

TAX CUTS — FEDERAL LABOR POLICY

**486. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question.

**Ms S. Winton** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Wanneroo, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** When is Labor going to stop focusing on its own internal chaos and division and start focusing on struggling Western Australians trying to cope with the government's \$850 cost-of-living increases?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I am very pleased the Leader of the Opposition asked that question. There are a few ways I can go here! If we are going to talk about internal divisions —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** — I note that earlier this week, on their way into Parliament, the member for Carine and the member for South Perth indicated a few things. In respect of the Leader of the Opposition's announcement on policy, the member for Carine, otherwise known as "Two Votes", had this to say —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! Attorney General, I am on my feet. I call you to order for the first time.

Premier, you will call the member by his correct title, please.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The member for Carine had this to say in respect of the Leader of the Opposition's pronouncements on Western Power, trading hours and public sector pay. Mr Krsticevic said that the announcements were not policy —

**Ms L. Mettam:** You cannot say his name!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I am quoting something.

**Ms L. Mettam:** It is Krsticevic.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I think we discovered the person who voted for him, Mr Speaker! I think she has outed herself. There is the other vote.

**Mr D.A. Templeman:** Thank you, "member for Vase"!

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the House, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The other voter has emerged! He had this to say —

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** All these interjections mean that there will be fewer questions to ask.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The member for Carine said this about the Leader of the Opposition —

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** This is about your fees and charges.

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the Opposition!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The Leader of the Opposition asked me about policy differences and division. He said this, and I quote —

"I don't think they're necessarily policy announcements, I think they are, in terms of for example the trading hours discussion, ... her view ..."

**Mr A. Krsticevic:** Read the whole thing!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I will read what the member for South Perth had to say when he came in. Maybe he is the other voter! The member for South Perth is known as a sympathy voter. He provides a sympathy vote when someone is going to get only one vote. He is known as that sort of person. He is a good fellow; he does that sort of thing. The member for South Perth had this to say —

"She is going to make some statements about what she would like to do, but in the Liberal Party even the leader has to take those statements to the partyroom ..."

"Getting closer to the election I think we will have a better look at what our policies will be."

Are the member for Carine and the member for South Perth correct?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Vasse, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** You were asked a question about fees. Answer the question about fees and tax cuts.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Clearly, when it comes to —

**Mr A. Krsticevic** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine, I call you to order for the second time. This is going to be a very short question time.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Clearly, when it comes to division, the Liberal Party has a range of views. The Leader of the Opposition already has senior members of her team undermining her position on policy matters.

Members might recall that yesterday I asked a question about the Leader of the Opposition and her contact with Mr Cain of the Maritime Union of Australia, considering she is asking me about these matters. On 9 May 2018, she said, “When I next contact Mr Cain.” To me, that implies a lot of contact between the Leader of the Opposition and Mr Cain. I think the Leader of the Opposition needs to answer these questions. She has been in touch with him.

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** I was talking about the Westport Taskforce.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** So the Leader of the Opposition has been in touch with him about these matters?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** No. I was quoting what he said in the paper.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** “When I next contact Mr Cain.”

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** I have not contacted him yet.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** What was that?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** This is about your inability to support tax cuts, and your fees and charges. Stop diverting.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I think it is a worthwhile question.

**Mr A. Krsticevic** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Carine, you have three; one more than you got in the vote!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I think it is a worthwhile question for people about the contact between the Leader of the Liberal Party and Mr Cain because she has indicated already that she has been in touch with him.

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** He and I agree on Roe 8.

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the Opposition, this is your last warning.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** So you have been in touch with him?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** I agree with him on Roe 8 and Roe 9.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** So you have been in touch with him?

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** I agree with him on Roe 8 and Roe 9.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** So the Leader of the Opposition has been having conversations with him—correct? The Leader of the Liberal Party has been in touch with Mr Christy Cain. I think that is a question worth asking of her.

**The SPEAKER:** Are you finished, Premier?

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** No, not quite, Mr Speaker.

When it comes to division, I think the Liberal Party is all at sea on policy and it shows that it is prepared to have all sorts of communications. Questions need to be answered by the Leader of the Liberal Party about what those communications are.