



Speech by

Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Hansard Wednesday, 15 September 2010

BUILDING SERVICES AUTHORITY

Mrs STUCKEY (Currumbin—LNP) (11.48 am): Two weeks ago in this parliament the minister was beating his chest about the merits of the BSA, yet he has failed to deliver a report requested by the CMC last year to address systemic governance issues with that statutory body. When I asked the Minister for Public Works about the whereabouts of this report, which was due by 19 April this year, he said that as far as he knew it was implemented, but he has not tabled it in the parliament. If it has, in fact, been completed, why will he not table it? What does he not want us to see?

When the minister announced a KPMG review in May, he stated a five-year time frame since the last review as the reason for it. There was no mention that the CMC had found a number of systemic issues that demanded attention. As a result of a request to the CMC last year, Mr Frank King from Corporate Success Group was engaged as an investigator by the BSA. He identified a number of concerns, including a lack of policy and procedure to guide decision-making processes, deficient or inconsistent record-keeping processes, the retention of staff lacking financial qualifications, a lack of structured staff training programs, the absence of an internal file review system ensuring quality control of audit processes, a lack of integration of data held by the BSA in relation to individual license holders and possible deficiencies in financial requirements for the licensing framework with respect to the issue of chronic nonpayment of debts.

Like so many areas under this minister's watch, poor governance and flawed systems have been revealed either by the Auditor-General or the CMC process. On 3 September I wrote to the Minister for Public Works asking for a copy of the advice the BSA prepared for the CMC. To date, I have not even had an acknowledgement that he has received that letter. This is not a healthy environment for staff to work in, nor is it acceptable for consumers and licensees to have to try to work their way through a maze of bureaucracy that simply does not work. Until the minister reveals the contents of this report, suspicions about and criticisms of the BSA will continue. Where is the report? The minister has a duty to table it to allay all of those suspicions.