and give undertakings, for example in relation to their income, employment, marital and criminal history, and to dowry and gifts exchanged during the relationship.

Other recommendations related to the links between dowry abuse and slavery, human trafficking and forced marriage, as well as training and education for police, judges, doctors, frontline service providers and the broader community.

The inquiry received over 80 submissions from across Australia, demonstrating the extent of community concern, and held public hearings in Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra. Senator Louise Pratt chaired the inquiry which was initiated following advocacy by Julian Hill MP.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

Labor welcomes the report, acknowledges the need for a comprehensive national response to dowry abuse and will carefully consider the recommendations.

FIRST PEOPLE

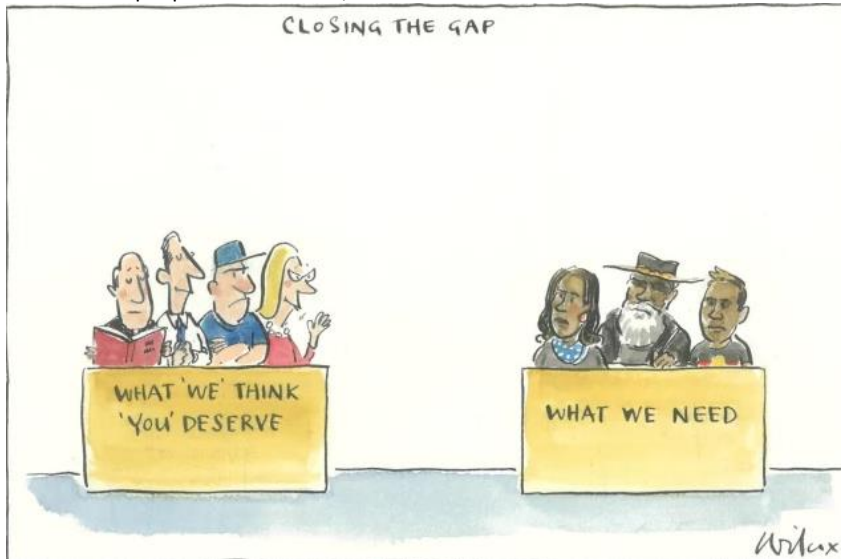
CLOSE THE GAP REPORT - Shorten/Burney/Dodson/McCarthy

This week, one day after the eleventh anniversary of the Apology to the Stolen Generations, the Prime Minister handed down his Close the Gap report – highlighting another year of stalled progress on this critical national project.

The report reminds us of the little progress we have made in addressing the structural inequalities facing First Nations peoples.

While we are pleased to see improvements in early childhood and Year 12 retention, we cannot deny the reality: only two targets out of seven are on track. As a nation, this is an indictment upon us all.

First Nations people are frustrated, as is Labor. The Abbott- Turnbull- Morrison Government's delay and dysfunction has no justification.



The targets have not failed. Governments have failed. It is our collective failure to not match well-intentioned rhetoric with action.

While a refresh of the Close the Gap framework is necessary, and we welcome the government new commitment to working in partnership with First Nations people, we cannot ignore the fact that until now, the government has failed to adequately engage with First Nations people.

If the government is truly committed to ensuring First Nations people have a say in matter that affect them, then they should immediately reverse their opposition to a constitutionally enshrined Voice for First Nations people.

The government has also failed to provide national bipartisan leadership on the refresh process. Labor was not consulted at any point in this process.

Whether it's Close the Gap, the Community Development Program, the Indigenous Advancement Strategy or Constitutional Recognition, this government has constantly pursued flawed policies and failed to engage with First Nations people in their design or implementation.

Paternalism does not work. First Nations peoples must have a say in the matters that affect their lives and policies must be co-designed with full free and prior informed consent. This is how we achieve self-determination and properly address the substantial and structural inequality facing First Nations peoples. This is how we close the gap.

