



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hansard Home Page: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/hansard>

Email: hansard@parliament.qld.gov.au

Phone (07) 3553 6344

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Thursday, 23 June 2022

Subject	Page
SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS	1645
Grady, Ms T	1645
School Group Tours.....	1645
TABLED PAPERS	1645
MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS	1646
Budget, Health.....	1646
Budget, Education	1646
Budget, Environment	1647
Social and Affordable Housing	1647
Olympic Day; State of Origin.....	1648
Hydrogen Industry	1648
Coal Industry, Royalties.....	1648
Education, Disability Support.....	1649
Mental Health Services	1650
Social and Affordable Housing	1650
Budget, Women and Girls.....	1651
Children and Young People in Care.....	1652
Emergency Services, Personnel	1653
Youth, Mental Health Services	1653
Budget, Road Infrastructure.....	1654
QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE	1655
Ambulance Ramping.....	1655
Ambulance Ramping.....	1656
Regional Queensland.....	1656
Health System, Waiting Lists.....	1657
Budget, Manufacturing Industry	1658
Hospitals.....	1658
Budget Measures, Alternatives	1659

Table of Contents – Thursday, 23 June 2022

Bundaberg Hospital	1659
Respectful Relationships Education	1660
Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee	1660
Speaker's Ruling, Question Out of Order	1661
Health Services	1661
Lobbyists	1661
Gold Coast, Investment	1662
Regional Tourism Organisations, Funding	1663
Housing	1664
Housing Investment Fund	1664
Budget, Agriculture Industry	1665
Social Housing, Waiting List	1666
APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL	1666
Second Reading (Cognate Debate)	1666
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Document titled 'Sunshine Coast: The Future 2022'	1686
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL	1688
Message from Deputy Governor	1688
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Message, dated 21 June 2022, from the Deputy Governor recommending the Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022	1688
Introduction	1688
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022	1688
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, explanatory notes	1688
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, statement of compatibility with human rights	1688
First Reading	1693
Referral to Education, Employment and Training Committee	1693
APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL; REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL	1693
Second Reading (Cognate Debate)	1693
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Extract from LNP webpage, undated, regarding the sale of LNP LED lights/torches	1700
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Extract, dated 17 June, from the Facebook page of Metro South Health in relation to an award won by Beaudesert Hospital	1713
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Nonconforming petition regarding saving the Livingstone lifestyle	1724
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Response from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner), to an ePetition (3724-22) sponsored by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, from 617 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the current allocation of commercial and recreational Spanish mackerel quotas remain unchanged	1735
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Bundle of graphs depicting share price movement in the resources industry	1766
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Bundle of emails from [redacted], to the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, the Premier and Minister for the Olympics, Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk, and the Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement, Hon. Mick de Brenni, regarding a building work case and the Queensland Building and Construction Commission	1767
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Letter, undated, from the member for Toowoomba South, Mr David Janetzki MP to the Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment, Hon. Cameron Dick, regarding impacts of pressures on the construction industry on applicants to the HomeBuilder program	1768
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Courier-Mail</i> , undated, titled, 'Just call me Robin Hood: Treasurer defends broken taxes promise by saying it will only hurt the rich'	1784
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Australian</i> , dated 22 June 2022, titled 'Read my lips but not my meaning'	1784
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Courier-Mail</i> , dated 22 June 2022, titled 'Health funding is a good measure—but where's the vision?'	1784
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Courier-Mail</i> , dated 5 June 2022, titled 'Actually, it will cost us this much more'	1785
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> , dated 10 June 2022, titled 'Revealed: Southern upgrade of M1 hit by major cost blowout and opening delays'	1785
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Extract from the Auditor-General's report 18: 2021-22—Enhancing government procurement, page 1 titled 'In brief'	1785
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> , dated 15 June 2022, titled 'Top cops to target bikies, youth crime'	1785
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Correspondence from constituent of Surfers Paradise regarding youth crime	1786
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> , dated 27 April 2022, titled 'What we could do with \$200m'	1786
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> , dated 16 April 2022, titled 'Enough! Courts must get serious about youth crime'	1786
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Extract of an article, undated, relating to vehicle offences on the Gold Coast	1786
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Bundle of media articles regarding police resourcing on the Gold Coast	1786
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Article from the <i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> , dated 10 June 2022, titled 'Police to review secret shot'	1786
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Bundle of correspondence from constituents of the Gold Coast relating to hooning	1787
<i>Tabled paper:</i> Media article by Madonna King, dated 6 June 2022, titled 'Separation of powers: Why respect for this doctrine matters a lot more in Queensland than other places'	1787
ADJOURNMENT	1819
ATTENDANCE	1820

THURSDAY, 23 JUNE 2022


 The Legislative Assembly met at 9.30 am.

Mr Speaker (Hon. Curtis Pitt, Mulgrave) read prayers and took the chair.

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I respectfully acknowledge that we are sitting today on the land of Aboriginal people and pay my respects to elders past and present. I thank them, as First Australians, for their careful custodianship of the land over countless generations. We are very fortunate in this country to have two of the world's oldest continuing living cultures in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples whose lands, winds and waters we all now share.


SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Grady, Ms T

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, Tina Grady, the Senior Adviser, Human Resource Services, is retiring tomorrow; 24 June 2022 will be her last working day before commencing pre-retirement leave. Tina commenced with the Parliamentary Service in May 1995 and has completed 27 years of distinguished service, all within HR. Tina is someone who most members, precinct and electorate office staff would have dealt with in their time in the service. Tina is widely known and widely respected. Tina completed her tertiary qualifications in human resources while working for the Parliamentary Service. This, coupled with her having undertaken every position within Human Resource Services, means she has been a very valued member of the HR team. She will be sorely missed.

One of Tina's main recreational activities is cruising. At last count she had completed over 30 cruises to all parts of the globe. Over the coming years Tina plans to increase quite considerably the number of cruises she has done. We wish Tina and her husband, Steve, a long and happy retirement and thank her for her many years of dedicated service.

School Group Tours

 **Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I wish to advise that we will be visited in the gallery this morning by students and teachers from Beachmere and Banksia Beach state schools in the electorate of Pumicestone and Sacred Heart Primary School in the electorate of Sandgate.

TABLED PAPERS

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32)

MINISTERIAL PAPERS

The following ministerial papers were tabled by the Clerk—

Minister for Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic Infrastructure (Hon. Dr Miles)—

[909](#) Response from the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure (Hon. Dr Miles), to an ePetition (3689-22) sponsored by the Clerk under provisions of Standing Order 119(4) from 355 petitioners, requesting the House to coordinate with Brisbane City Council to upgrade the Chelsea Road causeway and Lota Creek Boardwalk

Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Bailey)—


[910](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3737-22) sponsored by the Clerk under provisions of Standing Order 119(4) from 1,507 petitioners, requesting the House to reverse the decision to increase driving offence fine amounts and leave them at the current amount prior to 1 July 2022

Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs (Hon. Scanlon)—

[911](#) Response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs (Hon. Scanlon), to an ePetition (3747-22) sponsored by the Clerk under provisions of Standing Order 119(4) from 821 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake a review and revision of the "code of practice for native forest timber production on Queensland State Forest 2020"

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Budget, Health

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.33 am): Queensland is Australia's most decentralised state. This week's budget reflects that. Almost two-thirds of our capital works spending will be in the regions. Our health investment in new hospitals and new beds—almost \$10 billion—is also heavily focused on our regions. Statewide, the new hospitals and hospital expansion projects will deliver 2,509 extra beds. Our regions outside the Greater Brisbane area are getting a major share of that: Coomera, 404 beds; Robina Hospital, 114 beds; Toowoomba, 118 beds; Bundaberg, 121 beds; Hervey Bay, 35 beds; Mackay Hospital expansion, 128 beds; Townsville Hospital, 143 beds; and Cairns Hospital, 96 beds. That is more than 1,100 beds in those regional hospital projects.

It does not end there. This budget includes \$943.5 million to replace rural and remote health facilities and also includes good staff accommodation, beginning with replacement hospitals in Moranbah, Bamaga, Normanton and Tara, and health facilities in Pormpuraaw and Cow Bay.

Regional and rural ambulance services will also be prioritised thanks to an 11 per cent increase in the budget for the QAS. The budget also ensures access to medical treatment for rural and remote areas, with funding commitments for the Flying Doctor Service—and don't they do an incredible job—\$334 million for a new 10-year contract and \$60 million towards a new regional aeromedical hub.

Of course, our \$1.64 billion boost for mental health, alcohol and other drug services will be hugely important in regional Queensland as well, including another four mental health co-responder services for the Darling Downs, Mackay, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast. This budget will expand and improve regional Queensland health services of every kind. I look forward to the opposition leader's budget reply today. Will he support regional Queensland?

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, members to my left!

Mr Fumer: Couldn't wait to get out of regional Queensland!

Ms PALASZCZUK: That is right. I take that interjection.

Mr Bleijie: How many times did the Premier go to Callide in the by-election?

Ms PALASZCZUK: Hang on, I take the minister's interjection.


Mr SPEAKER: The member for Kawana will cease his interjections.

Ms PALASZCZUK: The Leader of the Opposition left regional Queensland completely. That is right. We do not forget. The people know.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, you have the call.

Budget, Education

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.36 am): So noisy for a Thursday! We have not even done the budget reply! Budgets are not just about money; they are about our people. That is why this week I am particularly proud of our investment in education—a record \$16.5 billion budget, our eighth consecutive record education budget, including: \$220 million for new classrooms across our state, \$650 million for upgrades and \$263 million for universal access to kindergarten. It is an almost \$2 billion investment in education infrastructure in this year alone, supporting 4,200 jobs. The headline numbers are impressive, but what is even more impressive is the impact this will have on the lives of children right across Queensland. The member for Southern Downs will recall that I spent some time in Stanthorpe over the past week.

Mr Lister: Hear, hear!

Ms PALASZCZUK: Thank you. We thoroughly enjoyed it. Whilst I was there, I was able to go with the Minister for Education to meet with the boys and girls at Stanthorpe State School. They just loved Winton. They wrote me a beautiful book, asking Winton all types of questions; it was lovely.

Mr Lister: You met my wife, too.


Ms PALASZCZUK: We also met your new little baby. Congratulations—very lucky. Stanthorpe State School has benefited from our record investment in education, with 108 new solar panels and 10 air-conditioning units delivered by our government in the last couple of years. We were lucky enough

to be given a tour of the school by student leaders Isabella, Madeline, Cooper and Rily. Weren't they delighted, Minister? One thing stood out as they took me from class to class: how proud they were of their school.

I want every student in Queensland to be proud of their school. This week's state budget delivers \$20 million for upgrades to playgrounds and tuckshops. I know that we have many volunteers working in our tuckshops—mums, dads, volunteers, grandmas and grandpas. We just want to make sure that those upgrades are being felt across the state as well. I know they will be very much welcomed by the local schools. There is \$5 million for painting work at some of our smallest schools in the state, a new pie warmer at your tuckshop and a lick of paint on your classroom. It is investments like these that make a difference to schools.

I am proud to say that our budget also delivers for Queensland children with a disability. I know that the minister will say more about this. We will invest more than \$80 million over two years to ensure no student is left behind as we transition to a new education model for students. This state budget will deliver almost 500 new frontline teaching positions and will deliver dedicated support for an extra 30,000 students per year who have a disability. This is a significant reform and one I am proud of.

Budget, Environment


 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.39 am): The beauty and diversity of our state is one of Queensland's greatest assets. That is why I am proud that this week's state budget delivers the largest single investment in national parks in the history of our great state. Conservation groups have indicated that it may be the largest in Australia's history.

Our record \$262.5 million investment in expanding our network of protected areas will secure new parks for people to enjoy, safeguard the jobs of 17,000 workers who rely on our national parks for their employment and, most importantly, ensure that the rainforests, reefs, parks and coastline with the highest ecological values are protected for our future generations. I thank the Minister for the Environment for her great work in bringing all of this forward. A Labor government delivers on the environment.

As a Labor government, we are proud of our record. We have delivered a nation-leading container refund scheme, creating more than 7,000 jobs. We have introduced legislation to ban single-use plastics. We have increased our protected areas by 1.2 million hectares. We have committed to double the number of Indigenous land and sea rangers caring for our environment. We are investing a record \$340 million into the Great Barrier Reef. We have delivered the landmark, Australian-first \$500 million Land Restoration Fund to help farmers, landholders and traditional owners put in place sustainable land use practices.

This week's record funding for the environment builds on our successes. It will enable us to buy more land for conservation, improve visitor infrastructure and grow our nature based tourism industry, protect our endangered species, grow our threatened koala populations here in the south-east and continue the Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program to hand back land to traditional owners. Our great Queensland lifestyle is the envy of the world. It is what makes Queenslanders smile a little wider and stand a little taller.

Social and Affordable Housing


 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.41 am): Like the national health issue, we know housing affordability is an issue impacting communities across the country. That is why we are delivering our \$2.9 billion social and affordable housing strategy to deliver 7,400 social and affordable homes. I am advised that across Queensland there are 152 projects approved and contracted to deliver 1,006 new units of accommodation at various stages of construction. Work is also set to begin on 118 new social and affordable homes in Redcliffe and Chermside later this year.

As well as a record investment in health to deliver the Queensland hospital and health plan for 2,509 beds, we also announced \$200 million last week to unlock land supply in our fastest growing areas. I know that the Deputy Premier is very much on the front foot in identifying those areas where we can unlock that land.

I can announce today that my government is providing a \$16 million immediate response package to help put a roof over the heads of families doing it tough living in insecure and unsafe situations and help people maintain tenancies. I thank the Minister for Housing for being a strong advocate for those most disadvantaged. This package includes increased funding for the Rental Security Subsidy of \$7 million. This \$7 million will be used to assist around 700 families to sustain


tenancies by increasing the available subsidy from \$5,000 over six months to up to \$10,000 for 12 months. It also includes an extra \$6 million for specialist homelessness services to broker additional temporary emergency accommodation. There is also \$3 million for extra support workers in funded specialist homelessness services to assist families to stay in their current home or secure a new tenancy. This is above the commitments we have already made and the housing minister will have more to say about this soon.

Olympic Day; State of Origin

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympics) (9.43 am): Today is Olympic Day: the day to celebrate what the Olympics can do for Australia. It is also the start of Olympic month when all Australians are encouraged to have a go at an Olympic sport. That is something we are backing with the \$100 million Go for Gold Fund announced in this week's budget where we will be improving sports facilities at schools across the state, encouraging greater participation in sport. As we Queenslanders know only too well: sport unites us. It promotes a healthier lifestyle.

Although it is not an Olympic sport, we wish the mighty Maroons the best against New South Wales on Sunday in Perth.

Hydrogen Industry

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.43 am): The Palaszczuk government has a plan to make Queensland the region's clean energy superpower. We will take our world leading sun and wind resources, convert that energy to hydrogen and export it to the world, including our No. 1 export partner Japan. Following meetings with our Japanese partners last week, we have fast-tracked funding in the budget to publicly owned energy company Stanwell to progress what could be Queensland's largest hydrogen project.


The Palaszczuk government has committed \$15 million to support development of a publicly owned, large-scale hydrogen export facility in Gladstone. The funding will support development of the large-scale electrolysis and liquefaction project in Central Queensland. Queensland is powering ahead in the new, global renewable energy era—in fact, we are setting the pace. With this funding, we are taking another significant step towards cementing Queensland's standing as a global green hydrogen powerhouse.

This investment in publicly owned energy corporation Stanwell will support front-end engineering and design studies for a project that could eventually be the largest renewable hydrogen project in Queensland. It has the potential to scale up to produce 800 tonnes per day of clean, green hydrogen by the early 2030s. The project is being developed with international partners Iwatani Corporation, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Kansai Electric Power Company and Marubeni, and Australian energy infrastructure business APA Group. At this scale, it could create up to 8,900 new jobs. It could deliver over \$17.2 billion in hydrogen exports and \$12.4 billion to Queensland's gross domestic product over its 30-year lifespan. The benefits for Queensland include jobs in construction, heavy manufacturing and a range of local service industries.

The \$15 million in fast-tracked funding—through the \$2 billion Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund—will also help future planning for supply chain and workforce opportunities. It builds on a feasibility study already completed into the Gladstone project, which would also supply large industrial customers in the Central Queensland region. This new funding will help provide the detail required to support a final investment decision from the partners.

