



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### ALP & LNP Continue to Ignore Gold Coast Residents

DS4SEQ (the Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party) has strengthened its resolve to make Daylight Saving a Gold Coast election issue, after the ALP and LNP immediately dismissed it at today's Gold Coast Combined Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon.

Business luncheon attendees, including a number of DS4SEQ candidates, were addressed by ALP and LNP representatives Paul Lucas and Fiona Simpson respectively.

DS4SEQ Party Leader Jason Furze said that today's scathing dismissal of Daylight Saving by the major political parties was evidence that the majority of South East Queenslanders supporting Daylight Saving were still being ignored.

"Unlike the ALP and LNP, DS4SEQ recognises that not having Daylight Saving in South East Queensland causes significant economic and social disruption. This is particularly the case for the Gold Coast, where many residents negotiate two different time zones on a daily basis," Mr Furze said.

"It is sheer arrogance on the part of these political parties to reject Daylight Saving for South East Queensland, particularly when the politicians claim to govern for all of Queensland and research shows the majority want it."

Mr Furze put these three questions to Paul Lucas and Fiona Simpson at the Gold Coast Combined Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon:

- "You want to govern for all of Queensland, and research indicates that most Queenslanders are in favour of Daylight Saving. Why then is the minority voice the only one being listened to?"
- "Why is Daylight Saving not being treated as a geographical issue, and consideration therefore being given to a dual time zone arrangement?"
- "Why do you both persist with last century's policy, that ignores Daylight Saving to the detriment of the Queensland economy?"

Mr Furze prefaced his last question by noting that while Daylight Saving doesn't build roads or hospitals, unlike these large and expensive infrastructure projects, Daylight Saving can be introduced with no upfront capital cost and have real tangible benefits to the Queensland economy and job growth.

None of the three questions were adequately answered by Mr Lucas or Ms Simpson, said Mr Furze.

"Mr Lucas' response referred to the geographic diversity of Queensland and a 17 year old referendum, although he failed to acknowledge that since the 1992 Referendum on Daylight Saving, 1 million additional residents have become eligible to vote," he said.

Mr Furze said that Ms Simpson was equally opposed to Daylight Saving, despite saying that it was necessary to 'listen to the people'.

DS4SEQ, which is fielding 32 candidates in the 2009 Queensland state election, have proposed a dual time zone for Queensland. Under this arrangement, Queensland would operate on two time zones and Daylight Saving would be introduced in South East



Queensland - a Daylight Saving policy that would satisfy the majority of constituents, not just the minority.

Voters have a unique chance to ensure their vote counts twice, firstly voting DS4SEQ for Daylight Saving and then for the party of their choice that they would like to see govern the state. This is a powerful opportunity whereby voters have full control of preferences with interference from political parties. Voters making their vote count twice will make clear their desire for Daylight Saving and also for stability in government.

ENDS

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