If Labor is elected at the next election, a Voice for First Nations people, enshrined in our constitution, will be our first priority for constitutional reform. Business as usual is no longer an option. Only when First Nations people have a permanent and ongoing say in the issues that affect their lives, will we ever close the gap.

ACTING ON INDIGENOUS EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGE - Plibersek

Labor notes the Government's announcement on Indigenous education.

We'll take a close look at what they are proposing. We must all do more to close the gap in education.

But if the Liberals were serious about taking action on Indigenous educational disadvantage:

- They would match Labor's plan to give three and four year olds subsidised access to preschool.
- They would not have axed the More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teacher Initiative when they came to office – a program that helped Indigenous Australians become teachers working in their own communities.
- They would match Labor's plan to reverse the \$14 billion Scott Morrison has cut from Australia's public schools. This would mean big funding increases for our neediest schools, including schools with high Indigenous enrolments.

Public schools teach around 84 per cent of Indigenous students.

About 80 per cent of Indigenous Australian live in urban areas. Indigenous Australians must have the opportunity of a great education no matter where they live.

EXAMPLES -

The remote **Warruwi School** in the Northern Territory that Tony Abbott visited last year (about 80 students, 100 per cent Indigenous) will get an extra \$180,000 funding in the first three years of Labor's plan alone.

Yuendumu School a few hours out of Alice Springs (about 200 kids, 99 per cent Indigenous) will get an extra \$460,000 in the first three years of Labor's plan.

Casuarina Senior College in Darwin (about 900 kids, 24 per cent Indigenous) will get an extra \$930,000 funding in the first three years of Labor's plan.

- They would not have cut \$3 billion from vocational education, including the closure of TAFEs in regional and remote Australia, disproportionately impacting First Nations people.
- They would match Labor's plan to abolish Scott Morrison's unfair cap on uni places. That would see an extra 200,000 people go to uni over a decade, including more First Australians. After the last Labor Government uncapped uni places, Indigenous student numbers jumped by around 90 percent.
- They would match Labor's commitment to a \$300 million University Future Fund for infrastructure, including \$20 million for Australia's first Indigenous residential college (at the University of Technology Sydney) to help get more First Australians into uni and support them while they're there.

CITIZENSHIP

AUDITOR'S SCATHING REPORT ON CITIZENSHIP – A TOTAL FAILURE - Burke/Hill

The ANAO audit report into Peter Dutton's mega Department titled "Efficiency of the Processing of Applications for Citizenship by Conferral" is completely damning.

The Auditor-General has used unusually strong, unequivocal and unqualified language to condemn Dutton's Department of Home Affairs, amounting to a complete and total failure in administration.

The audit found that over the past four years, the number of citizenship applications stuck in the pipeline **blew out by 771 per cent**, with 244,765 applications on hand at 30 June 2018.

Hundreds of thousands of Australian permanent residents, living in the community, who simply want to pledge their formal allegiance to Australia deserve much better than having their lives placed on hold by the black hole of a department.

There's no need for colourful phrases – this report speaks for itself. The direct and damning conclusions are:

- Applications for citizenship by conferral **have not** been processed efficiently by the Department of Home Affairs.
- Applications **have not** been processed in a time-efficient manner.
- Applications **have not** been processed in a resource-efficient manner.
- Processing times **have increased**, there is an underlying decline in processing performance, and long delays are evident between applications being lodged and decisions being taken.
- Significant periods of inactivity are evident for both complex and non-complex applications accepted by the department for processing.
- The Department of Home Affairs **has not** checked the quality of its decisions in 2017-18.