The Palaszczuk government is sending a very clear message, especially to our partners in Japan, that Queensland is the ideal international supplier for reliable, affordable and clean energy.

Coal Industry, Royalties

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (9.46 am): Every time there is a change to coal royalties, the message from the coal industry is the same. They said it in 2001. They said it in 2008. They said it in 2012 when the Newman LNP government put up coal royalties without any consultation. The reality is that the industry is going so well at the moment that they are facing a mining labour shortage. Only last week, on 16 June, the *Courier-Mail* reported 'Six-figure salaries, 10k sign-on bonuses as mining jobs boom hits'. The report by Glen Norris stated—

It is a good time for workers in the resources sector, with 85 per cent of advertised jobs paying six-figure salaries as mining companies struggle to find people with the right skills.

This shows that the industry is at capacity. It is no wonder, with the price of coal trading at record highs. Coal producers are trying to extract as much coal as they can, to take advantage of these windfall prices. Why would they not? Our new progressive royalty tiers will ensure that the people of Queensland also receive a fair share of those windfall proceeds.

Independent industry analysts confirm the new royalty tiers announced in this week's state budget do not represent fundamental change to industry dynamics. For example, Barrenjoey analyst Glyn Lawcock acknowledged that while the royalty change would impact coal company profits, he expected the impact on near-term investment decisions to be 'minimal'. Royal Bank of Canada capital markets analyst Kaan Peker concurred with that assessment. In the *Australian Financial Review* this week he is quoted as saying he doubted the royalty change would see mines curtailed in the state. In the *Courier-Mail* yesterday, Shaw and Partners analyst Peter O'Connor said that 'the medium to long-term impact is minimal'.

We have also seen the financial markets take these changes in their stride, when it comes to investing in coal producing companies. We only need look at the share price of coal companies, many of whom were quoted in the *Courier-Mail* today. The share price of all but one of them went up yesterday. The share price of each of them is significantly above their long-term averages.


New Hope Corporation was up four per cent yesterday and has nearly doubled over the past year. Stanmore Resources went up 12 per cent yesterday and its share price has doubled in three months. Bowen Coking Coal's share price went up 21 per cent yesterday and its share price has doubled over the last six months. Yancoal's share price was flat yesterday but it has still doubled over the past six months.

I note that, of all of these companies I have mentioned and are quoted in the *Courier-Mail*, there are only two of them—Stanmore and Bowen Coking Coal—who actually have coal operations in Queensland. If this royalty change was as bad as they say it is, why did their share price go up yesterday? Why is their share price 100 per cent higher than it was six months ago?

No company likes paying taxes or royalties. That is why coal companies spent the 2020 election campaign unsuccessfully demanding a further commitment from our government to extend the freeze on coal royalties. The share prices of these coal companies tell you that these royalties will not damage the industry. This change has been specifically designed, based on Queensland Treasury advice, to ensure a share of windfall profits while still protecting companies should coal prices go down.

Let me tell the House that there is no greater supporter of the coal industry than the Queensland Treasury. Treasury officials support this industry and the contribution it makes to the budget, as we all do. The investment community recognises this reality. That is why share prices related to Queensland coal production are performing very well—and long may that continue.

Education, Disability Support

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.51 am): Our mission as a proud Labor government is to deliver a world-class education that allows every student to reach their full potential—no matter where they live in the state, no matter their life circumstances or background. I have listened to the heartfelt views of many parents and organisations about the need for a new way of resourcing schools to support students with disability. As the Premier has said this morning, I am delighted that, as part of our record \$16.5 billion education budget, we have announced a game-changing shift in the way we fund schools to support students living with disability.

In 2023 we will start to phase out our current resourcing model, with the new model to be fully implemented by 2025. The new model completes the government's implementation of all 17 recommendations from the 2017 independent review of education for students with disability in Queensland state schools. The current system is based on six prescribed types of disability only. We will be moving to a model that is based on the level of support and adjustment that a child needs to participate in education. This means that for the first time all disabilities will be formally recognised and supported including dyslexia, ADHD, fetal alcohol syndrome, Tourette syndrome and mental health conditions. While schools already support these students, there will now be more dedicated resources available.

Other benefits of the new model include dedicated support for an extra 30,000 students with disability; a focus on prep students to give them a great start; a new Extensive Plus resourcing category for students with the most intensive needs; and an easier, streamlined, single process for families without the need for additional medical or specialist reports. It is a major change, and schools will need time to adjust to the new way of gathering and recording information for the new resourcing model.

We do not want any school or student to miss out on support while the transition is taking place. That is why we are investing \$80.6 million over the next two years. This money will fund almost 500 new frontline positions through a combination of new staff and increasing hours of existing staff to support students, and to provide continuity and certainty, until the new model is fully implemented. This is great news for students, families and schools. Do not just take my word for it. Queensland Association of Special Education Leaders President Ric Day said—


This new funding model is sharply focused on students' needs and will ensure resources are allocated to more students with disability, based on reasonable adjustments.

Queensland Association of State School Principals President Mr Pat Murphy said—

These changes will lead to long term educational, social, and economic benefits for the state. The additional resourcing provides Queensland school leaders with certainty so that as schools transition to an enhanced funding formula no student will lose funding.

This is a game changer for students with disability to participate fully in education on the same basis as their peers—another great Labor reform.

Mental Health Services

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (9.54 am): One in six Australians are right now experiencing depression or anxiety or both. One in eight Australians are right now experiencing high or very high psychological distress. For many, COVID-19, multiple bushfire seasons and significant flood events have also brought new and additional mental health challenges. Mental health and crisis support services have never been more vital.

We have listened. We have listened to the community, we have listened to our frontline health professionals, and we have listened to the organisations and people who recounted personal stories of their mental health and substance use disorders during the inquiry into the opportunities to improve mental health outcomes for Queenslanders. While the government will table its response to the committee report in the near future, we are not delaying the investment that needs to be delivered to get on with the job.


We have delivered the largest investment this state has ever seen in mental health, alcohol and other drug services—\$1.645 billion and \$28.5 million in capital spending over the next five years. This investment will boost the delivery of high-quality, person centred care across the state and respond to the recommendations arising from the inquiry.

Our investment will add more than 390 new hospital and community based beds and 1,400 staff to our mental health, alcohol and other drugs system—a move endorsed by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. We will also commission an additional four mental health co-responder services in the Darling Downs, Mackay, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast hospital and health services as part of the \$1.1 billion Queensland Ambulance Service budget.

Queenslanders can be assured we have left no stone unturned. Earlier this year the inquiry provided key recommendations to expand and enhance mental health services across the state. This year's budget addresses many of these recommendations, namely through increased funding for mental health, alcohol and other drug services in Queensland; more funding targeting services for infants, children and young people and their families; strengthening the capacity of existing community based services; and bridging the gap in the delivery of inpatient services for children, adolescents and young adults.

Over the next five years our record investment will target priority areas including \$239.4 million to support the needs of children, adolescents, young people and their families with mental illness and problematic substance use; \$219 million for more specialist alcohol and other drug treatment and harm reduction services across Queensland; \$191.1 million for adult and older person mental health; \$64.7 million to establish additional mother baby acute inpatient beds and enhance specialist community based perinatal and infant mental health services; \$61 million to support mental health services for First Nations people; and \$64 million to deliver community psychological support services. This investment will change thousands of lives. We want Queenslanders to know they are not on this journey alone.

Social and Affordable Housing

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts) (9.58 am): We know there is unprecedented demand on Queensland's housing market. That is why the Palaszczuk government has invested \$2.9 billion in

social and affordable housing—the largest concentrated investment in social and affordable housing in Queensland’s history. This will increase the social and affordable housing supply by almost 10,000 dwellings over the life of the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027, including 7,400 new homes commenced by June 2025 under our Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025. We are on track to deliver on our target of 727 social homes commenced in the first year of that plan. Record interstate migration, the impacts of COVID-19 and, of course, severe weather events have created unprecedented pressures on all aspects of the housing system.

We are also experiencing severe market constraints such as the supply of materials and labour force challenges. The Palaszczuk government continues to look at all options to inject more supply, whether that be through the Treasurer’s Build-to-Rent program or the Housing Investment Fund, about which the Treasurer made announcements earlier this week, or the Deputy Premier’s \$200 million to unlock more land. We are not just building more homes; we are committed to helping Queenslanders right across the housing system find solutions, especially our most vulnerable.


That is why today the Premier announced that we will deliver an Immediate Housing Response Package backed by a \$16 million investment in services and supports to help families secure or sustain a home. The Immediate Housing Response Package will help put a roof over the heads of families doing it tough who are living in insecure and unsafe situations. We know that we are seeing increased demand for support from Queensland families right now. The impacts of COVID-19, rising cost of living and unprecedented challenges in housing affordability and the private rental market mean that many people and families are reaching out for support.

We are not just listening: we are acting. Our \$16 million Immediate Housing Response Package will support families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homeless, prioritising First Nations people, people experiencing domestic and family violence, young people and older people. The Immediate Housing Response Package means we are increasing funding by \$7 million to our existing Rental Security Subsidy to assist around 700 families sustain tenancies. We are providing an extra \$6 million for specialist homelessness services to broker additional temporary emergency accommodation. This means that around 700 families will be supported with emergency accommodation for up to a month while they receive support for their longer term housing needs. There is also an additional \$3 million for extra support workers in funded specialist homelessness services to assist families stay in their current home or secure a new tenancy. This is alongside our \$122 million for specialist homelessness services in this state.

This Immediate Housing Response Package will be delivered alongside our current efforts to boost longer term housing supply through our historic \$2.9 billion investment in social and affordable housing in Queensland. We know it takes time to plan and build new homes, especially with the current constraints on the supply of labour and building materials. That is why we continue to pull every lever at our disposal to deliver housing solutions, including delivering alternative housing supply options for those who are eligible for social housing. We are currently engaging with the market to explore all opportunities to deliver more supply to support our traditional construction program and make social homes available sooner.

Today I can advise the House that we will be making an initial call for up to 50 factory-built homes this year to pilot this approach. That is on top of our recently launched Health to Home initiative, which aims to deliver 1,000 housing solutions through government head leasing arrangements. As a government, we are working hard to respond to unprecedented pressures and our \$16 million Immediate Housing Response Package puts this commitment into action. It is the Palaszczuk government that delivers for Queensland and the Queenslanders who need it most.

Budget, Women and Girls

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.02 am): The budget handed down by the Treasurer this week continues to invest in initiatives that strengthen women’s economic security, safety and their health and wellbeing. The Palaszczuk government is committed to building a Queensland where women and girls have equal access to the opportunities afforded by our great state, and the Queensland Women’s Budget Statement demonstrates that commitment.

We know that women continue to face economic and social inequalities across a range of measures and that these issues have been exacerbated by the pandemic. On average, women earn \$277 less per week than men. It is crucial that we invest in programs that address this inequality, and

that is exactly what our budget does. We are funding programs that help women build a foundation for success and independence through access to education, employment and women's health. The budget goes hand in hand with our commitment to a women's health strategy which will guide investment for the health and wellbeing of women and girls into the future.

The key investments include: our record \$23.6 billion investment in Queensland's health system; \$100 million for the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program to increase workforce participation and improve work opportunities for economically disadvantaged Queenslanders; \$890,000 for the Female Founders program to continue to deliver a suite of support and capability programs to help Queensland women start and grow their own business; \$35 million for the Back to Work program to continue to support women, young people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disabilities and the long-term unemployed back into jobs.

The budget also includes a significant investment to tackle violence against women and ensure women's safety. We are investing \$363 million to respond to the first report of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce. We will continue our reforms to ensure victims are kept safe and perpetrators are held to account. We will also increase our capacity to understand, identify and respond to coercive control and criminalise this all too prevalent form of abuse.

The CEO of Micah Projects, Karyn Walsh, celebrated the budget statement recognising the diversity of women's lived experience, saying—

The Share the Dignity Vending Machines and investment to expand support for perinatal and infant mental health are important investments.

Rebecca Andrews, the head of Queensland Ai Group, welcomed the Women's Budget Statement and said—

The pandemic delivered us many challenges including many that had a negative impact on the health and economic security of women.


Having a budget statement that outlines specific commitments for women sends a strong message that these challenges are important and that if we work together we can change things.

Sheree Taylor from the National Association of Women in Construction also commended the Women's Budget Statement, saying—

Dedicated evidence is required to address gender inequality.

Only the Palaszczuk government is delivering for women and girls in Queensland with our Women's Budget Statement.

Children and Young People in Care

 **Hon. LM LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (10.06 am): There is nothing more important than the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders, which is why it was an absolute privilege to stand alongside Create Foundation CEO Jacqui Reed and Create young consultants on Saturday to make an historic announcement for young people in care. From 1 July next year our government has committed to extending support to young people leaving care up to the age of 21.


Over the past 20 months, as minister for children I have heard repeated calls from young people in care to make this change. They said 18 was too young and they needed more and ongoing support. At the heart of the budget delivered earlier this week is the health and wellbeing of all Queenslanders, especially those who are vulnerable and at risk. That is why we extended support for young people in family based care to 19 under my predecessor, Minister Farmer. Now our government continues that reform and extends care to all young people, whether in family based or non-family based care, up to the age of 21.

This is a life-changing announcement for the approximately 700 young people who transition from care every year. These are teenagers who have been in foster, kinship or residential care and are now leaving care because they are considered adults. Young people at the age of 18, 19, 20 or even 21 still need support, as it is a crucial and vulnerable time in a young person's life. Create Foundation has long been an advocate for young people in and leaving care around the country. During many meetings their message to me and our government has been clear: they need more support. One young consultant said to me at one of our meetings, 'Minister, when your two young boys turn 18 they will have you. They won't be alone, and I don't want to do this alone either.' My message to that young consultant and to all young people is, 'I heard you, we heard you, and our government listened. This is your reform.'

This announcement means that we will be extending the availability of the foster care allowance by two years for carers of young people who remain living with them up to the age of 21. We will also be funding non-government caseworker support and financial support for young people leaving non-family based or residential care. This is a significant step to ensure that young people leaving care are better equipped to find jobs, suitable accommodation, upskill or take up tertiary education. We want to see young people succeed. We want to see young people get on their feet and thrive when they leave care. There is a lot of work to be done, so the next 12 months will be crucial as we get ready to implement these changes from 1 July 2023. Over the next 12 months my department will consult with young people in care across Queensland to ensure this extended support and transition meets their needs. It will be designed by young people for young people, as my absolute focus as minister for children is to amplify the voices of children and young people in decisions that affect them.

I also want to acknowledge the stakeholders, including Create, PeakCare, QATSICPP, Home Stretch, Queensland Foster and Kinship Care, QCOSS and so many others for their advocacy of these system reforms and for their ongoing commitment to children and young people in care. I am proud to be a member of a government that listens to the voices of Queensland children and young people in care and supports their health and wellbeing as they grow into adulthood. I am proud to be a part of this historic reform.

Emergency Services, Personnel

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (10.09 am): This is a week of record budgets—a record budget for the Police Service, a record budget for Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and a record budget for Queensland Corrective Services. Of course, the big-ticket item this week is the record budget for Queensland Health. I was excited yesterday to have two copies of the plan. Now I have three copies because it is such a big-ticket item and an important one. I may need a box tomorrow.


It was in no small way that the performance of our dedicated police and emergency services personnel kept Queenslanders safe, allowing our economy to flourish like no other state during the very difficult times of the ongoing COVID pandemic. Queensland often took the lead and was prepared to make the hard decisions, and the result was there for all to see in the budget delivered by the Treasurer this week. Our police have, in particular, greatly appreciated the Treasurer's announcement of significant and specific funding for mental health services.

Yesterday I mentioned that I was recently very honoured to launch the Mental Health Co-Responder permanently in Townsville last month. The Queensland Police Service and Queensland Health met and created a co-responder model before conducting an 18-month trial throughout 2019 and 2020 in Townsville. The service was made permanent this year following the successful trial. The Mental Health Co-responder consists of a mental health clinician and a police officer responding together to calls for service from people in crisis. In the Townsville district alone, more than 2,000 calls for service are received each year from vulnerable people experiencing a mental health crisis. The majority of those people would usually be taken to the hospital emergency department for a medical assessment. Police transport those people to hospital and remain with them until they are medically assessed.

