



Dale Last MP
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Media Release – 2 billion reasons to fix the region’s roads

Having an extra \$2.9 billion in their back pockets means the state government could not drag their feet any longer when it came to fixing roads in the Isaac region, according to Member for Burdekin Dale Last.

After it was revealed an extra \$2.9 billion was collected by the state government in coal royalties in the last year alone, Mr Last said the time for talk and excuses for not fixing the Isaac’s roads was over.

“Maintaining roads is an essential government service and given roads in the Isaac region are connecting two valuable economic resources, agricultural land and mines, to the coast, I fail to see how we are not entitled to a piece of the pie,” Mr Last said.

“I would expect that every cent of that \$2.9 billion qualifies to be spent on improving roads in the Isaac region that have been better described as goat tracks.”

“These roads are providing transport to workers who have contributed to this \$2.9 billion, these workers have a right to be able to go to work safely and return home safely, that doesn’t just apply to a mine site, it applies from the moment they step out of the door of their home and drive, or catch a bus to a mine site.”

Mr Last said his office continually received calls from visitors, locals and mine workers with stories of damage to vehicles and most recently, an incident where a bus-load of mine workers nearly left the road due to an uneven surface.

“Residents have had a gut full of having their vehicles damaged by dangerous, embarrassing roads with no response or commitment from this government to bring them to a standard to properly service the resource sector and those who rely on these roads every single day,” Mr Last said.

“These communities in the Isaac region have given enough and obviously given even more in the last year, so the time for excuses is over and I’m calling on the Minister to stop dragging his feet and provide these communities, a real commitment to fix these roads.”

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