The Auditor-General has called out the Department of Home Affairs for blatantly misrepresenting the facts to the Parliament at Senate Estimates, stating:

*"[audit] results indicate that the complexity of applications lodged has **decreased**. These results are at odds with Home Affairs' reported experience. For example, Home Affairs advised Parliament at Senate Estimates on 23 October 2017: ...we have talked to this committee before about this — that the case load complexity is rising as we are seeing a flow-through of previous humanitarian entrants. It might well be the case that there are bigger delays now because the cases we are looking at now are actually more complicated".*

The ridiculous claim by successive ministers that the delays were caused by boat arrivals has been shown to be totally false. The Auditor-General revealed that in fact applications from the humanitarian stream decreased by 9% over four years from a low base, and that "former illegal maritime arrivals" accounts for only 0.7% of lodgements in 2017-18.

The report also reveals that Dutton's Department ignored the law, taking it upon themselves to do nothing with thousands of applications even though changes to legislation had not been agreed by the Parliament. The report states in regard to the Government's unfair citizenship Bill:

*"When they were announced, the proposed changes to the Australian Citizenship Act 2007 were to apply retrospectively to applications received from 20 April 2017 onwards. Home Affairs advised the ANAO in June 2018 that: Staff were advised that the post 20 April applications were subject to the new requirements, **however the requirements were not yet law**. Therefore the applications were not able to be assessed against the existing requirements or the new ones announced by Government."*

The Abbott-Morrison-Turnbull Government's unfair changes were rejected by the Parliament yet the Dutton's Department has treated people

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

appallingly, adding to delays and uncertainty.

Labor believes that our citizenship system needs to be fair, administered according to the law and the Department of Home Affairs needs to strive for efficiency.

Under the out of touch Liberal Government we've seen delays, an increasing backlog, a disregard for the law of the day, and gross inefficiencies. At every turn this has hurt people doing the right thing and following the rules.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

COALITION STALLED ON INDEPENDENT MECHANICS PLAN - Leigh

A Shorten Labor Government has a plan to help independent mechanics – the Coalition plans to have a chat.

Stakeholders have been explicit about the Government's approach, with the Australia Automotive Aftermarket Association stating today that "it is now time for the Government to build on the ACCC's findings and recommendations and implement a Mandatory Code as a matter of urgency".

Despite having [almost nine months](#) to match Labor's detailed policy, the Coalition have merely committed to another inquiry via an insipid consultation paper document riddled with bad ideas.

- While the Coalition document suggests restricting access to some information for independent mechanics, a Shorten Labor Government will adopt the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's starting position that all data is shared.
- While the Coalition suggests having no consequences for not adhering to the mandatory code, a Shorten Labor Government will propose penalties for those who do not comply.
- And while the Coalition suggests giving manufacturers the upper hand when it comes to recommending replacement parts, a Shorten Labor Government will ensure motorists get access to affordable Australian-made aftermarket parts.

Since announcing our plan, at least 40 members of the Labor team have met with mechanics across Australia, talking with them about their challenges. From Ringwood to Rockhampton, Mitchell to Malaga, Labor has been listening to local mechanics.

Labor's plan will save Australian drivers money by giving them more choice as to where they get their car fixed. It will put more Australians in jobs by allowing independent mechanics to compete with the big repairers.

Labor has listened and produced a plan that will fix the problem. The Coalition has instead sat on its hands, watching minister after minister ignore this problem before producing a consultation paper with more snags than a summer barbie.

Like other small businesses, mechanics will get a better deal from Labor. And drivers will know that under Labor, they'll have a real choice about where to get their cars fixed.

CHARITIES

WE WILL FIX AUSSIE NOT FOR PROFITS FUNDRAISING – O'Neil/Leigh/Bilyk

After six years of government hostility, Australian charities finally have something to look forward to.

The Senate Select Committee's Report into Charitable Fundraising in the 21st Century, tabled yesterday, urges parliament to fix Australia's fundraising laws within the next two years.

For too long, Australia's charity sector have been banging their heads against the wall of our outdated and complex fundraising laws.

Fundraising red tape has real costs. Under the current fundraising laws, charities face a paperwork burden each year of around \$15 million. That's money should be spent on the good work charities do.

The case for change has been made again and again, but now the Labor-chaired Select Committee has set the clock ticking on achieving reform.

