

Basil's roast for 'tired' ALP

Basil Zempilas today plans to call out the Cook Government as an "out of touch" and "tired" administration, putting self-interest and glory projects ahead of the health needs of the State, in his first address as State leader at the Liberal State conference.

Mr Zempilas' speech to the party faithful will roast Premier Roger Cook and his deputy and Treasurer Rita Saffioti, highlighting the spending of millions on the "wrong projects", such as a \$217 million racetrack at Burswood and the new National Rugby League team in Perth.

He will call Ms Saffioti "the fox in charge of the henhouse", saying the Treasurer keeps writing "blank cheques to herself" to pay for pet projects like the \$15 billion Metronet.

And he will accuse Mr Cook of being "off his game", citing "Roger's rugby team", as an example of the three-term Government's misplaced priorities.

As momentum for a formal coalition between the Nationals and Liberals gathers steam, Mr Zempilas will also tell the Liberals: "We need to consider forming a coalition ahead of the 2029 election."

He will also warn that the once-powerful Liberals must "be more relevant" to "win back those that have left us to vote Labor".
