

A strong voice for our future

BRITTANY LAUGA MP

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**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL
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FOR EDUCATION**



MEDIA RELEASE

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Lauga calls out Landry over sporting grants

Revelations the Federal Government rorted its \$100 million sporting grants scheme showed some politicians would cheat a kid out of a cricket bat if it meant an extra vote.

Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga is demanding a full audit of which local clubs missed out on their fair share of funding now the entire scheme is under a cloud.

"It's reported today the Federal Government pork-barrelled marginal and targeted seats before the last election using a \$100 million community grants program.

"I don't begrudge local sporting clubs getting their fair share, but I do care very much if some clubs missed out."

Ms Lauga said the report in today's media also unearthed findings by the National Audit Office that more than 60 per cent of grants awarded under the community sport infrastructure program failed to meet minimum requirements of published guidelines.

She demanded the Member for Capricornia Michelle Landry prove local clubs were not disadvantaged as a result.

"I would like Ms Landry to identify where her grants were spent in the electorate and if they adhered to the guidelines."

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Media today reported the Auditor-General Grant Hehir found then sports minister Bridget McKenzie's office ran a "parallel" assessment process that was "inconsistent" with the guidelines and "drew upon" other considerations such as the location of the projects.

Mr Hehir said "The award of funding reflected the approach documented by the minister's office of focusing on "marginal" electorates held by the Coalition, as well as those electorates held by other parties or independent members that were to be "targeted" by the Coalition at the 2019 election.

The report found significant shortcomings in the program resulting in the assessment advice to Ms McKenzie being inconsistent with the approved program guidelines, the report says.

"This is Joh Bjelke-Petersen and Russ Hinze stuff," Ms Lauga said.

"We're back to the bad old days.

"If they're willing to cheat a kid out of a cricket bat what else are they up to?"

ENDS

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