Labor has committed to fix fundraising for Australian charities, and for the donors that support them. The problem is clear. The solutions are clear. Now it's time to get this done.

For once, the parliament has given Australian charities something to celebrate. The Coalition started their term in government by coming after the charities commission with a hatchet. They sent in an anti-charities commissioner to white-ant the sector, and mounted a series of attacks on the rights of charities to speak for the community in public policy debates.

In less than six years, the Coalition has churned through six ministers responsible for the charities commission. When they're not attacking charities directly, they're punishing them by neglect. Over the same time, Labor has consistently fought to give the charity sector the tools and leadership it needs to do the vital work that so many Australians invest their own time and money to facilitate. We've consulted with thousands of organisations to hear what the organisations need to thrive and build happier and more connected Australian communities.

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

Finally, the non-profit sector can see an end in sight to the Coalition's war on charities. Only Labor will fix fundraising, and support our valuable charity sector.



LABOR'S PLAN FOR LONG-TERM HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM – King

"I've been Shadow Health Minister for quite a while now.

In fact my staff recently informed me that I have just become the longest-serving federal Shadow Health Minister in Australian history. That's not a record to which any politician has ever aspired!" – Catherine King

A Shorten Labor Government will break the "boom and bust" cycle of national health policy by creating a powerful new expert commission to develop and oversee the long-term reforms needed to ensure every Australian can access affordable, high-quality health care.

If elected this year, Labor will establish a permanent Australian Health Reform Commission – an independent, legislated body comparable to the Productivity Commission that will help us forge a path to realising our vision of a truly universal health care system.

While Australia has one of the best health care systems in the world – thanks to the work of successive Labor Governments - we still face a range of serious challenges.

These include an ageing population with rising rates of chronic disease; growing barriers to care including high costs, long wait times and workforce shortages; and persistent inequalities for the disadvantaged.

These challenges have been understood for years and in some cases decades.

But the big, structural reform that's so clearly needed has been repeatedly undermined by the short-term and combative nature of our political system.

At a federal level we have become stuck in a partisan cycle in which important, progressive Labor reforms are demolished by short-sighted Liberal Governments.

Just look at the way the current Government reversed Labor's progress on hospital funding reform; tore up our agreement with the states to put prevention at the heart of our health system; and trampled all over our ambitious Medicare Local program.

Health reform efforts have also been undone by the constant blame and cost-shifting between the Commonwealth and the States.

The Australian Health Reform Commission will be a well-resourced body with commissioners appointed for a period of at least five years – giving them the time to develop rigorous and durable policy solutions that cannot be easily unpicked by one side of politics or another.

It will transcend our three-year federal election cycle, while also finding ways to forge consensus across the Commonwealth-State divide.

Its job will be to shepherd important innovations from their conceptual stage to reality - even when they take many years to deliver.

Its core mission will be simple: to find ways to improve the health outcomes for all Australians. But its specific priorities will be directed through COAG.

Some of its early priorities will include how to reform primary care to deal with our ageing population and rising chronic disease burden, and how to deliver better access to public hospital specialists.

The Commission will deliver advice not just to the federal Health Minister but to state Ministers as well – meaning a federal government will not be able to simply conceal or ignore inconvenient proposals.

Critically, the Commission won't just develop long-term reforms. It will also hold Governments accountable for delivering on them by reporting publicly on progress.

Labor has a long-term vision for our health care system: truly universal, in which every Australian can access the affordable, high-quality health care they need whenever they need it. The Australian Health Reform Commission will help us realise that vision.

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH INTO PARALYSIS AND SPINAL CORD INJURY - King

A Shorten Labor Government will provide \$1.65m in support for the Perry Cross Spinal Research Foundation to help them find a cure for paralysis and for the Foundation's functional therapy program.

There are approximately 15,000 Australians living with a spinal cord injury. Every day, one more Australian experiences spinal cord injury.

