Cuts would be easy

J.B. Lord (*Letters*, 30/10) asks where would we make savings, asking which programs would need to go. In other words, such savings are difficult.

First of all it is not necessary to actually cut programs, but essential that they be designed and delivered as efficiently as possible and that waste is minimised.

With this is mind the recent fuel support payment to people with a driver's licence was an example of failed bureaucracy requiring people to apply for the grant. A simple approach would have been to credit all licence holders.

A number of years ago, the State government spent some $370 million on developing a payment model for the public service. Attempts to implement the new arrangements failed and the program was abandoned, costing the State $370 million for nothing.

Deciding where to spend money and bringing programs in on budget would mean no loss of benefits, but huge savings.

Deciding not to proceed with questionable programs such as the Burswood racetrack and the proposed ferry services would save millions without affecting existing programs.

So there is much to be achieved by having an efficient and effective government capable of quality decisions and an ability to effectively deliver essential programs.

Unfortunately, examples of their attempts so far would suggest it is not the existing State or Federal governments.

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