Due to the success of that trial, police and Queensland Health have commenced a permanent service with a co-responder team working seven days a week, 365 days a year. Townsville is now the seventh police district to introduce a Mental Health Co-Responder model. We know from the success of the trial and since the permanent service has been in operation that there are many benefits. The person experiencing a mental health crisis can be assessed in their own home by an experienced health professional rather than being immediately diverted to the emergency room to wait for assessment.

When you deliver a record health budget and a record police budget you deliver record outcomes for Queenslanders—not just for Queenslanders though but specifically for our police and emergency services personnel, our front line, who on a daily basis deal with people in sick, vulnerable and disadvantaged situations. It is just another example of how the Palaszczuk government is supporting good jobs, better services and a great outcome—a great lifestyle for Queenslanders.

Youth, Mental Health Services

 **Hon. MAJ SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs) (10.12 am): Beyond Blue reports that 75 per cent of mental health issues occur for many people before the age of 25. Headspace reports one in four young people


experience some kind of mental ill health. In my role as Minister for Youth Affairs I have travelled across the state to listen to the stories of young people because everyone's experience is unique. What I have heard has had one common thread—the need for more accessible and affordable mental health services. These young people have bravely and sincerely shared their own struggles and those of their friends and peers. We have heard them.

This year's budget will see \$1.64 billion invested into critical mental health services. It will give greater support and access to young Queenslanders who are struggling with mental ill health. Experiences with mental health are wide and varied, as are the circumstances, causes and stresses. This investment will respond with an holistic approach.

This significant investment in mental health also complements our capital works program. Our record \$9.78 billion hospital and health plan includes vital funding for the infrastructure to support these services. It will build on what we have already delivered—like Jacaranda Place, which replaced the Barrett centre which was shamefully closed by those opposite, leaving the state without a dedicated place for the most at-risk young people; and like the recently completed mental health stabilisation unit at Robina, which I recently visited. This unit transforms the experience for patients during a crisis, especially when a lot of the time busy emergency departments are not the most suitable environment. This unit has led to a reduction in the length of stay for many patients, with the average down by 35 per cent. This facility will soon be joined by a 40-bed mental health rehabilitation unit at the Gold Coast University Hospital. Importantly, we are building a brand new \$1.3 billion 404-bed hospital in Coomera and new beds at Robina and Gold Coast University Hospital.

These issues are complex, and the solutions are not always quick and simple. The courage for government to admit that is no small thing, but we owe it to those courageous Queenslanders who came forward asking for help. It has always been Labor governments that take on hard reforms for those who need it most. This is one of them.

Budget, Road Infrastructure

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (10.15 am): The state budget commits to record levels of funding for health the likes of which this state has never seen. There is also a record level of investment in Queensland roads—infrastructure we need as more and more people move to Queensland thanks to strong leadership during the pandemic by the Premier, Deputy Premier and health minister.

Roads have a critical importance to our state's economic growth, development and connectivity, which is why we are investing in them more than ever. Making our roads safer improves health outcomes for Queenslanders. We are delivering more than \$21 billion worth of road upgrades across our state. This \$21 billion is part of our seventh record \$29.7 billion road and transport plan, and it is over \$600 million more than our last budget. Through this investment we will get Queenslanders home sooner and safer.

Our priority in this budget is to continue to deliver on our commitments—commitments like building the largest road project in Queensland, the \$2.1 billion second M1 on the Gold Coast, which was blocked by those opposite in 2014. We are not ignoring the M1, as those opposite did. We are building multibillion dollar upgrades on the M1, including \$1 billion for new works between Daisy Hill and the Logan Motorway to come over the forward estimates. We are also delivering on the \$1 billion Gateway Motorway upgrade between Bracken Ridge and Pine Rivers. It also includes ramping up our regional commitment to the Inland Freight Route to take trucks off the Bruce Highway, making it safer for local communities and moving freight more efficiently—making our economy stronger.

We are backing the Bruce, with investments like: the Gympie bypass, \$1 billion; Pine Rives to Dohles Rocks Road, \$1.1 billion; the six-laning of Caboolture to Steve Irwin Way in the member for Pumicestone's area, \$662 million; Edmonton to Gordonvale, nearly half a billion dollars; and the Tiaro bypass, \$336 million. There is funding to widen roads, improve safety and plan for future major upgrades around the state. It does not stop there—with more interchange upgrades, more lanes, more intelligent transport systems, more flood resilience across the state and safer roads.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr BAILEY: They are disappointed they do not hear cuts, but we invest and we build. Our investments mean less time in traffic and more time spent with family and friends. This budget delivers for all of Queensland and it dwarfs the horror budgets of the Newman government when sacking, selling and cutting dominated.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr BAILEY: We can tell by the interjections that they still want to do that. They still want to cut, they still want to sack and they still want to sell. Why? Because the old gang is still there—the Leader of the Opposition and the members for Kawana, Chatsworth, Glass House, Clayfield, Everton, Mudgeeraba, Surfers Paradise, Mermaid Beach, Nanango and Burleigh. The old gang are still in control. Queenslanders can have confidence that our roads investment will build the infrastructure that a growing and booming Queensland needs.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, question time will conclude today at 11.19 am.

Ambulance Ramping



Mr CRISAFULLI (10.19 am): My question is to the Premier. Due to seven years of decay and lack of planning, yesterday was another day of chronic ambulance ramping. What is there in the budget that helps Queenslanders needing urgent medical care today?

Ms PALASZCZUK: I reject some of the premise of that question. Imputation—

Mr Minnikin interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Chatsworth, you are warned under the standing orders.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Let me say very clearly, the Leader of the Opposition sat around the cabinet table when they cut 4,800 health staff. What did our government do? We have been restoring those savage cuts from 10 years ago.

Mr Crisafulli: Did the focus groups tell you that? Did that come from focus groups?

Mr Janetzki: Focus groups—just reality.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Leader of the Opposition and member for Toowoomba South, we do not need interjections in stereo.

Ms PALASZCZUK: To the Leader of the Opposition, they still think Deb is the leader, so there you go.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, members' correct titles will be used.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Sorry, Mr Speaker. The member for Nanango—they still think the member for Nanango is the leader.

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Oh, here we go! I know those opposite do not understand that we have the largest, the most historic spend in health infrastructure the state has ever seen. I know they have not read our Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan. To make it easier, we have even provided a lift-out for them. It shows the map of Queensland. There we are, the 11-point plan and all the infrastructure—

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, I understand it is a government document, but I will ask you to cease using it as a prop.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I am so proud of it, Mr Speaker. I will carry this around with me everywhere; that is what I am going to do. I know that they do not like the fact that we are building a brand new Toowoomba Hospital, a brand new Coomera Hospital, a new cancer health centre—do they not like that?

Today we are all going to be on the edge of our seats, waiting to hear from the Leader of the Opposition, to see what the Leader of the Opposition is going to do in relation to health. Let me say to the Leader of the Opposition, has he spoken to the New South Wales Premier or the Tasmanian Premier, his counterparts, how it is a national issue, how these hospital pressures are being felt around the nation, not just in Queensland? He can go back and watch the National Cabinet press conference if he wants, or go back to see what each of the premiers said going into that National Cabinet—health is a national issue. Unlike the former LNP prime minister—dare I say his name, Scott Morrison—

Mr Bleijie: 'Better when we work together'—remember that?

Opposition members interjected.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Well, let me say this: an extra \$700 million is going into health across the nation because of the Albanese Labor government is prepared to listen to the states and territories. That is going to be—

(Time expired)

Ambulance Ramping

Mr CRISAFULLI: I have a further question for the Premier. The government's record on health is a near tripling of ambulance ramping to 42 per cent. After delivering its eighth consecutive record health budget, when will ramping return to 15 per cent?

Mr SPEAKER: Before calling the Premier, interjections of any kind during a question are not called for. I ask members who are reading large documents to please put the documents down, or read them at your desk level.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I thank the Leader of the Opposition for the question. All of my members are very keen to read the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan because it is a plan for Queensland. It is a great plan and I am incredibly proud of it. We are going to hear this morning whether or not the Leader of the Opposition supports our Health and Hospitals Plan. Does the Leader of the Opposition support the 2,500 new beds over the next six years? Does the Leader of the Opposition support our satellite hospital programs in the south-east?

Let me say this: Queenslanders supported our plan when we dealt with the COVID pandemic. They did not support the plan of those opposite. They did not support the plan of the member for Nanango. They did not support the plan of the member for Kawana. They did not support the plan of the member for Broadwater.

Mr Crisafulli: Four minutes, no plan.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I think we need to give the Leader of the Opposition a copy of the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan because he obviously has not read it. There are pictures, explanations—

Dr Miles: Minister Ryan has a spare.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Do you have a spare one?

Mr Ryan: Yes.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Minister for Police.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I challenge those opposite to go into their communities next week and ask them: do they support the Premier's health plan for this state? Go and ask them.

Ms Bates interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Member for Mudgeeraba.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I can understand why you are upset because it is safer for the budget.

Mr SPEAKER: Through the chair, Premier.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I can understand why those opposite are upset. We are building new ambulance stations as well as increasing paramedic numbers. The legacy of those opposite was to cut, sack and sell. Today is the day. There is no more hiding under the doona for the Leader of the Opposition. The day has come—out from under the doona, off with the ugg boots. Today is the day he is going to tell the people of Queensland if he supports the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan. What is he going to cut, who is he going to sack, and what are they going to sell? The member for Broadwater will stand up today, he will use some big words and he will cry a few crocodile tears, but there will be no substance. This opposition has no substance, and the Leader of the Opposition—

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, members to my left!

Ms PALASZCZUK: That is right. More whingeing from those opposite. There is no credibility, no plan and no action. There is no action on that side of the House.

Regional Queensland

Mr MADDEN: My question is of the Premier and the Minister for the Olympics. Will the Premier update the House on the government's commitment to the regions, including the Darling Downs, the Southern Downs and the Granite Belt?

Ms PALASZCZUK: I thank the member for the question. The people out there love us. They embraced us. It was a warm reception. The member for Southern Downs can attest to it. He came along to the function we had with the community that night. He is nodding and I have the thumbs-up. He is a good local member, and I thank him very much for coming along. It was not just him. The mayor

was very happy for us to be there as well. Mayor Vic Pennisi said it is the coldest place with the warmest people, and that is so true. It was pretty cold that day, but we were more than happy to go out there and talk to people. We announced the QMusic Trails out at Robert Channon Wines. It will be great to see that there will be increased tourism. Also, as I said earlier, the minister and I had the opportunity to visit the local school. We also went to one of the apple farms as well.

Mr Fumer: McMahons.

Ms PALASZCZUK: McMahons—a wonderful, warm reception there. Honestly they are doing such amazing work. Can I say that I had the most delicious apple I have had in my life! More than that, it was our government that provided the funding to the council for the trucking of the water into Stanthorpe—over \$11 million—and it is our government that is going to provide the \$300 million for the extension of the pipeline from Toowoomba to Warwick, and also taking in those four regional, small communities along the way. I thank Minister Butcher for working with the councils and the community to deliver the start of the work on that pipeline.

Mr Lister: Can you do Emu Swamp Dam, too?

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Southern Downs is warned under the standing orders.

Ms PALASZCZUK: He has been so kind, warm and charming I am quite sure the minister will have a meeting with him about that very issue. There is more for Toowoomba: a brand new hospital. Here we are, the Palaszczuk government, delivering for the Toowoomba region. How many hospitals did the LNP build during their term? Zero! That is right; their record is they did not build anything—sorry, they built 1 William Street; I stand corrected. They built that.

We care about health care and we care about communities, and the cabinet is going to continue to go across regional Queensland for the rest of this year, once again, embracing what the local community has to offer.

(Time expired)

Health System, Waiting Lists

Mr BLEIJIE: My question is to the Minister for Health. The government's record on health is doubling the elective surgery waiting list to 60,000 and blowing out the specialist outpatients list to 260,000. After this government delivering its eighth consecutive health budget, when will these 320,000 Queenslanders get the surgery they are so desperately waiting for?

Mrs D'ATH: I thank the member for his question. When will the LNP recognise COVID even existed? Honestly! They must be the only political party in the country that still has their head in the sand about the impact that COVID had on the health system. They think that the delay in elective surgery was not caused by COVID and was not caused by a National Cabinet decision to suspend surgery back in 2020. Then further suspensions had to occur to keep our community safe which saw Queensland lead the country as far as saving people's lives was concerned.

The issues, the demand, the neglect by the Morrison government over nine years to do with GPs, the lack of recognition from those opposite about long-stay aged-care and disability patients, about the reduction in people taking up private health, the lack of GPs and the reduction in clinical student places in Queensland which are being given to New South Wales are all Commonwealth decisions made while they were in government, and those on the other side laugh. They laugh like it is no big deal. I will tell those on the other side what we have done since we came to government in comparison to what they did to the health system. We have put on over 13,000 new health workers. That is what we have done.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

An opposition member: That worked well!

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Kawana will cease his interjections.

Mrs D'ATH: I will take that interjection, the ridiculous comment 'that worked well'. What do members opposite think an additional cut of 4,400 health workers would have done to this system? If we had not replaced those health workers, how would we have managed? What would our health system look like today if the LNP had still been in government? If we had 4,400 fewer health workers in the system when COVID hit, what do they think would have happened? What do they think would have happened to the long-wait elective surgery list? We have just hit the peak of long-stays that they had when they were in government, but we have dealt with a global health pandemic. What is their excuse? I know what their reason is. It is because they were completely incompetent and they believed in cutting, sacking and selling. That is what they will do if they get back into government.

If they do not support the Labor government's revenue measures, how will they fund health? They will cut, they will sack and they will sell. I want to hear today from the Leader of the Opposition where are they cutting, who are they sacking and what are they going to sell?

(Time expired)

Budget, Manufacturing Industry

Mr SAUNDERS: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure. Can the Deputy Premier outline to the House how the latest Palaszczuk government budget will support manufacturing jobs in Queensland, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any alternative approaches?

Dr MILES: I thank the member for Maryborough for his question. I know what a big supporter he is of making things here in Queensland. Like others on this side of the House, we back Queenslanders. We believe Queenslanders can do anything they set their minds to do. We can make trains here, can't we, member for Maryborough? We do not have to import them. If we make them here we can make sure they comply with Queensland standards and we can make sure we can use them here.

The last two years has also taught us that we need to make more vaccines and medical treatments here in Queensland and in the process we can create jobs and extra value. We can also secure our supply chains so we never again find ourselves in the circumstances we did when the LNP failed to buy us enough vaccines from overseas because we could not make them here; we did not have the vaccine technology here. I am pleased that the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan and the budget we delivered this week include a plan to ramp up vaccine research and manufacturing and the manufacturing of other health treatments right here in Queensland. Of course, it is part of our record investment into the health care of Queenslanders. In the process it will also create high-value jobs in research and in manufacturing.

Alongside the Translational Research Institute at the PA Hospital campus where some of the best researchers in the world are working right now on the cures of the future, we will build the Translational Manufacturing Institute. After 12 months of having our share of the funding on the table and the LNP refusing to match that funding, we have stepped in to put in the Commonwealth's contribution too. That is how important it is that we bring manufacturing back to our state.

We know the LNP do not value manufacturing. They did not think Queenslanders could build trains. We said we could build trains here. Now we say we can make vaccines here. The vaccines of the future, for whatever is the next virus that threatens us, can be developed here—like Gardasil was—but made here and not made overseas. We will bring those jobs back to Queensland to the PA Hospital campus where the fantastic staff at TRI will be able to expand into the new building at TMI.

(Time expired)

Hospitals

Ms BATES: My question is to the Premier. The Premier promised all satellite hospitals would be open by May 2023. With less than a year to go and significant work not underway at the majority of sites, this promise now looks broken. If the government cannot build a satellite hospital on time, how can Queenslanders trust that they can build a real hospital on time?

Ms PALASZCZUK: Here is some news for the member for Mudgeeraba: the sites have been secured and earth is being moved. I want them up and built and ready in two years; I have been on the public record as saying that. I do not know what the member is going on about. I honestly do not know what she is going on about.

Mr Bleijie: Find your notes.

