



Speech by

Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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TUGUN RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

Mrs STUCKEY (Currumbin—LNP) (11.52 am): This morning the Labor government told us that it is ready to go with infrastructure, but it has conveniently forgotten the billion dollar Tugun desalination plant that the Premier has milked for every media opportunity. Only a few months ago we saw roads in Tugun lifting when the pipe valves were tested under pressure and failed. In November we had the desalination open day, which the Premier attempted to fob off as the official opening of the plant. Now the Tugun football club is collapsing, but the government is too arrogant to address the problem. Dressing sheds that have stood for 30 years fell apart in a period of 18 months. Fields are subsiding, holes are opening up overnight and footings around the main club building are lifting. No dilapidation survey was done on this club, yet one was carried out on nearby homes.

I ask the government to accept some responsibility and give this club, which has been operating for 32 years, a fair go in a safe environment so it can keep providing the social activities that are so important to our community. I ask what compensation will the government offer the 2,000 members and 300-plus players of this club, which is more than just a footy club; it is the social hub for hundreds of residents around Tugun. It hosts touch football games, fishing, golf and Vietnam vets, as well as the dart club.

Instead of using this project for a series of media stunts to boast of what this government is doing, Bligh has misled the public to get on TV across the state and fool Queenslanders into believing that she is a good manager. It is time that Tugun residents, who have suffered from dirt, noise and disruption for over two years, heard the truth. They do not deserve more charades where Bligh gets to strut around in a hard hat.

The Tugun Rugby League Football Club has been in existence for over 30 years. In the past 18 months the acceleration of damage to the club is too much of a coincidence as the desalination drilling and tunnelling is occurring only 100 metres away. So far, calls for this government to do something have fallen on deaf ears, but the Tugun people are a tough lot.