



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**STATEMENT ON SCOTT MORRISON'S 46 MINUTE WAFFLE AT THE NPC**

Poor Scott. That was truly a cringe worthy event.

Here we are, 2.5 years into the Liberal Government, over five months since Morrison was sworn in as Treasurer, and still no detailed plans, no policies.

[Today](#) we saw Scott Morrison's second preference speech at the National Press Club.

We know that when Mr Morrison first accepted the NPC invitation, the Government was still very much promoting a GST increase and we also know that Scott Morrison is the chief spear carrier for increasing the GST.

The reason he spoke without notes, was because he had to shred his preferred speech.

Without a GST increase to sell, Mr Morrison has absolutely no policy to announce. This is what you get when you have a Treasurer with no economic framework, no ideas and no vision.

Turnbull and Morrison may be at loggerheads on many things, but they are on a unity ticket when it comes to waffling. All talk, no action.

These are the facts on the Budget.

**1. Since the election this Government has had spending as a percentage of GDP at GFC levels.**

While Scott Morrison complains about spending he has built into the Budget a new Baby Bonus – a new structural spending proposal.

**2. The tax/GDP ratio has been higher for this Government than at any point for the previous Labor Government.**

**3. At the last election the Liberal Party promised a surplus of 1 per cent of GDP by 2023-24.** Their Budget documents from the election onwards included this as part of the Government's fiscal strategy until Mr Morrison dropped this at the last MYEFO.

Scott Morrison [today](#) boasted of \$80 billion in savings from his government and then bemoaned the fact that spending is up by \$70 billion. He claimed success and lamented failure, all in one sentence.

While Mr Morrison had no policy to announce, he also refused to guarantee that changes that the Government makes to negative gearing won't be retrospective.

Labor has led the debate with new economic policy initiatives. [After today](#)'s pathetic performance, it is clear it will continue to fall to us to lead the debate because the Treasurer is incapable of it.

**[WEDNESDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2016](#)**

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