Ms PALASZCZUK: What I want to do for the member for Kawana is correct something I said yesterday in the House. There are actually more beds that we are putting on the Gold Coast. I want to make sure I put it on the record for the member for Mudgeeraba. I spoke last time about the Robina Hospital expansion; there are going to be 114 beds there. The new Coomera Hospital will have 404 beds. I did mention the Gold Coast University Hospital modular expansion; there are another 70 beds there. The Robina Hospital transit lounge expansion will have another 20 beds and the Gold Coast secure mental health unit was 40 beds. I wanted to expand on the answer I gave yesterday to be very comprehensive for the member for Mudgeeraba to show our commitment to the Gold Coast.

Ms Bates interjected.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Does the member for Mudgeeraba support this or not? What are those opposite going to cut? Does she support all of these beds, yes or no? Does she support it, yes or no? Does the member for Mudgeeraba support these extra beds, yes or no?

It will not be long before we hear from the Leader of the Opposition. He is going to stand up in this House and tell us whether he supports 2,500 extra beds across Queensland. Does the Leader of the Opposition support the largest health capital spend in Queensland's history? The member has been going on about health long enough. Does he support it? What will the member cut? Does the member support taking a share from the record profits of coal companies—yes or no? Does the member support helping people with mental health through our \$1.6 billion levy? What health projects across Queensland will the Leader of the Opposition cut if he does not support those two measures? Does the member support the payroll concessions for small business—yes or no? What will the opposition leader sell? He sat around the cabinet table with the member for Clayfield. We look forward to the answer today.

(Time expired)

Budget Measures, Alternatives

Mr McCALLUM: My question is of the Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment. Will the Treasurer update the House on what alternatives are available to the Palaszczuk government's prudent, sensible and sustainable budget measures?

Mr DICK: I thank the member for Bundamba for his question, because today is the day. Today the Leader of the Opposition has a chance to tell the people of Queensland what he does like. He has spent a lot of time telling the people of Queensland what he does not like, but today is the day he can tell the people of Queensland what he does like. Today is the day that the Leader of the Opposition can do a lot more than whingeing and autobabble. The Leader of the Opposition has to say what he would do.

The Leader of the Opposition and the members opposite have made it abundantly clear that they do not support our prudent revenue measures. They have been yelling out in question time. These are measures that fund regional hospitals in places like Moranbah in the electorate of Burdekin, Mackay and Townsville. These are measures that give certainty and sustained prize money to country and regional racing, that strengthen the important social bonds those country race meetings provide for their communities—communities they allegedly represent in this House. These are measures that enable us to make the greatest single investment in addressing mental health this state has ever seen.

The Leader of the Opposition makes it clear that they do not support these revenue measures, so now we will find out what they will do. Will they throw country racing on the scrap heap in the communities they claim to represent? Will they deny the people of Moranbah in the electorate of Burdekin a new hospital? Will they reprise the shame of what they did to the Barrett Adolescent Centre and treat the mental health of young Queenslanders with indifference, disrespect and disdain? If they do not support our measures to fund these important commitments then that is what the LNP is left with.

They do have one other option—one so deeply engrained in the LNP DNA that they never let it go—and that is the thing they told Queenslanders a decade ago they had no need to fear: sacking our hardworking frontline workers. The damage this did to our state has taken us years to repair. Imagine what would have happened to Queensland over the last two years if the members of the LNP had been in charge—borders flung open to let the virus come in and run rampant, and fewer police, nurses and doctors to deal with what that would have caused. The damage done by lockdowns in Sydney and Melbourne would have paled into insignificance compared to the damage the LNP would have inflicted on Queensland. Today is the day—the hour is near—for the Leader of the Opposition to tell Queensland what he will do. I look forward to hearing him say what he will cut to avoid backing Queensland.

(Time expired)

Bundaberg Hospital

Mr BENNETT: My question is to the Minister for Health. During the election campaign, the government promised the people of Bundaberg a level 5 hospital, which was promoted on the member for Bundaberg's Facebook page. After the election this commitment was deleted. When will the first patient be able to overnight at the new Bundaberg Hospital and will it be a level 5 hospital?

Mrs D'ATH: I thank the member for his question. I hope that the member supports the revenue measures in the revenue bill when it comes time to vote on it. If he wants these hospital facilities—if we want to look after our regions and our rural and remote communities—then those opposite should be willing to support the revenue measures to deliver them. If they want more mental health services in their communities, they should be willing to support this. If they do not, what do they support as revenue measures? How are they going to fund their health commitments? Maybe there will be no health commitments. Maybe we do not need to worry about how they will fund things, because there just would not be any commitments if there was an LNP government.

Earlier the Premier offered to provide the opposition with a copy of our document so they would not need to stand up and ask obvious questions. I am going to ask the attendant to deliver this document to the Leader of the Opposition. He can share it around. It is also available online. If he needs any assistance to look it up, we can provide that assistance. If the member turns to page 21 of that document—it is pretty easy to read; there are two tables there—he will see reference to the new Bundaberg Hospital: 121 beds, \$1.2 billion investment, completion financial year second half of 2027. That was not hard at all, was it?

Opposition members interjected.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mrs D'Ath interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I will wait for silence, members. Member for Kawana, you are warned under the standing orders. The Minister for Health is warned under the standing orders.

Respectful Relationships Education

Ms PUGH: My question is of the Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing. Can the minister update the House on how the Palaszczuk government is supporting Queensland teachers to deliver the updated Respectful Relationships education program, and is the minister aware of any alternative approaches?

Ms GRACE: I thank the member for Mount Ommaney for her question. She is well aware, as a mother of three, that students having the knowledge and skills to form healthy relationships that are safe, free from harassment and sexual violence and based on mutual respect is the way forward. Schools have a role to play. I am pleased to say that our record education budget—I acknowledge the students and teachers in the gallery—is \$16.5 billion this year. That is how much we spend on education. We have allocated \$15.5 million to deliver Respectful Relationships education in Queensland state schools. It is part of this government's broader response to the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce.

We have been delivering Respectful Relationships education in schools since 2017. Last year, following all of the reports out of federal parliament and Facebook posts from Chanel Contos in relation to the experiences of students, we instigated a review straightaway. We have been consulting with more than 180 stakeholders. I look forward to delivering the updated materials.

We need to support teachers in schools. The \$15.5 million investment will support new adviser roles to provide tailored professional development to our schoolteachers to ensure they are prepared to deliver what is at times challenging and sensitive material in an age-appropriate manner. Every Queensland state school will also be provided with a pro rata amount of Teacher Relief Scheme funding so that teachers and staff have the time they need for appropriate professional development and curriculum planning. This is all about building teacher capacity.

Last week I met with federal education minister Jason Clare. I look forward to working with the new education minister on the \$77 million federal funding in this space. I know that we will be delivering on the fundamental tools that are required in schools to deliver the revised curriculum and to also make sure that teachers feel comfortable. What a breath of fresh air Jason Clare was. We were not talking about milkshakes and we were not talking about tacos; we were not talking about all of the machinations that came out of the previous four ministers that I had to deal with. This was well-researched, evidence based material that treats students with respect and deals with the topic in an age-appropriate manner.

Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee

Mr POWELL: My question is to the Premier. Was the Premier or any of her staff aware of instructions or give instructions to Labor members to not attend the PCCC meeting this morning that would have dealt with the release of the secret Jackie Trad documents?

Speaker's Ruling, Question Out of Order

Mr SPEAKER: I am going to rule the question out of order for three reasons: firstly, the Premier does not have responsibility over committees; secondly, it is out of order because any conversations around political matters are also not part of portfolio responsibilities; and, thirdly, the committee is currently on foot and discussing anything related to committee business is out of order.

Health Services

Mr MELLISH: My question is to the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The question, members, will be heard in silence.

Ms Grace interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for McConnel.

Mr MELLISH: My question is to the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services. Can the minister inform the House how the state budget is investing in preventative health to improve the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders?

Mrs D'ATH: I thank the member for Aspley for his question. We all know that early intervention and prevention is key to not just a healthy community, but a strong economy and takes pressure off our health systems. That is why last week I was proud to announce the expansion of the Queensland newborn screening program. Two serious genetic conditions, spinal muscular atrophy, known as SMA, and severe combined immunodeficiency, SCID, will be added to the screening program from May 2023. They will also be available for use on all heel prick samples soon after. Our expanded genetic testing program has been welcomed by parents Kate and Grant Gough, and it was wonderful to meet them and their beautiful baby Oakley who was born with SMA. I would like to thank my parliamentary colleagues on all sides of the parliament who have advocated for this expansion, in particular the member for Bulimba, the member for Jordan, the member for McConnel and the member for Currumbin.

In years to come our expanded testing program will benefit families like the Goughs. I am very pleased that the state budget includes a boost for preventative health initiatives. The budget includes \$1.6 million, and an annual boost of \$1.25 million, to expand the newborn screening program I have just mentioned. It is important to note that we have never tested for genetic conditions. We test with the newborn blood spot testing but it has never been for genetic testing. This means new equipment, it means training up our staff and it means getting accredited to do so. Once we do that, it means so much more than just these two conditions that we are announcing today.

Other preventative health measures funded through the budget include \$80 million towards cancer screening programs such as BreastScreen Queensland; \$22.9 million in prevention programs under Health and Wellbeing Queensland to promote healthy eating and address obesity; an \$8.4 million new investment over the next four years to deliver a skin cancer prevention and public awareness campaign with pop-up skin cancer screening clinics targeting at-most-risk Queenslanders; \$4 million for the provision of evidence based tailored Quitline support and information for individuals who would like to quit smoking; \$1 million for the Queensland Preventative Health Survey which regularly monitors statewide modifiable risk factors such as smoking and obesity; and \$500,000 to deliver the Way to Wellness services for orthopaedic patients on surgical waitlists.

Also I want to mention briefly the fact that the federal Albanese government announced \$38 million to expand and standardise newborn screening across Queensland, which means that we will be able to expand conditions to another 80 conditions. Without this new equipment and accreditation we would not be able to do that. That is what working in partnership with the Commonwealth actually looks like. It is great to have a Labor federal government.

Lobbyists

Dr ROWAN: My question is to the Premier. The boss of the CFMMEU and Labor National Executive member Michael Ravbar is the latest figure to call out the government's lack of action on its relationship with Labor lobbyists.

Dr Miles interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Deputy Premier, you are warned under the standing orders. Member, please start your question again.

Dr ROWAN: My question is to the Premier. The boss of the CFMMEU and Labor National Executive member Michael Ravbar is the latest figure to call out the government's lack of action on its relationship with Labor lobbyists. How many more inquiries, audits and reports does the Premier need before decisive action is taken with a full royal commission commenced into the Queensland state government?

Ms PALASZCZUK: I thank the member. Usually they are attacking that particular individual. Now they are friends. It is like a *Married at First Sight* episode. I do not think it is going to last very long. I think it is doomed for failure, that relationship between the LNP and the particular individual they refer to.

Opposition members interjected.

Ms PALASZCZUK: You are usually in here attacking him.

Mr SPEAKER: Through the chair, Premier.

Dr Rowan: It's a serious question about your lack of integrity in government.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Moggill.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I will not be lectured to by those opposite, who sacked the PCCC. I will give the member for Moggill a bit of history lesson about what I have said about tightening the rules around lobbying. This would apply to all lobbyists, not just ones that are talked about in the media.

On 24 March I said, 'If we need to tighten the rules, we will do so.' Last week, on 13 June, I said, 'I've said to the people of Queensland that I'm looking at tightening requirements around lobbying. I've been on the public record saying that.' This week I said, 'I've said publicly and I'll say it again today publicly, I absolutely do believe that we need to tighten up some of those definitions around lobbyists.' I cannot be clearer.

Peter Coaldrake is due to bring a report down very soon and the government will be acting. Let me say also very clearly that I remember the three years of the LNP government where issues were not investigated in relation to lobbying and links with the LNP government because they controlled the chair of the PCCC. I will be more than happy to see all of those matters highlighted and investigated as well.

Gold Coast, Investment

Mr POWER: My question is to the fantastic Minister for Transport and Main Roads.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member, I think that is an imputation.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: We will wait for silence. Member, please start your question again.

Mr POWER: Can the minister outline how the whole south coast—Gold Coast—district will benefit from the Palaszczuk government's budget, and is the minister aware of any other approaches to that investment?

Mr BAILEY: I thank the member for Logan for his question and I take that as a feint for more funding for Mount Lindesay Highway. He is on the right track, despite the fact that there is so much funding going down there right now. We are seeing a record road and rail commitment in this budget: \$29.7 billion, nearly a \$30 billion commitment, to road and rail. Part of that commitment is a \$5.2 billion commitment to the south coast region—a huge commitment to the Gold Coast by this government. I will run through it and I will be very clear. It is fully funded and fairly funded by this government—not cutting, not sacking, not selling. We have \$2.1 billion for the Coomera Connector or the second M1.

Mr Stevens interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The member for Mermaid Beach is warned under the standing orders.

Mr BAILEY: It will be the largest road project in Queensland. All we get is whingeing and whining from those opposite who blocked it when they were in power, but we are building it. There is \$1 billion for the M1 from Varsity Lakes to Tugun. The LNP did not spend a single new dollar on the M1 the entire time they were in government. Stage 3 of the light rail, from Broadbeach to Burleigh, is a \$1.2 billion commitment. What was their commitment to light rail when they were in power? Zero! We have \$212 billion going to exits 41, 45 and 49, which is on top of exits 54 and 57. That is another huge commitment to the M1. There are three new Gold Coast stations as part of Cross River Rail.

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Coomera is warned under the standing orders.

Mr BAILEY: That is a project that they cut. They cut Cross River Rail, but we are building three new Gold Coast stations that are fully funded and fairly funded. Let us look at our commitment in this budget and compare it to the last horror budget of the LNP. What did they spend on the Gold Coast? They did not even get to three quarters of a billion dollars. Their total commitment was \$735 million, which is one-seventh of what we are spending down there. We are spending seven times more on the Gold Coast than what was in the last horror budget of the LNP.

Let us look at them. They are all still there. Virtually all of them got swings against them in the last election: Broadwater, Burleigh, Coomera, Currumbin, Gaven, Mermaid Beach, Southport, Theodore. There were swings against the LNP because they do not deliver for the Gold Coast. It is not a new club on the Gold Coast for the LNP members of parliament. It is called the 'Gold Coast cutting club' because all they do for the Gold Coast is they cut. Seven of the nine members of parliament on the Gold Coast are Newman government members of parliament. They have not learned anything: cutting, sacking selling.

The Gold Coast mayor wrote me a note about the budget that I would like to read out. He said, 'Mark, the budget was great for our city. Thanks, Tom.' Isn't that wonderful? I want to thank the mayor for working with us on the Gold Coast. It is a great partnership and we get a lot done.

(Time expired)

Regional Tourism Organisations, Funding

Mr ANDREW: My question is to the Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport. Will the minister please confirm that no cuts will be made to the funding of our 13 regional tourism organisations? Will the minister also confirm that no RTO funds are being or will be syphoned off to help prop up the budget of Tourism and Events Queensland?

Mr HINCHLIFFE: I thank the member for Mirani for his question. It gives me a good opportunity to confirm and clarify that there will be no cuts to the funding of the regional tourism organisations network. Queensland's tourism industry has been hit incredibly hard by the impacts of COVID-19. We all know that. Since the onset of the pandemic, the Palaszczuk government has committed approximately \$1.1 billion to support tourism, events and the hospitality sector, including the Regional Tourism Network.

The Interim Action Plan for Tourism Recovery recommends that the Queensland government looks at new ways of working and considers the best way to achieve coordination and alignment with regional industry organisations. The current tourism network model has been in place for more than 20 years, with only minor amendments over that time, and there are some opportunities to potentially redevelop the model to achieve even greater outcomes for Queensland's regions. That is why Tourism and Events Queensland, the independent statutory authority, has identified an opportunity to redefine the model for the network to maximise tourism promotion, experience and development, and event acquisition outcomes with the funding that they have—boosted funding that they have had and boosted funding going forward.