Established in 2010, the Perry Cross Spinal Research Foundation's mission is to find a cure for paralysis, inspired by its founder Perry Cross' own experience of a spinal cord injury during a rugby union accident, rendering him a C2 quadriplegic.

Through the Perry Cross Spinal Research Foundation and its partners, which include the Menzies Health Institute Queensland at Griffith University and others, a Shorten Labor Government will provide \$1.65m for research into the effectiveness of a sustained functional therapy program for spinal cord injury sufferers as well as an evaluation of the social and economic costs of spinal cord injury.



The sustained functional therapy program is a long-term intensive activity rehabilitation program that allows the nervous system to make new connections and to re-learn the necessary fine control needed for proper motor and sensory function – a complementary program that will contribute to the university and the Foundation's mission of funding to find a cure for paralysis.

This promise is consistent with Labor's commitment to supporting a health system that will ensure greater health outcomes for every Australian.

INNOVATION

GOVT MUST GO BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD ON R&D TAX INCENTIVE – Carr/Ketter

This week the Government-dominated Senate Economics Legislation Committee took the highly unusual step of making a [unanimous recommendation](#) to the Senate that it defer the consideration of the *Treasury Laws Amendment (Making Sure Multinationals Pay Their Fair Share of Tax in Australia and Other Measures) Bill 2018* pending further refinement.

The committee said that on the weight of evidence presented to it, the committee considers that **the bill should not proceed until there is further consideration of the R&D tax incentive measures.**

The Committee found that the key reform proposed in the Bill, the so-called "intensity test", was poorly targeted and if implemented would severely disadvantage companies which manufacture and employ in Australia.

The evidence to the Committee from manufacturing businesses was overwhelmingly against this "test".

The Committee recognised that there is a need for the Government to maintain public confidence in the integrity and financial sustainability of the R&D Tax Incentive.

R&D promotes business innovation across the economy which creates additionality and spill overs of new knowledge.

There is a need to reform the R&D Tax Incentive to better meet these aims and objectives.

The Committee's specific recommendations were that:

- the approach to the cap on the refundable portion of the Research and Development (R&D) tax incentive is refined, noting investment decisions already taken; and
- the formula for R&D intensity is refined, noting inherent differences in R&D intensity across industries and impacts on businesses with large operating costs.

Scott Morrison was the Treasurer in the Turnbull Government and responsible for this Bill, but even his backbench is not going to accept it.

Business research and development spending is falling in Australia – which undermines our innovation and growth. With Scott Morrison, it's just more of the same Liberal chaos.

Minister Andrews needs to explain quickly how she is going to retain the confidence of Australian industry in supporting research and development.

DEFENCE

LIBERALS' SUBS PROMISE TURNS TO DUST - Marles

The Liberals have sunk the dreams of Australia's defence industry, reportedly signing the biggest procurement in Australia's history with no guarantee of any Australian content.

Before the last election, the Liberals told us more than 90 per cent of the work would be done in Australia. Yesterday, they reportedly signed an agreement that guaranteed no Australian content at all.

In the run up to the last election, Christopher Pyne told Australia that:

DCNS [Naval Group] has admitted that probably less than 10 per cent of the work will be done outside Australia
CHRISTOPHER PYNE – Q AND A – 23 MAY 2016

In December, he admitted he hadn't even got close.

A local build is defined as being around 60 per cent-plus... So we expect this to be a local build as we've announced. That's what Naval Group will deliver, Naval Group Australia.

CHRISTOPHER PYNE – DOORSTOP – 13 DECEMBER 2018

This week, we find out through news reports **the Government has signed a deal that doesn't guarantee any Australian industry content at all.** The people of Australia and South Australia in particular, have every right to feel cheated.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

It was Labor who started Australia down the path of building these submarines, and only Labor will make sure the biggest purchase in Australia's history delivers the Australian jobs that it should.

