

THE HON RICHARD MARLES MP SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE MEMBER FOR CORIO

LIBS SELL THE FARM ON SUBS

The Defence Minister today admitted his promise that our new submarines would be 90 per cent built in Australia was untrue.

South Australians, and every Australian, should feel ripped off and cheated by this – because they have been.

In 2016, to win votes in the run up to an election, Christopher Pyne said

We are involved in a proper commercial negotiation with DCNS [Naval Group] as the builder of the submarine. DCNS has admitted that probably less than 10 per cent of the work will be done outside Australia

CHRISTOPHER PYNE - Q AND A - 23 MAY 2016

Today, announcing those negotiations were complete, he admitted he hasn't even got close.

A local build is defined as being around 60 per cent-plus... So we expect this to be a local build as we've announced. That's what Naval Group will deliver, Naval Group Australia.

CHRISTOPHER PYNE - DOORSTOP - 13 DECEMBER 2016

What's more, we don't know what else the Liberals have given up to get this

agreement, because they won't release it for everyone to see.

The Minister tried to blame Labor for his rush to sign this long-overdue agreement. The Liberals have played politics with the submarine program at every turn: making the decision a deal as part of their leadership negotiations, rushing to pick a designer to win votes in an election, and now blaming the Opposition for their own failures.

Australia deserves a government that puts the national interest first, not their own political interest.

THURSDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2018

Authorised by Noah Carroll, ALP, Canberra.