This approach is supported by extensive research into destinations around the world, examining the alignment of regions and experiences in Queensland and identifying opportunities for greater partnerships involving a suite of metrics to support formulating a funding approach and ongoing industry consultation. Consultation commenced in early February 2022 with a range of stakeholders, including the RTOs, the LGAQ and other key stakeholders. That consultation is ongoing. I encourage members to work with and talk to the RTO in their local community, to be informed about and inform on that process and encourage them to have input into that ongoing consultation process.

This is fundamentally a decision for TEQ to be making with the funds that have been provided to them for the Regional Tourism Network. That will be untouched. It is fundamentally a matter for them to determine how that distribution works and the ongoing work to ensure that that is responsive to the needs of the sector going forward as we see it grow. All of this comes off the back of the work that we have done to provide support for the industry to make decisions and to investigate the way in which the future can be built through our Interim Action Plan for Tourism Recovery. It is a great opportunity for reflection, off the back of the impacts of the pandemic, on how the great tourism industry here in Queensland will continue to grow. Our regions are fundamentally important to that and the Palaszczuk government will continue to support our regional tourism network.

Housing

Ms BOYD: My question is to the Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts. Will the minister update the House on the Palaszczuk government's support for Queensland families and their housing needs?

Ms ENOCH: I thank the member for Pine Rivers for the question and her ongoing advocacy for families, who are doing it tough right now. We know that mass migration into Queensland, the ongoing impacts of COVID, the flooding events that we have seen across Queensland and the constraints on the building industry, including supply chain and workforce issues, have combined to create unprecedented demand in our housing market right across the system. That is why last year the Treasurer announced a record \$2.9 billion worth of funding to ensure that we would be able to build more social and affordable homes. That was a pre-emptive strike to manage some of the unprecedented issues that we are seeing right across the sector.

That \$2.9 billion of funding for social and affordable housing is already starting to deliver. For instance, this year we are on track to commence our target of 727 new social homes. The Treasurer announced 1,200 new homes will be built as a result of our Housing Investment Fund. That is on top of the 118 homes announced earlier this month. That is part of our action plan for the next few years to see 7,400 new social and affordable homes commenced. All of that is against a backdrop of those incredible pressures.

However, we are hearing from services that there is a need right now. We know that it takes time to plan and to build. While we are announcing those commencements, we know that there are pressures being felt at this very moment. Services are letting us know that. I have had conversations with Micah Projects, St Vinnies, the Gold Coast Youth Service and the stakeholders who sit on the domestic violence and housing round table that I chair alongside the Attorney-General and they are all saying that they need extra support right now.

That is why today the Premier announced a \$16 million immediate housing response package that will deliver emergency relief, services and supports to families to secure and sustain a home. The package includes an extra \$6 million towards specialist homelessness services for 700 families, \$3 million for extra support workers in funded specialist homelessness services and \$7 million to support another 700 families with an increased rental subsidy from \$5,000 over six months to \$10,000 over 12 months to assist families to sustain their tenancies. That is alongside our \$2.9 billion investment in social and affordable housing and is supported through our record investment for neighbourhood and community centres of \$115.8 million, which is the largest single increase in base operation—

(Time expired)

Housing Investment Fund

Dr MacMAHON: My question is for the Treasurer. In the budget on Tuesday we saw \$61 million cut from the annual social housing construction budget and no details on returns from the Housing Investment Fund. Can the Treasurer now confirm how much the Housing Investment Fund has actually generated over the past year?

Mr DICK: Yes, I can. I am pleased to do that, although I do not accept the premise of the question. For the benefit of the member for South Brisbane I will say that we are very proud of what we do as the Labor Party and we are very proud of what we do as a Labor government because we know it is only Labor that delivers for people in need.

Mr Mander: Misrepresenting.

Mr DICK: I take the interjection from the member for Everton. The first thing that I will say is: do not lead with your jaw.

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Everton will cease his interjections.

Mr DICK: He said, 'You misrepresent.' Let me say again for the parliamentary record, for every member of the House, for everyone in the gallery and for everyone watching online, when it comes to misrepresenting the fake Bradfield scheme and the Bruce Highway hoax, there he was misleading every community the length and breadth of the coast of Queensland: 'We will double the highway.'

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Everton is warned under the standing orders.

Mr DICK: One would have thought the members for Nanango and Everton would have some shame and not talk about it ever again, yet they interject and they go on. Member for Everton, I will not—

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr DICK: They are going to continue to talk about misleading the people of Queensland. I am sorry, member for South Brisbane; I was distracted by those opposite.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Nanango is warned under the standing orders.

Mr DICK: When we announced our \$2.9 billion investment in social housing in the last budget, the largest concentrated investment in social housing in Queensland's history, including additional funding for emergency housing, that was not just for one year. I will make that clear. When we as a government make investments, as we have made an investment in the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan, that is not for one year. That \$9.8 billion will run for more than one year, as our \$2.9 billion will run for more than one year. It is a long investment over many budgets. Budget Paper No. 3 clearly shows those funds rolling out—\$282 million to deliver social housing dwellings, commence and continue construction, and upgrade existing dwelling. There is a whole heap of other money to commence and upgrade dwellings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and social housing dwellings across the length and breadth of Queensland. That is what we do as a government.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DICK: The hide of the LNP to interject when they did nothing for social housing! Not only did they do nothing; they wanted to sell public housing. On a matter of investment, the investment return has increased. We have more social housing—

Dr MacMAHON: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. My question was about the returns from the Housing Investment Fund. It has not been answered.

Mr SPEAKER: Treasurer, under standing order 118(b), I do ask that you come to the core of that question as asked.

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I was in the middle of a sentence that started, 'When it comes to the investment'. I was actually about to say that we have had an increase in investment. We will get \$65 million on that fund—not the \$40 million that we projected but \$65 million—and every one of those dollars will go back. That is prudent fiscal management, good investment outcomes, returning it all back to social and public housing because, member for South Brisbane, that is what Labor does.

(Time expired)

Budget, Agriculture Industry

Ms LAUGA: My question is of the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities. Will the minister outline how the Palaszczuk government's budget continues to support Queensland farmers and whether alternative proposals have been put forward?

Mr FURNER: I thank the member for Keppel for her question and acknowledge her hard work, along with the member for Rockhampton, in Central Queensland. The budget handed down by the Treasurer this week is a landmark budget in terms not only of rural Queensland in delivering for regional health services but also for our Queensland farmers. The \$608 million budget will fit quite squarely in terms of the GVP for Queensland agriculture of \$23.5 billion investing in agriculture in Queensland. The Queensland agriculture sector has never had a greater friend than the Palaszczuk government. Those opposite know that as well.

Over the past three years we have delivered on our promise for significant reform of drought support programs by working hand-in-hand with our major stakeholders. They commended us for that and for this budget as well. Instead of waiting for a drought crisis to hit, our farmers can now access grants and low-interest loans in respect of drought preparedness for the next drought. That is being proactive and is about planning for the prospective future. We know that our farmers have done that. It is putting our money where our mouths are and it is needed in a timely fashion.

In Stanthorpe last week, the Premier spoke at McMahon farms in terms of the horticultural industry for the first time investing in drought preparedness. There is \$79.6 million over four years to continue that drought assistance and \$150 million over the next three years to assist in that preparedness and emergency drought funding. These are the most fundamental drought reforms we have seen in Queensland—and I declare nationally as well—to support the next generation of Queenslanders. The Palaszczuk Labor government is certainly proud to deliver that.

Of course, another key feature of the budget is the \$140 million of research and extension work supported by the government across our great state. That is right: we are investing in science in partnership with industry and will continue to put Queensland produce increasingly on the world stage.

We are investing \$2.6 million in supporting implementation of the Commonwealth government's Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme which will see workers on our farms supporting our farmers in times of need when there are labour shortages, not only in agriculture but also across the sector.

Nevertheless, we have heard very little from those opposite. In fact, the opposition spokesman for agriculture in his address to the Gympie newspaper did not even mention agriculture whatsoever. When it comes to the LNP's contribution on agriculture, we have not had sounds of silence like this since the Simon and Garfunkel years. The sounds of silence from those opposite are deafening.

(Time expired)

Social Housing, Waiting List

Mr MANDER: My question is to the Minister for Communities and Housing. The government's record on social housing is the waiting list blowing out from under 30,000 to over 50,000 people. When will the Housing Investment Fund reduce the waiting list back under 30,000 people?

Ms ENOCH: I thank the member for the question. The member for Everton, who was the housing minister at the time of the LNP government, oversaw a reduction of social housing dwellings of 428. Imagine being a minister who walks into a portfolio and walks out with fewer houses than when he started! How did that happen? There was a 90 per cent cut in construction of housing under the leadership of the member for Everton. At the height of his time as the minister for housing in 2013-14, in Logan, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and Ipswich how many social housing dwellings were commenced? Zero. Absolutely zero. All of that time, that whole year, there was not one commencement of one social housing dwelling. Why? Because the plan was—and it still is because he lets us know about it all the time in public—to offload all of the social housing into the community sector. Ninety per cent of social housing and all the public servants attached to it were all off into the community sector—in effect, privatising social housing. That was his plan.

This government has invested \$2.9 billion and, in all of that, instituted a \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund that, of course, is part of Treasury. The Treasurer has made announcements with regard to that. We know that our investment fund inside the \$2.9 billion investment, the largest concentrated investment in social and affordable housing in this state, will deliver some 7,400 new social and affordable homes over the next few years. What a comparison to what we saw from the member for Everton when he walked away leaving 428 fewer social houses in this state. Given the member for Everton's track record, standing up in this place and asking any question about housing is absolutely hilarious. The member for Everton was the worst housing minister that this state had ever seen. He treated social housing tenants like second-class citizens. He tried to make older people take on extra tenants just so that they could have strangers in their houses. He made rules so that people could not leave their social housing property to go on holidays. They needed special permission to do that. This was the record of those opposite. This government supports social housing, and we do that through our \$2.9 billion investment.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: The period for question time has expired.


APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL


REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Appropriation (Parliament) Bill resumed from 21 June (see p. 1536), Appropriation Bill resumed from 21 June (see p. 1546) and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill resumed from 21 June (see p. 1549).

Second Reading (Cognate Debate)

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (11.19 am): I move—

That the bills be now read a second time.

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.19 am): I rise to deliver this year's budget reply on behalf of the people of Queensland. The greatest gift of being a member of parliament is the ability to help people. To me, that is the job—to make Queensland better tomorrow than it is today. It is our job to listen to the stories of Queenslanders and do whatever we can to make their life easier. That is our challenge.

That is why I have placed such an emphasis on listening to real Queenslanders. We have listened to Queenslanders across our great state at health crisis town halls, in coffee shops, at crime forums, on the street, at small business round tables—in all corners of our communities. We listen to what they have to say when we are invited into their homes to sit at their tables. This is where you hear the real things Queenslanders care about. This is how I keep focused on issues that matter to them. This is how we rise to the challenges on their behalf. This is how we work for them.

When Queenslanders talk to me they talk about things like ambulance ramping, integrity issues, being stuck in traffic, being bounced around on rural roads that have fallen into disrepair. They talk to me about the housing crisis, youth crime and cost of living. They talk to me about having to rebuild their lives after yet another devastating flood or natural disaster, and the need for a helping hand to get back on their feet. They talk to me about the issues they care about and the Queensland they want. If you stop to talk to Queenslanders, they will tell you what matters to them, but you have to listen.

This is why the budget is so important. The budget is a chance for government to show Queenslanders they have listened. It is a chance to open the books and show Queenslanders they have been heard. It is a chance to reveal the true state of affairs and what will be done to make their lives a little easier. It is a chance to make Queensland better tomorrow than it is today. It is a chance to keep your promises.

Queenslanders will go on the journey if the government is up-front, open and transparent—if government is honest. Right now, Queenslanders can no longer trust this government. We heard from the Treasurer earlier this week about how good everything is going in Queensland. He would have you believe Queenslanders have never had it better. The Premier would have you believe the economy is thriving, the budget is glowing and Queensland families are applauding from afar. They may believe that in their skyscraper office, but it is not the experience of the Queenslanders that I speak to. Queenslanders are concerned about the future laid out before us—things like rising inflation and interest rates and things like job security; how will they pay for the life they want for their family? The Queenslanders I talk to talk about the next bill that is coming in the mail.

The Queensland economy is more than a set of convenient numbers. The economy and its strength must be about people. It must be about the experience of Queenslanders. A good budget demonstrates that the government has listened to the stories of Queenslanders and has charted a path that will make the lives of Queenslanders a little easier—to make Queensland better tomorrow than it is today.

On Tuesday, listening to the Treasurer, these were the thoughts foremost in my mind. Throughout the Treasurer's budget speech—and indeed listening to the Premier and her ministers over the ensuing days—one question kept gnawing at me. If the Palaszczuk Labor government says the economy is doing so well, why are so many Queenslanders doing it so tough? If the Palaszczuk Labor government says it is doing so well, why are Queenslanders concerned about the future? This budget unhinged the state government from the Queensland cart. The disconnect between power and people is gaping.

The government's increase in payroll tax will hit the hip pocket of every Queenslanders. It will impact the cost of almost every good and service, and we have to be up-front about that. Again, I ask: if the economy is doing so well, why is the government hitting Queenslanders with this new tax right in the middle of a full-blown cost-of-living crisis? The government told Queenslanders at the last election that it would not introduce new or increased taxes to pay for their plan. Was extra health and mental health funding not needed in October 2020? Let's be up-front: a tax is a tax and a promise is a promise.

The new payroll tax will impact Queenslanders who rely on industries like food, retail, construction—there are many more. Let's be up-front: this is a tax on Queenslanders and should have been foreshadowed with Queenslanders before the last election. The same goes for the other new taxes the Treasurer has announced on gaming and mining. The Treasurer knows full well that the cost of these taxes will be passed on to Queenslanders and for him to suggest otherwise is misleading.

The Treasurer deliberately misled Queenslanders before the last election and his only explanation was that we should have listened to what he did not say rather than what he did say. The Treasurer has broken the trust of Queenslanders and now he will not even face them. He has made

the lives of Queenslanders harder and it is too hard for him to admit it. Let's be honest: if Queenslanders could not believe his promise on no new taxes, why should they believe his budget promises now? The truth is that they cannot.

Queenslanders understand budgets sometimes mean we must make tough decisions, but you must be up-front with Queenslanders, especially during an election campaign. The Treasurer's denial over his broken promises have been something to behold. To suggest, despite being asked about increased taxes for business, the fact he did not use the word business in the response means that it is not a broken promise is just being slippery. The Treasurer crows about hand-picked numbers, but the Treasurer's trust deficit has shredded the credibility of this budget. Like the promises he breaks, the budget's ability to heal the crisis in health and in housing and to deliver transport for the future are not worth the paper they are written on. I promise you that Queenslanders know when they have been deceived, and they do not like that.

For the eighth year in a row, Queenslanders have heard the refrain: 'record health budget'. They have seen the Premier's social media channels pumping out shiny propaganda to build new medical facilities. Queenslanders have heard that story before. That is why Queenslanders know it takes more than record funding to heal the health crisis. It takes a plan and the ability to deliver it. If you listen to Queenslanders they know it is not about your record health budget, it is about your record on health.

Those on the front line—those doctors, nurses and allied health professionals—are reaching out to the LNP to say they are not seeing any of the additional funds promised each year. The money is not getting to them. They hear the glossy announcements, but all they see are dozens of ambulances ramped at hospitals filled with patients they cannot help. Again, if the Queensland economy is doing so well, why do almost one in two Queenslanders who need an ambo end up stuck on a ramp rather than getting the care they need in a hospital?

The additional hospitals the government said they were building last year turned out to be a pipedream. Under questioning, the Premier admitted they were only in the early planning stage. Last year's budget contained zero dollars—I repeat: zero dollars. It will be years before we see a sod-turning for facilities like the new hospital on the northern Gold Coast which will service a huge growth corridor, including those I represent in Broadwater. Already the area is short 500 beds—today. This only promises to deliver another 400 beds almost seven years into the future.

Even when funding is available Labor struggles to deliver health infrastructure. The sod was turned for the Cairns Hospital mental health unit in February 2022. That is the same month the state government promised it would open. Where is the apology to those desperately in need of care in the Far North? We have seen these health promises before and the complete inability to deliver them. Queenslanders could not trust the government to deliver then, why would they trust them to deliver now?