CIOBO SERVES UP PORKIE PIES – Marles/Kelly

This week, Defence Industry Minister Steven Ciobo lied to Australia's Defence personnel and industry about Labor's commitment to spending two per cent of GDP on Defence.

Steven Ciobo knows very well that paragraph 49 of Labor's national platform reads:

"Labor is committed to achieving and maintaining spending on defence at two per cent of GDP."

Steven Ciobo knows the facts because they are there in black and white.

He also knows it because it was explained very clearly after Question Time in the parliament yesterday, four hours before he knowingly lied to the Defence community who need to be able to trust his words as facts.

Politics is a place for rigorous debate. It is not a place for Steven Ciobo's lies.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR SOCIAL HOUSING INVESTMENT - Cameron

The new Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute's (AHURI) [report](#) into social housing in Australia affirms Labor's long-standing position that additional investment is critical to expanding social and affordable housing stock.

The Australian housing market is failing under the Liberals hands-off approach with increasing numbers of people not having access to safe and affordable housing.

he Liberals have no plan to invest in the supply of affordable and social housing.

AHURI estimates there is a 520,000 shortfall of affordable rental properties in Australia, and that an additional 727,000 dwellings will be needed over the next 20 years to meet demand.

This is why a Labor government would reform and extend the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) to provide incentives for the construction of [250,000 new affordable homes](#) over 10 years.

The AHURI report is further evidence that the Liberals' inaction is worsening the housing crisis and exacerbating social inequality.

Instead, this divided and dysfunctional Government's priority is to maintain the world's most generous tax concessions for wealthy investors and property speculators at the expense of renters, first-home buyers and people at risk of homelessness.

Since being elected in 2013, the Coalition has slashed initiatives that were working to address Australia's critical shortage of affordable housing.

This includes scrapping the original NRAS, despite it attracting private investment of \$13 billion and delivering 37,000 affordable rental dwellings.

Key stakeholders including the Housing Industry Association, Urban Development Institute of Australia and National Shelter all opposed the Liberal Government's scrapping of the scheme.

In stark contrast, Labor believes the Liberals' affordable housing crisis demands national leadership.

This is why Labor has committed to the largest federal investment in housing since WWII.

Labor's revised NRAS will drive residential construction and establish a secure long-term pipeline of investment on the scale required to address the massive shortfall.

This will build the capacity of the community housing sector, boost employment and address the profound shortage of affordable housing in Australia.

COALITION FAILING WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS - Cameron

[Revelations today](#) that millions of taxpayer dollars are being spent on "filthy and unsafe" motels to house women and children fleeing family violence is further proof of the Government's abject failure on housing.

Upon its election, the Coalition cut \$44 million a year from crisis accommodation for women and children fleeing family violence, further exacerbating the affordable housing crisis.

If elected, Labor will invest \$88 million through a new Safe Housing Fund to increase crisis and transitional housing options.

Instead of investing in short and medium term crisis accommodation, the Liberals would rather see cheap motel owners and private landlords receive a windfall.

The Australian housing market is failing under the Liberals hands-off approach with increasing numbers of people, particularly women and children, not having access to safe and affordable housing.

If elected, Labor's will build [250,000 new affordable homes](#) to address the estimated [520,000 shortfall of affordable rental properties](#) across Australia. This will build the capacity of the community housing sector, boost employment and address the profound shortage of affordable housing in Australia.

A new [Productivity Commission Report](#) on Government Services into Housing and Homelessness shows the number of low-income households in rental stress has now reached a staggering 599,049.

The Liberals have no plan to invest in the supply of affordable and social housing. Since being elected in 2013, the Coalition has slashed

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

initiatives that were working to address Australia's critical shortage of affordable housing.

This includes scrapping the original NRAS, despite it attracting private investment of \$13 billion and delivering 37,000 affordable rental dwellings.

