

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS — HUAWEI

**22. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Minister for Transport:**

I have a supplementary question. Once again: could the minister answer the question?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! Start again, member for Scarborough.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Given there is a briefing note with a clear advisory note from the PTA —

**Ms R. Saffioti** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** No, Minister for Transport; you can have your reply.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** — recommending that the minister takes advice to cabinet —

**Ms R. Saffioti** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister for Transport, you have got your chance.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** — why did she not take it to cabinet?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

What does the memo say, member for Scarborough?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left!

*Point of Order*

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** It is not the minister's place to ask an opposition member a question; it is the minister's place to answer the question.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** It is not a point of order. The member has quoted something and the minister is just asking where it is. I think it is a perfectly reasonable question to ask.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** What is the member quoting? What is the quote that she is asking me to justify?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** You have the briefing note.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** No; what is the quote?

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, through the Chair.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** To advise cabinet what?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** You have blacked it out.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Oh! So you just made it up! Opposition members do not quite understand that they do not have access to every sentence of every document through the freedom of information process. That is something we understood for eight and a half years. Sometimes, there are redacted comments. You do not make it up. You do not just fill it in and come in here. In relation to cabinet, did the member for Bateman take the NorthLink WA project to cabinet?

**Mr D.C. Nalder:** Which one?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** All of them.

**Mr D.C. Nalder:** Yes.

Several members interjected.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Did you take the contract to cabinet?

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, through the Chair, please.

**Mr D.C. Nalder:** It was a \$200 million contract.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Did you take the contract to cabinet?

**Mr D.C. Nalder:** Yes.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Do you really state in this house that you took the NorthLink contract to cabinet?

**Mr D.C. Nalder:** On NorthLink?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Yes, on NorthLink.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, through the Chair.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** He makes interjections. He goes on Twitter and says, "I can't believe this contract wasn't taken to cabinet." Did you take the NorthLink contract to cabinet?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, this is not a shouting match across the chamber. Minister, you will answer through the Chair.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Did you take the contract to cabinet?

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, I will sit you down if you do not do what you are told.

*Point of Order*

**Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE:** The minister keeps directing her answer to the member for Bateman and not to the member for Scarborough.

**The SPEAKER:** I have just dealt with that.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The whole point of yesterday and today was whether I took it to cabinet. Did they take their contracts to cabinet? Did you?

**The SPEAKER:** Minister!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Of course you did not. You sit there and you do not even understand the cabinet process. You come in here trying to make allegations and doing what you can to try to get this Leader of the Opposition off 13 per cent. If you keep going this way, you will not be making double figures.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! Everyone just calm down a bit.