Let's be honest: Queensland Health is in crisis, but this crisis is not new. The health minister can blame COVID or Canberra or sick patients, but the truth is that under this government our health system has been in decline for over half a decade. While this government runs from responsibility on the health crisis, Queenslanders are collateral damage. They are the ones dying waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

Here are some numbers you will not see in this budget. Ambulance ramping when this government came to power was 15 per cent. Now it is 42 per cent. In every major adult hospital in the south-east it is now 50 per cent or above. In other words, odds are that you will sit in the back of an ambulance longer than clinically recommended. The Treasurer has made health promises in this budget. Even if the Treasurer is to be believed, this budget will not see one patient spend a night in a new hospital until late into this decade.

For seven years the Palaszczuk government have run our health system into the ground and now they are asking Queenslanders for another seven years before they fix it. Those opposite want you to believe that a Treasurer who has broken an election promise with each of the three budgets he has delivered this term and a government which has presided over the disintegration of the health system can be trusted to break character and deliver on a promise. The state government have broken promises in the health system for the last seven years and they demand we trust them now.

The number of patients on the elective surgery waitlist not seen on time has blown out from two per cent in 2015 to 23 per cent. Health matters to Queenslanders. The health system matters to Queenslanders. Keeping your promises matters to Queenslanders. The LNP opposition will continue to fight until Queenslanders get the health system they deserve.

The opposition has shone a light on the Queensland Health crisis. We have cut through the government's spin to show Queensland Health has been going downhill from the moment this government took office. The government has searched for a political solution to this issue, with some parts of the government even considering changing the way data is measured in an effort to make the problem go away.

The health minister has mocked our health crisis town hall meetings, which the shadow health minister Rob Bates arranges to hear from the patients and health professionals who are victims of the Queensland Health crisis. We heard from people like Jody Heywood, Olivia Keating and Janelle Oldfield who we met at Caboolture—victims of botched surgeries who still suffer today. They helped launch an investigation at that hospital. We heard from people like Brian and Graeme who we met at Ipswich who waited hours in pain in the ED. It is because of people like them that these town hall meetings will not stop. We will keep the spotlight on the health crisis impacting Queenslanders dealing with the state government's broken system.

I said when I became leader that we would be a constructive opposition. That is why we have already proposed a number of measures to improve the performance of Queensland Health. They include real-time data being accessible to patients and health professionals to help them make the best decisions for their situation; providing better resourcing for triaging in emergency departments to ensure patients are managed effectively and safely; allowing frontline clinicians the power to effectively run their hospitals using local expertise, putting them back in charge for the betterment of local people; and proper resourcing, investing in more beds with a plan to deliver them on time and on budget.

There is no chance a Queenslanders will spend a single night in any of the new hospitals announced for more than half a decade. Queenslanders afraid in the back of an ambo need help now. They need their government today, and their government did not deliver. I say to those opposite: listen to what Queenslanders are saying. Listen to the people who have held loved ones waiting for an ambo. Listen to people whose quality of life is deteriorating because they need surgery today. Listen to people who deserve a world-class health system. Listen to the common-sense solutions and, for the sake of Queenslanders, implement them.

Both in our cities and in the bush this government has form when it comes to stripping healthcare services. The sheer number of birthing services closed under Labor across rural and regional Queensland is a clearest indicator of that. It means babies are born on the side of a road. Not only is it utterly undignifying for the mums, but it is downright dangerous for them and their babies. I met Yvette Bracefield from Chinchilla a few months ago, alongside the new member for Callide, Bryson Head, who joins us in the gallery having just been declared moments ago with a six per cent swing away from the government! Yvette gave birth to beautiful baby Beatrix on the side of the Warrego Highway earlier this year because the Chinchilla birthing suite was not operational. Whilst precious Beatrix arrived safely, it is a miracle that she did. The neglect of regional and rural health facilities is a shameful record this government has overseen.

I want to address the issue of mental health—an issue which should be at the forefront of all of our minds in this place. It is important for this place to understand the context of announcements made in this budget. Last year experts and psychiatrists warned that Queensland's mental health system was on the brink of collapse. The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists pointed to the fact that our mental health system in Queensland was the most poorly funded in the nation. Everyone in this chamber wants to fix this problem. We all acknowledge it is complex.

As an opposition, we want to see exceptional care delivered to those Queenslanders with mental illness. We want to engage, empower and grow our mental health workforce. We want to learn from and implement new service models which have worked domestically and internationally. The parliamentary select committee had bipartisan support. The opposition hoped it would be used as a vehicle to unpack the very genuine problems across the mental health sector. Our members engaged in good faith. To see this very important discussion now be used to justify a new tax has undermined the importance of this work.

The Treasurer claims his budget was a budget for our times. If you listen to Queenslanders, you would know that the cost of living and the battle to keep a secure roof over your head is making times even harder. The Palaszczuk government says this is a budget for the times, but it is not the one Queenslanders needed in their hour of need.

There are Queenslanders who will have read or heard about this budget getting ready to bed down with their family for the night in a trailer or their car. How did we get here? It is a question those victims of the state government's failure to deliver on housing must be asking as they languish in the queue for public housing or struggle with astronomical rents and lack of rental housing—people like

Kim Calkin, who I met on the Gold Coast while her son performed magic tricks for the member for Theodore and the member for Everton, the shadow housing minister. Kim held a brave face as she explained why they were living out of their camper trailer. I am delighted to tell the House that Kim now has a home.

The reality is though that tonight thousands of Queenslanders are struggling to put a roof over their family's heads and they will not be so lucky. It was not the plan they had for their lives, but it is happening because this government has not planned properly for the future. In my budget reply 12 months ago I warned of the working homeless—a big issue coming on the horizon. Unfortunately, I stand here 12 months later and the state government has failed to act.

We are not here because of decisions made in this budget; we are here because of decisions that have not been made over the past seven years. This situation has not happened overnight. It has been a problem that has been allowed to develop over the past seven years.

The failure to unlock new land has locked Queenslanders out of their homes. The state government's failure to approve and bring more land to market as the population grows means the door is closing on the great Australian dream. Lot approvals have declined year on year. This places more demand on existing housing stock. Residential building approvals decreased across the state by close to 40 per cent between 2015 and 2020. At some point the supply was bound to run out, and now it has.

This failure to deliver and failure to plan over many years is the reason we face a full-blown housing crisis today. Those who have been fortunate to secure rental accommodation are paying more just to keep their homes. The rent keeps going up but record low vacancy rates mean they do not have any other option. They have to do without in other areas because the alternative is homelessness. Those people are asking: 'If the Palaszczuk government is going so well, why can't I put a roof over my head?'

If you listen to Queenslanders, now more than ever they want the security of a place to call home. Public housing data shows that between 2017 and 2021 the number of social housing bedrooms has grown by less than one per cent—less than one per cent. The state government has barely built a thousand new bedrooms. In the same time, the number of people on the waiting list has increased by 20,665. That is a 70 per cent increase. Over 50,000 vulnerable Queenslanders are now on the waiting list, and that number will keep on rising.

Labor's response in last year's budget was to create a billion dollar housing fund. We saw the headline—\$1 billion. That fund did not contain a billion dollars. It was a fraud. Queenslanders were sold a big wallet that had nothing in it. It was a hollow promise made to people in need—a hoax—

Mr Janetzki: A cruel hoax.

Mr CRISAFULLI:—a cruel hoax for families on the edge. Instead of putting Queenslanders in homes, the budget drives home one fact: the state government cannot be trusted on housing. This budget is a failure when it comes to investing in housing. To not introduce one single new cent or home in this subject is tin eared. It illustrates a government that has lost interest in fighting for vulnerable Queenslanders looking for a home. The lack of interest is why housing costs are going up. It is why more families face huge cost-of-living pressures and it is why more families are becoming homeless.

If you listen to Queenslanders you will know the pressure that huge increases in energy bills are placing on their lives. But we were told it would not be this way. The government told us that the delays at Callide would not impact Queenslanders. They were wrong. The power generators and distribution networks are in public hands and operate under the control of a minister. Queenslanders can rightly ask, 'If the economy is doing so well and the government is in charge of energy generation, why is my energy bill so high?' We know there are other factors at play in the energy crisis, and let's be open about that, but failures by government mean that electricity prices are higher than they ought to be.

Over many years government owned energy corporations have been used as cash cows. They have done this by borrowing money and paying it back to governments through higher dividends. Queensland's electricity generators currently have more than five times as much debt as they did when this government was elected. The costs from these borrowings are passed straight on to consumers, and that is Queenslanders—Queenslanders who are right now unable to turn on their heaters in winter because they cannot afford it. In Queensland's hour of need, the state government chose to keep milking energy generators for profit while Queenslanders wondered how they could keep the lights on.

The shadow energy minister and member for Condamine has repeatedly asked the government to detail their plans to address future energy needs. On every occasion they have failed. This budget provided an opportunity for the government to chart Queensland's way forward—a plan. I have constantly said that said reliability and affordability must be at the centre of that plan. The government's failure to act is yet another missed opportunity that will cost Queenslanders more.

In my first budget reply I warned that less favourable borrowing conditions would seriously limit the state's ability to respond to future economic shocks. Now, after seeing this budget the situation has grown far more serious. Despite the government crowing about their net operating surplus, the fiscal deficit remains greater than \$2 billion this financial year and will be more than \$5 billion next financial year. That means the government must borrow billions of dollars in an era of rising interest rates. Debt is now \$110 billion. It will balloon to \$129 billion over the forwards. This is up 80 per cent since 2015.

As all Queenslanders know, when you have more debt you pay more interest. Household budgets are already feeling the pinch of higher interest payments, and the state government is no different. Interest payments will almost double over the forwards to \$2.9 billion every year. Despite a \$10 billion revenue windfall, we are still taking on billions more in debt. Debt and interest are taking their toll on the Queensland budget, and as always Queenslanders are the ones who have to bear the consequences: more taxes, more debt and poorer frontline services. This is a budget of missed opportunities.

If you listen to Queenslanders you will know the cost that clogged roads are having on our state. Congestion is stifling the economy and our great lifestyle. Congestion costs time, congestion costs money, congestion costs opportunity. Traffic congestion means it is harder for a plumber to get to your home to fix a burst pipe. Traffic congestion means it takes longer and is more expensive to get fresh produce to your local shopping centre, which drives up the price. Traffic congestion means it is harder for your business to be competitive, meaning more jobs are lost overseas. These are real impacts on the budgets of Queenslanders because they cannot properly plan and deliver transport infrastructure.

Infrastructure projects designed to bust congestion ahead of population growth are the key to an awesome future that we must build on time and on budget. The reality is that this government has not planned our transport network for growing demand. The poor execution of transport projects has resulted in massive cost blowouts that now run into the billions of dollars. Chronic infrastructure blowouts are becoming the legacy of this government. Let me remind the House of a few. Cross River Rail was promised to be open to passengers in 2024; now it is 2025. The government claims it cost \$5.4 billion—

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Miller.

Mr CRISAFULLI:—but hidden in the budget is a number closer to \$7.4 billion. Many of the costs remain a mystery with deals under a commercial-in-confidence cloak of secrecy. Construction of stage 1 of the Coomera Connector was meant to start in mid-2021. It did not—

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Miller is warned under the standing orders.

Mr CRISAFULLI:—and the budget has blown out by a whopping \$600 million. The promised six lanes have been slashed to four. We are getting less for more. The list goes on. The Cairns Ring Road project was meant to run from the CBD to Smithfield. Instead, the people of Cairns will only get a five-kilometre section from James Street to the Barron River bridge—less than half of what they were promised. The Gold Coast Light Rail budget has blown out by half a billion dollars. Before the 2020 election we were told this project was going to get underway by Christmas 2020. Major works are 18 months behind schedule. Blowouts on one project mean that Queenslanders miss out elsewhere. That is why good planning matters.

More promises were never delivered—projects like the replacement of the GS Bond Bridge which the member for Nanango has championed. It seems that every time I speak to the member for Coomera he is raising his community's concern about exit 38 on the M1. Despite the LNP on the Sunshine Coast securing a commitment from the previous federal government to fund 50 per cent of the Beerwah to Caloundra to Kawana to Maroochydore passenger rail line, the state government has refused to commit to this region-shaping transport project. Today I announce that a government I lead will.

What sort of government does not lock in a funding commitment for a vital project because it came from the wrong political colour in Canberra? Again, as the Treasurer spoke on Tuesday I could only think: if the Queensland economy is doing so well, if the infrastructure budget is so good, why are so many projects running late and over budget? Why are more Queenslanders sitting in more traffic than ever before or bouncing over dodgy rural roads?

The trouble for Queenslanders is that the government is hamstrung by its own financial ineptitude. There is no respect for taxpayers' money. The Palaszczuk government has wasted billions, and now real money that could have been used to ease cost-of-living pressures trickles down the drain.

Let me give an example: \$200 million is the reported cost for the one-year lease of the Wellcamp quarantine facility. For \$200 million the government could have halved public transport fares. It could have saved people in the Caloundra electorate who travel daily from Nambour station to the Brisbane CBD over \$2,600 over the year. The member for Aspley may be interested to know his residents could have saved over \$780 during the same period. If you are one of those from the Gaven electorate who travels from Helensvale to Brisbane daily your saving could have been over \$2,000 per year.

That is the real cost-of-living savings that Labor cannot deliver because of the money that was wasted at Wellcamp. As the Deputy Leader of the Opposition states, the W in Wellcamp stands for waste. The budget papers should reveal the cost of this debacle and what is budgeted for the future. What will happen when the lease expires early next year? Will we continue to throw good money after bad? An honest budget would show that. Instead, Queenslanders are left with a Budget Paper stamped with 'commercial in confidence' over that section.

The issues that Queenslanders face are not because of decisions made in this budget: they are because of plans that were not put in place over seven years ago. This government has demonstrated for more than half a decade that it does not plan for the future. The costs of poor planning are now spreading their tentacles across the state and their grip is tightening around the Queensland lifestyle we have to protect. The lack of proper planning is not just a problem for transport infrastructure. Water security, the delivery of renewables, forestry, resources—no matter which area you talk about, a failure to plan drives up prices for end users, destroys employment opportunities and results in missed opportunities.

The Olympics will present a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all of Queensland if we do it right. When the idea of bidding for the Olympic Games was first proposed by the South-East Queensland Council of Mayors it was seen as the catalyst for the delivery of infrastructure needed for the significant population growth we will experience over the next 20 years. The LNP supports this objective. Instead of rolling out bitumen, the Labor government sees the Olympic Games as an opportunity to roll out the red carpet. To them, it is a big self-promotion opportunity. Where is a 20-year tourism plan centred on driving new opportunities before, during and after the Olympics?

Where is the plan for ecotourism opportunities like Wangetti Trail, which again suffers in this budget from chronic delays and underspend year on year? Where is the plan showing what infrastructure we need to deliver over the next decade? We cannot build everything in the last 24 hours before the cauldron is lit. We need to plan, to sequence, and deliver this infrastructure. If we do not, we risk missing the opportunity to deliver a lasting legacy for Queensland.

Instead, this budget contains reannounced projects where the only new aspect is an increased price tag. Where are the local transport upgrades around the athletes village and the event sites that should have been in this budget? These must be planned here and now. Failure to plan is not an option. We cannot afford to squander a once-in-a-generation opportunity, but unfortunately the first chapter of the Olympic story is off the pace.

This budget was a test for the Palaszczuk government—to prove it can be trusted with the future of our state and delivering infrastructure for it. Just last week, former premier Peter Beattie spoke of the perils of a government without a vision for the future. He spoke of a lack of an innovation agenda. This could be industries like agriculture. This budget is a missed opportunity for Queensland's farmers who deserve a plan to be at the cutting edge of innovation. Like the shadow minister for agriculture and member for Gympie says, Queensland farmers deserve access to the latest technology that improves on-farm productivity and reduces environmental impacts. Instead, savage cuts to the department will see industry-led best practice management programs thrown in a scrapheap.

Where in this budget is the next phase of Advance Queensland? Has it been hidden away so it will not look like the Premier is scrambling to follow the advice of a Labor luminary? Where is work to protect our cybersecurity—a real risk for government and the privacy of Queenslanders? In the lead-up to the 2032 games, we have an unprecedented opportunity to supercharge innovation, and that work needs to start right now. Unfortunately, even with the Olympics on the horizon, the government has stalled and Queenslanders know why. Poor planning has taken the wind from the government's sails, but it is the integrity crisis that has broken its compass.