The Liberals only housing policy is to maintain the world's most generous tax concessions for wealthy investors and property speculators at the expense of renters, first-home buyers and people at risk of homelessness.

Labor believes the Liberals' affordable housing crisis demands national leadership.

A new Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute's (AHURI) [report](#) into social housing in Australia affirms Labor's long-standing position that additional investment is critical to expanding social and affordable housing stock. The AHURI report is further evidence that the Liberals' inaction is worsening the housing crisis and exacerbating social inequality.

This is why Labor has committed to the largest federal investment in housing since WWII. Labor's revised NRAS will drive residential construction and establish a secure long-term pipeline of investment on the scale required to address the massive shortfall.

WORKERS

LIBERALS SILENT ON EMPLOYER FWA BREACH – O'Connor

The company the Liberals relied on to promote its undemocratic Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC), has been deemed to have broken the law by preventing two union officials from accessing a Perth building site.

If this judgement was directed at the union movement, you can be sure this Liberal Government would mount its typical vehement attack against unions and working people.

Instead, the construction company Minister Cash stood next to when they were promoting the return of the ABCC has broken the law by contravening the Fair Work Act, and yet this government is silent.

This government has one rule for employers and another for unions and workers. It should call out law breaking whenever it occurs.

The ABCC is unfair, undemocratic and unjustified.

Labor believes in one set of laws for all workers in this country. It is fundamentally unfair that builders and construction workers have fewer rights than other Australians.

Instead of attacking workers, the Liberals should focus on keeping people safe at work.

The ABCC, like the Registered Organisations Commission, is nothing more than politicised regulator designed purely to attack the Liberals' political opponents and should be abolished.

RIP GORDON SCHOLES AO

I'd like to begin by welcoming Gordon Scholes' daughters, Kerry and Anne, who are here with us in the chamber today.

They've told me that they remember keeping quiet at home, early in the morning, when their Father was asleep after driving the night shift.

They remember listening, excitedly, as the train would pass through Breakwater, near their home in Geelong.

If there were nine consecutive blasts on the whistle, they knew their Dad was aboard.

Later, they remember the phone calls from Canberra in sitting weeks, every night at the same time.

They remember the Saturday trips to Corio Village shopping centre, Gordon stopping to chat to anyone and everyone...

...his daughters, trying to pretend they didn't know him.

But above all, they remember a humble man who loved his wife and children.

A man who was always true to himself, true to his values -someone born into hard times, drawn to politics not by the trappings of office but by the opportunity to make life better for the people that he worked alongside – and their families.

Now it is a matter of record in 1967, Gordon won the Corio by-election with an 11 per cent swing. It was the first time that Labor had won the seat since the defeat of the Chifley Government in 1949. And it was the first federal victory for the new Labor leader, Gough Whitlam, the beginning of a momentum shift that would roll all the way to 1972.

Indeed for decades to come, Gough would say "It started in Corio".

For the following 26 years, Gordon held the seat of Corio for Labor. He served with distinction as Minister for Defence in the Hawke Cabinet - and, of course, as Speaker of the House in the Whitlam Government.

That infamous day when Kerr sacked Whitlam brought on one of the fiercest debates the chamber had ever seen – and Gordon Scholes chaired it with dignity and calm. The young speaker held his nerve - and kept his hand. And at a time when so many acted without scruple, he held true to his duty.

History has judged him with honour. We salute Gordon Scholes' life of service – to his union, to our party, to the nation.

May he rest in peace.



Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

RIP JOHN SINCLAIR AO



John Sinclair, one of Australia's leading nature conservationists, led the fight to save [Fraser Island](#) since 1971 when he founded the [Fraser Island Defenders Organisation](#). Since then he headed all of FIDO's campaigns since to cease sand mining, to get World Heritage recognition and simultaneously to stop logging and to improve the management of recreation on the island. His battles with former Queensland Premier, Sir Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, since 1971 over this issue are well documented.

