

## Office of Dale Last MP | Member for Burdekin

Shadow Minister for Police & Corrective Services, Shadow Minister for Fire & Emergency Services, Shadow Minister for Rural & Regional Affairs



November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### MEDIA RELEASE

## Last calls for “goat track” upgrade to be fast tracked

It’s a road that makes headlines for all the wrong reasons, leaving more than 6 people per year hospitalised and averaging almost a fatality a year, and Member for Burdekin, Dale Last, has had enough.

The Peak Downs Highway between Moranbah and Clermont featured in election commitments from both major parties in the recent election and Mr Last is calling on the government to honour its commitment “sooner rather than later”.

“Just last week we saw another two people lose their lives on the Peak Downs Highway,” Mr Last said. “Labor committed to an upgrade of the road between Moranbah and Clermont if elected and I am calling on them to honour that commitment.”

“Too many lives have been lost and too many people have been injured. This is not a commitment that can be delayed, it’s needed, and it’s needed now.”

“The election is in the past and I’m not interested in which party promised what. Labor won the election and I want the commitment they gave honoured and I want shovels in the ground as soon possible.”

Mr Last said that Central Queensland residents and workers could no longer afford to wait for the promised upgrades and has launched a petition via his website calling for action.

“In the past the Transport Minister has brushed off calls for assistance in regional areas,” Mr Last said. “That attitude needs to change and, with public support, we can show that we simply won’t accept being ignored.”

“I would prefer for the Minister to acknowledge the problem and tell us when the work will start but, frankly, his track record on regional roads leaves a lot to be desired.”

“The areas serviced by the Peak Downs Highway provide billions in royalties to government each year. If it takes some people power to get some of that money spent, then so be it.”

The petition is available at: <https://queensland.typeform.com/to/KtuzlD3c>

ENDS - Media Contact: David Cooper (07) 4767 0500 or 0427 834 844