I will say one thing about this budget: it represents the Palaszczuk government perfectly. The tricky nature is a window into the soul of this government. They have given up on promoting any semblance of openness and transparency. The endless stream of integrity issues demonstrates a wideranging commission of inquiry into corruption in the Queensland government is vital.

The rotten stench of corruption is back in Queensland. Money is being exchanged for favourable decisions. Today, instead of using brown paper bags, money and decisions flow at the will of Labor Party aligned lobbyists who cast their dark shadows on the halls of 1 William Street. Queenslanders have been shocked, as almost every day a new crisis rocks this government. Labor lobbyists ran the Palaszczuk government's re-election and now they want their rewards returned. Those lobbyists secure large government contracts for clients, all behind closed doors. Those lobbyists now pay sizeable donations to the Labor Party, securing access and gaining favourable decisions at an alarming rate.

The allegations mount by the day: clients of those Labor lobbyists getting favourable decisions from the government; Queenslanders watch the Premier delivering statements about lobbyists, while her political party line their pockets, reaping the rewards of the system they oversee—you know it is bad when a union powerbroker tells the Premier enough is enough; taxpayers funding Jackie Trad's legal action to keep a CCC report secret—what have they got to hide?—and, just hours ago, MPs not showing up to work, all in a bid to hide the truth about the integrity crisis gripping this government; the former state archivist's annual reports to parliament and reports into the mangocube saga altered to remove information damaging to this government; public servants afraid to give fearless and frank advice; and do not forget the raid on the Office of the Integrity Commissioner.

When will we find out what was on that laptop and who stood to gain from the material that was deleted? A government that believes it is okay to see the Office of the Integrity Commissioner raided is a government that has zero respect for integrity and accountability. A line was crossed that day and the Palaszczuk government drifts further away from it every day, and we saw that again this morning. Integrity is dead in Queensland. This government shows no interest in reviving it. An LNP government will have a dedicated minister for integrity in the member for Maroochydore. From opposition, as Queenslanders have seen, we are fighting to return integrity, transparency, honesty and openness to the halls of power.

When I first became opposition leader, I said I would always chart an alternate path for the state. Where I have seen the government heading in the wrong direction, I have used my position to call this out—just as we did during the height of the pandemic when this government repeatedly refused to provide small and family businesses with financial support; just as we did when a little boy with cerebral palsy named Lenny was stranded over the border, unable to get an exemption—we got him home; just as we did for little Memphis, stuck interstate for two months—we got him home; just as the member for Currumbin did when the government refused to fund screening for spinal muscular atrophy for newborns. Children interstate were receiving this life-saving test; it is wonderful that Queensland kids now will.

Our constant pressure has also brought about many investigations and reviews, but it is worth noting the government pushed back against every single suggestion there was a problem. We have seen the commission of inquiry relating to the CCC; the QBCC governance review; the Coaldrake review of culture and accountability in the public sector; the review of the Public Records Act; the CCC laptop investigation; the CCC lobbying inquiry; and the commission of inquiry into DNA testing in Queensland. For months, the opposition was ridiculed by the Minister for Health for demanding the inquiry into the forensic lab. We kept on pushing because we recognised how serious the situation was. Earlier this year, the member for Whitsunday gave a powerful speech about this topic in this House. She explained why this is so important. The member gave voice to an unnamed rape victim and detailed the struggles of reporting an incident only to be told there was no evidence. No evidence means no justice.

To know there are victims who will have a shot at justice is a special feeling. I congratulate the families of victims, especially Vicki and Shannah Blackburn, who never gave up, and Hedley Thomas, who never stopped telling their stories. However, I remain concerned this government is not taking the issue seriously. The opposition can find no allocation in this budget for the commission of inquiry, let alone money to implement any recommendations or money for the additional resources that will be needed to restore the credibility of the centre.

When you put all these integrity fires together, then all these investigations and all these inquiries feel like a tattered patchwork holding back the truth from Queenslanders—a truth that will be brought into light through a royal commission into the Palaszczuk government's integrity crisis. The more the state government seeks to dodge the truth, the louder the calls grow for a royal commission—and so will our calls for the government to keep Queenslanders safe today, tomorrow and into the future.

Youth crime is out of control. In this budget, the number of full-time police who will be on the streets has increased by just five. That is right—five. Here is a fact that will not shock Queenslanders. While there has been an increase of only five new police officers, the Palaszczuk government now has

1,067 staff in communications, media and marketing. That is an increase of seven. This tells you everything you need to know about this government. They have hired more spinners to protect their image than police to protect Queenslanders.

Within Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, the government not only did not meet its FTE target; it has reduced it by one over the past 12 months. For Corrective Services staff, jails are overcrowded at 125 per cent, yet FTEs have dropped by two since the last budget. This government is failing those who keep us safe. An LNP government will provide the support and resources for our emergency services that they need to do their job. We must—Queenslanders deserve this.

Kate Leadbetter, Matt Field and their unborn child, Miles, were not kept safe. They were killed when hit by a stolen car while they were out for a walk last year. Lives lost. Parents that will never be. A baby's cry that will never be heard. We hoped that this senseless loss would finally force changes to address juvenile crime problems and deliver results that plague communities across the state. Sadly, it has not. Cars are still getting stolen at record levels. Homes and business invasions continue to rise. Kids continue to get in trouble without consequences. This government's much vaunted GPS tracker trial has been a failure, with just three devices fitted. None are out in the community at the moment.

Sadly, as a reflection of a third-term government that is out of ideas, this budget provides no new initiatives to deal with this problem. We need to get these kids back on the right track. The member for Burdekin and shadow police minister will continue to prosecute that. We need to introduce breach of bail as an offence.

The need for increased economic security for women is not a new concept, neither is the need to be safe at home, in the workplace or respected as equal members of our community. However, as a community, a state and a nation, we still have a long way to go. We have failed too many women and we must do better. Too often these statements which should be unquestionable—to be safe, to be respected, to be equal—are questioned, ridiculed or often given lip-service. I cannot speak on the experience of disappointment, frustration, hurt and anger that this must cause, but my hope is to be Premier of this state, and that means I want to lead all Queenslanders, men and women, to a future that is safe, fair, respectful and full of hope for everyone.

The reality for women in our state is Queensland has the second worst gender pay gap in the country of 15.6 per cent, higher than the national average of 13.8 per cent. While New South Wales improved their gap from 13.4 per cent in November 2020 to 12 per cent in November 2021, ours went up to 15.6 per cent. The women's participation rate is lagging 63.7 per cent to men's 70.9 per cent. I hoped this budget would do more. In New South Wales, we have seen a massive injection of funding that is practical and targeted to women. There is a \$32 million grants program to provide \$5,000 payments to women to cover the cost of technology, wardrobe and training needs when returning to work. They have over \$30 million to specifically support women in business, from supporting start-ups to supporting women grow their business. They have announced \$5 billion over the next 10 years for child care, including \$775 million in the next four years. They are looking at practical, real solutions to overcome the barriers to women returning to work. This is the type of real action we need on women's economic security and the type this parliament should be driving forward.

While the pandemic impacted women's employment more than men, we are at a point of opportunity. Employers have seen the potential of flexible work arrangements and this opens the door for more opportunities. Flexible work makes it more possible for a woman to re-enter and stay in the workforce consistently. That is because not only can they work more flexibly but also their partners can, too, helping to equalise the parenting load while allowing both to go back to work. We need to be encouraging and incentivising these opportunities for employers and we will reap the benefits for all.

This budget does not do enough for women. It does not give real, practical and specific solutions to provide more opportunities and support for women in what is needed. Most of the measures under economic security in the Women's Budget Statement are not just for women. In fact, if you total the amount for the specific projects that are for women's economic security, you barely crack \$1 million. It is not good enough. We need the talk backed up with action because quality matters. Today I announce that an LNP government will have a dedicated minister for women's economic security in the cabinet. She will be part of a three-person economic team joined by Treasury and Finance. Two will be women.

The child safety system in Queensland is broken. Children known to Child Safety have almost twice the mortality rate of all children in Queensland. They are three times as likely to die from suicide, fatal assault and neglect. In the last financial year, 53 children known to Child Safety died. Put simply, children known to Child Safety are less safe than those outside the system. Right now in Queensland, children are being taken from safe foster families—for some, the only families they have ever known—and returned to unsafe domestic situations where they are forced to face situations that no child should

ever go through. We have not kept them safe. Talk to the members for Whitsundays, Mudgeeraba, Burnett, Southport, Ninderry, Lockyer, Burdekin, Currumbin and Nanango. They share a lifetime of professions protecting vulnerable children. They will relay to you the horror stories they have heard from foster families who have seen children destroyed as a result of bad decisions made by a bad system which is supposed to keep them safe. The LNP is trying to shine a spotlight on these child safety issues. We are going to ensure these kids are safe. It is happening in all parts of Queensland and it cannot be ignored.

We have a long way to go in education and the budget has revealed not a single outcome target was achieved across reading, writing and numeracy through years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The shadow education minister and member for Moggill has repeatedly spoken about the absence of a comprehensive plan from the state government to deal with this steady decline. Good governments plan for the future. We welcome the \$65 million for land acquisition this financial year for new schools. We will be mounting a case to reverse the absence of funding in the forwards.

I said when I became Leader of the Opposition that I would always give credit where it is due and so I place on the record my acknowledgement of the \$2.1 billion, 10-year transition strategy for the waste levy. Without this, local governments face the real prospect of higher costs and worsening environmental outcomes for an industry that can create jobs and deliver wins for the environment. I believe history will judge this government for its poor record on environmental management. This government hides behind announcements and the things it promises, but on the environment, the actions tell the real story. Throughout our great state, we have some of the most pristine rainforests, beaches, bushlands, islands, parks, gorges, river systems and deserts. We need to do everything we can to conserve our environment. This will not happen if the government is solely focused on announcements, not actions. We will only see protection through genuine action by working with regional Queenslanders.

Queensland has the lowest percentage of conservation in the nation. In 2015, the state government set a long-term target of protecting 17 per cent of our state. No-one could have imagined how long-term that target would be. As the shadow environment minister and member for Bonney has pointed out, in the past two budgets we have seen the government's actions expand the state by 0.1 per cent each year. This year we have actually gone backwards. We have seen chronic underinvestment in the vital areas from the government, so the LNP supports the new funding of \$250 million. However, being held centrally there is no indication of what allocation that is per year. We cannot have another announcement without follow-up. Funds must flow immediately. We also fear that proper management of these areas, especially national parks, has been put aside. Expansion of our conservation area must go hand in hand with better management. We must conserve the biodiversity of Queensland. That means we need to do more to manage out-of-control weeds, feral pests and a lack of bushfire mitigation. Conservation of our environment must be more than talk; there must be outcomes.

In February this year, the status of koalas was changed from vulnerable to endangered in Queensland. We need swift action to ensure they survive. The increased funding is welcomed. We now need a conservation plan in partnership with local councils and conservation groups to get urgent action.

Just on partnering with local government, instead of fostering strong partnerships, the state government has cut several key funding programs, including \$8 million from the Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure Program. It is one thing to talk about closing the gap, but programs like this matter. In my own electorate of Broadwater, a key project that the electorate needs is the duplication of the Jabiru Island bridges. This budget confirms more than \$5 million in delayed funding to strengthen the existing bridge. I continue to welcome this funding, but we must begin planning to duplicate what is a congested area in the northern Gold Coast. We must begin planning and delivering a second crossing.


It is also time to upgrade learning facilities at Coombabah and Biggera Waters state schools. I am heartened by the \$101,000 for minor works at my local schools. I will continue to advocate for funds to go towards upgrading the damaged school notice board at Coombabah State School. I thank Minister Grace for her availability in discussing needs like this for my community.

Queenslanders have a right to feel ripped off by the government because we are not getting what we were promised. The government promised Queenslanders would have a place in a Queensland hospital. Instead, we see growing waiting lists and ambulance ramping rates—the worst in the nation. The government promised no new taxes. They delivered three. The government promised good management. We have had seven years of waste, inaction and poor delivery of infrastructure resulting in higher cost-of-living pressures. The government promised to keep us safe and yet we face the

prospect of murderers and rapists walking free because of a forensic services lab that does not work. The government promised they would act with integrity. Laptops have been taken and wiped. Public servants have been silenced. There is special access for Labor aligned lobbyists and their clients and public money is being funnelled back to the Labor Party and unions. This is the sad reality of Queensland in 2022.

Queenslanders expect the budget to be a clear and honest account of the books, a straight-down-the-line conversation with Queenslanders outlining the government's economic plan. What they received was a budget underwritten by broken promises and a plan that delivers no new hospitals for another two elections.

The Treasurer has made a virtue of calling this a 'typical Labor budget'. The Labor government is caught up in an integrity crisis. The Labor government is caught up in a health crisis. The Labor government is caught up in a housing crisis. When the Treasurer calls this a 'typical Labor budget', for the first time this week he is telling the truth.

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (12.10 pm): There is an hour of our lives none of us will get back.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Members, please leave the chamber quietly if you are doing so as a courtesy to the Deputy Premier.

Dr MILES: I am left feeling for the poor folk who watched live online on the Leader of the Opposition's Twitter feed—all three of them. Actually, I guess I was one of them, so all two of them. For the House's interest, 4,100 people tuned in to the Premier's ministerial statements this morning.

I rise to make a contribution to the Appropriation Bill 2022 and highlight some of the key initiatives supported across my portfolio and my electorate. Governing is about choices and with the choices you make you demonstrate your priorities. What the Leader of the Opposition has just done in his reply speech is demonstrate that Queenslanders are not the LNP's priority. For all their talk about health; after all of those press conferences criticising our hospitals, our health workers and our health response; for all those times they used the misery of ill Queenslanders for political theatre here and around the state, health is not a priority for the opposition. Health is just a political football for them.

He talked about caring, but they do not really care about the health and safety of Queenslanders; they never did. They did not while in government when they sacked all those nurses and fought with the doctors; they did not during the pandemic when they backed Scott Morrison and criticised our health response; and they certainly do not now.

They talk about wanting new and upgraded hospitals, but then the Leader of the Opposition comes in here and returns to type. He gets his speech notes written, authorised and sent to him by the QIRC; he looks at them long enough to take a glamour pick for his Twitter feed and comes into the parliament and speaks for the multinational coal companies. He chooses them—those coal companies—over nurses working in regional Queensland hospitals, nurses who deserve to work in new and upgraded facilities after everything they have done for Queenslanders.

He speaks for the top one per cent of big business—the biggest businesses—and not for Queenslanders with family members suffering from mental illness. He backs those biggest businesses over the majority of businesses who will get a cut in payroll tax. He did not support that. He did not speak for the small and medium businesses supposedly represented by those opposite; he backs the multinational, online betting agencies making hundreds of millions of dollars without contributing their fair share to our state. He has chosen his mates over Queenslanders and over building new hospitals for Queenslanders, especially in regional Queensland.

This Health and Hospitals Plan is the plan Queensland needs and this budget is what funds it. You cannot support the hospitals and oppose the revenue. The \$22.36 billion operating budget for health will deliver the emergency care, elective care, specialist appointments and preventative health care Queenslanders need. It will employ more doctors, nurses, ambos and health professionals. The \$9.785 billion capital budget will build 2,509 extra beds in addition to the 869 being delivered and the 1,350 we have already opened since we came to government.

They are all hospital beds that would not exist right now if the LNP had been elected. It is a fact that the Leader of the Opposition conveniently ignores. Every single performance statistic cited by him would be much worse under the LNP. They planned no new hospitals or major expansions while in office. They committed to no new hospitals or major expansions at subsequent elections. They only

opened and took credit for hospitals planned by previous Labor governments. There were no major expansions or new hospitals planned in 2015. Now they oppose the measures that will fund those new hospitals we will deliver through this budget.

They cannot have it both ways. Queenslanders will not be conned by the member for Broadwater. Opposing the revenue measures in this budget means opposing the new hospitals funded by it. They cannot have it both ways. It means opposing the new hospital at Bundaberg. What will the member for Burnett say about that? It means cutting the new hospital in Toowoomba. Will the member for Toowoomba North stand up for that new hospital? What about all those Gold Coast MPs? Will they fight for the new Coomera Hospital, or will they cop cutting it to keep the QIRC happy? I know the member for Gaven supports that hospital. Is she the only Gold Coast MP who will support a new hospital there?