He was named "Australian of the Year" for 1976 for his leading role in protecting Fraser Island. In 1990 he was honoured by the United Nations Environment Program by being named in the Global 500. He was awarded the prestigious international [Goldman Environmental Prize](#) in 1993.

His sons shared his passion for the environment. In 1999 [John and his 4 sons walked the length of Fraser Island](#) (approx. 160km/100miles) to celebrate his 60th birthday and explore remote parts of the Island. In 2009 to mark his 70th Birthday his four sons again joined him in a seven day walk through Cooloola before the Cooloola Great Walk was opened.

In the 1970s, John Sinclair with his solicitor Mr Stephen Comino took a legal case which went to the High Court of Australia and which overturned the decision of a Mining Warden to grant a mining lease on Fraser Island (*Sinclair v Mining Warden at Maryborough* (1975) 132 CLR 473). The Fraser Government's decision to cancel export licences for mineral sands resulted in the preservation of Fraser Island in its natural state and enabled its listing as World Heritage. A victory for us and bankruptcy for John.

But the public attention his conservation bid received paved the way for Fraser Island to become one of the world's most recognisable World Heritage-listed sites.

In an interview with *Brisbane Times* in September 2017, when he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Sunshine Coast, he described his battle with sand miners as protecting an environment as beautiful as the *Mona Lisa*.

"The sand miners used to say, 'We are only going to touch 1 per cent of the island'," Dr Sinclair said.

"I used to say, 'If you are going to scratch 1 per cent of the Mona Lisa, which 1 per cent are you going to scratch?'"

In 1976, Dr Sinclair was named as *The Australian* newspaper's Australian of the Year. In 1990 he was selected by the United Nations Environment Program for individuals who made a substantial and significant role in protecting the environment when he was named in their [Global 500](#).

In 1993 he received the internationally respected [Goldman Environmental Prize](#) and in 2014 he was appointed in the Order of Australia.

Sinclair just didn't lead the fight to save the island but led its management being aware that this jewel in the sea could be loved to death by tourists. He was far sighted, selfless, a great Queenslander a great Australian. A public memorial service will be held in about a month.



[Sign up to join the Stop TAFE Cuts campaign.](#)

Our TAFE manifesto is a blueprint which outlines a path to fixing Australia's TAFE system.

[READ THE TAFE MANIFESTO](#)

Date Claimer

Union of Australian Women International Women's Day Dinner

Friday 8 March - 6:00 for 6:30 pm

Queensland Council of Unions Building

Great company, speakers and discussion, quizzes and dinner!
(Bar open as usual.)

Guest Speaker

Jo-Anne Bragg

Jo-Anne is the CEO of the Environmental Defenders Office and has been instrumental in the reformation of Queensland's environmental Laws.

Invitation and Booking Details to be circulated very soon.

[Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY ...

Tell the Government why **YOUNG** people shouldn't be pushed into aged care

#EveryStoryMatters

We can help tell your story to the Royal Commission into Aged Care

Are you younger than 65 years old and... live in a nursing home?

Are currently living in hospital or rehab?

Have lived in a nursing home at some stage in the past 5 years?

At some time in the past 3 years, have been told that you might have to live in a nursing home, but didn't end up having to?

Or do you have a family member or someone you care about in one of these situations?

If so, you have an important story that the Royal Commission into Aged Care needs to hear.

We can help you tell your story

We are holding half-day workshops in many places around Australia. At the workshops, we will help you work out what you want to say, and help you write it for the Royal Commission.

Workshops will be conducted in a one-to-one discussion format with places limited to 6 per workshop. At the end of the workshop, you will have finished a submission for the Royal Commission. Refreshments will be provided.

If required, we will pay your travel and support costs.

QUEENSLAND ROYAL COMMISSION HEARINGS

Toowoomba: 2 April

Brisbane: 3 April

Cairns: 5 April

If you want to come to a workshop and tell your story, please call **1300 626 560**
or email info@summerfoundation.org.au