Regional Queenslanders deserve the hospitals this budget funds. They deserve the hospitals in the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan: in Bamaga, Pormpuraaw, Thursday Island, Cairns, Townsville, Cow Bay, Windorah, Mackay, Moranbah, Sarina, Blackwater and Rockhampton. Right across the state Queenslanders deserve those hospitals and they deserve the funds and services to support their family members suffering from mental illness—almost the most heartless thing the Leader of the Opposition opposed in his speech. They deserve representatives who will choose them over big business and who will build hospitals instead of sacking nurses.

After the member for Broadwater's speech, they deserve a lot better than the Leader of the Opposition, although I hesitate to call him that; he is no leader at all. He is just a puppet for his mates in the coal industry. He demonstrated he is too lazy to even read the budget. If he had, he would know that we are suspending GOC dividends this year, allowing those GOCs to reinvest those dividends—reinvestments that would not be possible if those opposite had sold off those GOCs. His ignorance underlines his laziness. He let the QIRC do his homework for him.

I now turn to my portfolio budget. I would like to take members back to 1994. Wayne Goss was premier, Paul Keating was prime minister and Jim Soorley was Brisbane's lord mayor. In my turf, the Moreton Bay City Council was still 14 years away from being formed out of the merger of Redcliffe, Pine Rivers and Caboolture. The Petrie Mill was an operating paper mill—nobody ever imagined that it could one day be a university. Queenslanders were fixated with the Skase chase in Spain and the efforts to bring him home for prosecution. We were all tuned in, watching the 1994-95 Queensland cricket team win their first ever Sheffield Shield. We watched, frozen with excitement, as the 40,000-strong Maroons crowd watched the decider at Lang Park, where Mal Meninga was denied the farewell match he deserved. Of course, he went on to win the Winfield Cup premiership with the Canberra Raiders. This was 1994. The iPhone was still 13 years away and I was finishing just high school.

Why is 1994 so relevant? Well, 1994 was the last time interstate migration into Queensland was as strong as it is now. Population data released recently by the Statistician's Office, showed that net interstate migration to Queensland grew by 40,000 in the year to September 2021—the largest increase in 27 years, since 1994. Why wouldn't people move to Queensland? Throughout this budget the government is providing infrastructure and services not just to meet the needs of the 5.2 million Queenslanders already living here but also for our future Queenslanders. It is crucial that Queensland has the housing, infrastructure and services to cater for this increase, especially when this growth gains momentum as we head towards the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

I am pleased to advise the House that infrastructure for a growing state is again the cornerstone of this budget across my portfolio, with \$1.267 billion allocated for a range of capital projects and grants supporting communities around the state. Almost \$350 million has been allocated for capital purchases and capital grants for my department. A further \$163 million has been provided to EDQ and \$10 million has been allocated for South Bank Corporation capital works. The QRA will continue its important work of supporting Queenslanders, with \$704.5 million to support disaster-hit communities.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech is incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

Last week I was in Japan and met with a number of leading renewable energy organisations and our hosts were especially excited to see the clean energy work Queensland is doing, especially in the field of green hydrogen.

I was able to highlight the significant investment the government and private sector are making in this area.

Growing a thriving commercial scale renewable hydrogen ecosystem will not only power more jobs in more industries in Queensland but will also allow us to take advantage of the strong demand from markets around the world.

I was able to point to a number of innovative projects that have been supported through the government's \$35 million Hydrogen Industry Development Fund, including the recent announcement that up to \$5 million could see Gladstone home to the first renewable hydrogen powered passenger ferries.

This Budget continues to support Queensland's growing renewable energy sector.

It also includes a boost for Queensland's battery manufacturing sector with up to \$15 million to scale up the National Battery Testing Centre, at Banyo on Brisbane's northside.

This government aims to position Queensland as Australia's gateway for battery innovation.

The development of a responsible battery industry is paramount to Australia's carbon-reduction efforts.

Mr Speaker, the Budget will see the continuation of popular programs such as the regionally-focused Works for Queensland and the Resources Communities Infrastructure Fund.

As well as other targeted programs designed to address the surging growth in South East Queensland.

\$200 million has been allocated over three years to address housing land supply challenges in the South East.

Almost 50,000 residential lots are being unlocked in South East Queensland since the 2020 State election, thanks largely to targeted co-investment from the government.

The 2022-23 Budget also includes \$88.2 million as part of the \$1 billion Works for Queensland program to support councils in regional Queensland to undertake job-creating infrastructure works.

There's also \$46 million for the Resources Community Infrastructure Fund to support the post-COVID recovery of regional communities.

There's \$36.1 million for the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program which provides funding for priority infrastructure and to deliver projects that will enhance sustainable and liveable communities.

\$24.8 million will go towards the \$200 million South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program to fast track South East Queensland councils' investment in new infrastructure and community assets that creates jobs and delivers economic stimulus.

And there's \$22.3 million as part of the \$120 million Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure Program to support Indigenous councils to implement projects and infrastructure works relating to critical water, wastewater and solid waste assets, and provide a basis for the long-term strategic management of essential assets.

Economic Development Queensland will deliver \$48.7 million for the development of the Gladstone State Development Area, \$35.8 million for the urban renewal development at Northshore Hamilton, \$20.0 million for the development of the Sunshine Coast Industrial Park, and \$15.8 million for the development of the Yeronga Priority Development Area.

There's also \$13.9 million for the development of the Currumbin Eco-Parkland, and \$9.7 million for the development of the Oxley Priority Development Area.

Other key portfolio priorities in the Budget include \$741 million over 3 years under the Resilience Residential Recovery Package to support Queensland homeowners to improve the resilience of residential property following significant flood events this disaster season.

We're also delivering additional funding of \$1.1 billion over 4 years under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements to support a range of recovery and resilience projects.

A commitment of \$15.5 million over 5 years will allow the ongoing implementation of The Spit Master Plan to ensure the revitalisation of The Spit on the Gold Coast.

And we will continue delivering the \$3.34 billion Queensland Jobs Fund, the Industry Partnership Program and associated industry development grant programs for sectors such as hydrogen, defence and aerospace and resource recovery.

Murrumba

Mr Speaker, in 1994 my electorate of Murrumba was radically different too.

Vast swathes of the electorate and the surrounding area simply didn't exist. The land was undeveloped, the homes not yet designed, some of the suburbs were basically empty.

But since 1994 our community has grown up, being one of Queensland's fastest growing areas even before this pandemic.

The same interstate migration I spoke of earlier that has placed enormous pressure across Queensland, is being felt especially in Murrumba.

With the region booming it's critical that the government invest in public services and give every resident every opportunity to succeed.

As we continue Queensland's plan for economic recovery we're investing in Queenslanders and creating good, local jobs. This budget will support around 2,600 jobs in Moreton Bay alone, building the infrastructure our region needs.

Mr Speaker, the Palaszczuk Government has always put the health of Queenslanders first, and this budget continues our proud record of health investment.

Mr Speaker, in beautiful Moreton Bay we're delivering nearly \$400 million to upgrade Caboolture Hospital, bringing more services and more beds online.

Redcliffe Hospital will get a dedicated paediatric department, keeping some of the region's sickest children closer to home when they need care.

The Pine Rivers Satellite Hospital is on track, with more money in this year's budget to deliver it.

It will join the other two Satellite Hospitals in Moreton Bay as a critical part of our health system, bringing more services to closer to home for people in Moreton Bay.

In Dakabin the Palaszczuk Government will deliver the bulk of the funding for the Dakabin Family and Community Place this year.

We're building more learning spaces at Kallangur State School, as part of the Palaszczuk Government's plan to provide the best possible start for every Queensland student.

We're delivering on our election commitment to build a new fire station in North Lakes, with funding to commence construction of the Moreton Bay Central Fire and Rescue Station in this year's budget.


Every Queenslanders deserves a roof over their head, and a safe place to call home.

This year's budget will ease the pressure on housing, delivering \$42.9 million to expand and improve social housing across Moreton Bay.

Queensland has a plan for economic recovery, and as we come out of this pandemic it is critical we stick to it.

This year's budget continues the hard work the Palaszczuk Government's already done, and puts us on track to emerge and recover from the pandemic stronger than ever.

Mr Speaker, I commend this Bill to the House.

 **Mr JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (12.22 pm): I believe budget speeches for treasurers and shadow treasurers to be a time to reflect a little more deeply on the economic environment in which we find ourselves. That is why I will leave others to more fulsomely critique the Treasurer's intellectual sophistry in relation to new and increased taxes. Let me say this: that the Treasurer repeatedly made a statement for profound political advantage to win an election campaign—there can be no more profound political advantage—is abundantly obvious. Now he is clearly, brazenly and repeatedly denying the truth of something that is apparent to every Queenslanders. In doing so, we see evidenced again why so many people hold politicians in such contempt.

I turn now to the truth of the economic environment in which we find ourselves. There are some good headline economic numbers; I would never seek to deny that fact. Jobs growth is strong although it is underpinned by part-time jobs, not full-time jobs. We know that economies grow and develop not quarter to quarter but over years and decades. When the growth rates the government crows about are contextualised, it is easy to see just how many opportunities have been squandered by years of more Labor debt and taxes, wasteful spending and the wrong priorities.

We see good economic growth projected over the forwards but, unfortunately, it does little to address the fact that under this government—compared to the Australian economy—it has continued to stagnate at around 18½ per cent with a downward wobble. When you dig deeper, you find that private sector drivers of economic growth have declined from four times the strength of public sector drivers to roughly equal strength, averaged out over time. In other words, this government has left Queensland increasingly dependent on state and especially federal government spending, not the prosperity-generating private sector.

What would power Queensland's economy is the entrepreneurship that was displayed by successive governments for decades prior to this one in competing for private business investment. That is perhaps the most disappointing missed opportunity of them all. When the Palaszczuk government came to office, Queensland was attracting almost 30 per cent of Australian private business investment, a record that had taken slow and hard work over decades of successive governments—coalition and Labor—to achieve. As of the last state accounts, it languishes below 20 per cent—down a third.

As I said earlier, we welcome the good headline jobs and growth indicators in the budget, but they do not come close to redressing the years of squandered opportunities to maintain, let alone consolidate, a powerhouse private sector in Queensland. There is not in this budget a Labor policy platform that comes close to remedying the last seven years. We need a root-and-branch review of the regulatory environment, not a half-hearted promise to work with the Small Business Commissioner. We need a clear plan to get Queenslanders to hospital on time, let alone a plan to power towards world-class service delivery—service delivery that is so bad that an agency reporting to the Treasurer cannot even deliver a letter to the right address.

Rather, we have more wasteful spending, we have more debt and taxes and we have the wrong priorities. They abound everywhere. Last term, wasteful spending was limited to fat dog apps, hospital name changes and abandoned IT projects. This term, Labor has spent \$200 million for 1,000 beds at the Wellcamp quarantine facility, but not one of them will address homelessness or the social housing waitlist of 50,000 across Queensland. Cost overruns are plaguing key infrastructure projects including Cross River Rail, from \$5.4 billion to \$7.4 billion; Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3, from \$700 million to beyond a billion dollars; and the Coomera Connector, from \$1.53 billion to beyond \$2.1 billion—just to name a few. In this week's budget we have a record \$9.785 billion health funding announcement, with roughly a third of that commitment beyond the forwards. We will hold them to account for every dollar wasted, every missed deadline and every reheated and reannounced announcement.

Turning to the government's fiscal strategy, I believe that we have now come full circle. We have seen every trick in the book from this state government and, to be fair, the Bligh government that came before them, to cover up our increasingly dilapidated state finances. It began with Labor pushing ever more expenditure into capex to push it below the all-important operating balance on the general government operating statement. It did not work, because you still have to borrow to make up a fiscal deficit, as you do with an operating deficit, even though we tend to focus on the latter in the public debate.

Government debt began to climb, so they started pushing expenditure off into the total state sector—the GOCs and the other entities, which do not get reported in the budget but only in the report on state finances later in the year. Again, government borrowing is government borrowing, whether it is done by the state government or one of its wholly owned subsidiaries, and so debt kept growing. They tried asset sales—goodbye QR National, Queensland Motorways, Port of Brisbane and a very long list besides. There were raids on the superannuation fund, but that still was not enough: debt kept on growing. In desperation, they tried to focus the conversation on net debt rather than gross debt. They knew that the ratings agencies focus on net debt, and it is hard to adjust for how easy it is for a government to achieve those debt levels by off-loading public assets. But debt kept on growing.

I should add that net debt in this budget is forecast to triple across the forwards. Last year we saw them resort to accounting tricks in a desperate attempt to offset that net debt number downward. They made up an asset out of thin air with a fake privatisation of the Titles Registry backed by a dodgy valuation, which, incidentally, we are still waiting to see. The Treasurer promised that all regional Titles Registry services would be preserved, but now they are closing Toowoomba, Gympie, Roma and I am hearing Nanango as well—another promise broken by the Treasurer and the minister knows it. Even with this sleight of hand debt has still kept growing. The accounting tricks continue.

Honourable members interjected.

Ms GRACE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Some of the members are not sitting in their regular spaces and are interjecting and I suggest that they do, in accordance with the traditions of this House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): That is correct, members. You need to interject from your own seats.

Mr JANETZKI: The accounting tricks continue.

Ms Bates interjected.

Ms GRACE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. You just made a ruling and the member for Mudgeeraba instinctively broke your ruling. I am just alerting you to the practice.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you for alerting me, Minister. The minister is correct. Thank you for returning to your seat. If there are any more interjections from members who are not sitting in their seat they will be issued a warning under the standing orders.

Mr JANETZKI: The accounting tricks continue. The Auditor-General no less has now issued a series of reports calling out transparency failures. There are more questions in this budget. What is the accounting treatment applied to a billion dollars of renters' bond money previously held by the Residential Tenancies Authority? What is the explanation for the absence of last year's big ticket announcements: the Housing Investment Fund, the Pathway to Treaty Fund and the Carbon Reduction Investment Fund? We know that they are basically empty, but should not the government at least be reporting that emptiness?

Now, finally, we come full circle. The Treasurer has broken his promise, stated on 26 separate occasions at least that I have found, to introduce no new or increased taxes. It is finally back to the good old days of Labor tax and spend. That is all this Labor government knows, something that I must say that the great, late Keith De Lacy worked so hard to put to rest. Even then, with the unique opportunity to finally embark on a course of fiscal repair, the government has squandered the

opportunity. They have been handed a stunning \$10 billion increase in revenues between financial year 2021 and financial year 2022, almost all of it an unexpected windfall, and yet the Treasurer's first instinct with that windfall revenue is to break a promise and increase and introduce new taxes. I say to the Treasurer, who indulges in the politics of envy like no-one else in this parliament, if he considers a business of 80 full-time employees a big business then he is more out of touch than anyone ever thought.

In this budget the Treasurer had an opportunity to use rivers of royalty and transfer duty gold to begin to repair the budget, but Labor cannot resist spending. They are addicted to it. Total expenditure is up by \$7 billion this year and 90 per cent of the windfall coal royalties has been squandered on increased operating expenses and grants. We have a net operating surplus but a fiscal deficit of \$5 billion. Therefore, debt continues to grow from \$72 billion when the Premier took office to \$110 billion today and onwards and upwards to \$129 billion in 2025-26. That is just outstanding debt on current projections of the interest rate. This has the interest burden for the state growing from \$1.5 billion to nearly \$3 billion in 2025-26.


Household budgets are taking a hit because of interest rate costs and Queensland's budget is no different. There will be a significant increase to the cost of borrowing in the years ahead and Queenslanders will ultimately pay for this too. Why should members of this parliament care? Why does this matter? It matters because every single dollar of gross debt will have to be repaid by future generations. That is why a Crisafulli government will deliver an intergenerational equity report, because we cannot carelessly place the burdens of today on our children of tomorrow. It matters because cost-of-living pressures are not going away. Housing costs, fuel, food and power costs are up and may stay up there for some time with Queensland's inflation rate already at six per cent—much higher, I must add, than the nation's at 5.1 per cent. The Treasurer abolished the Productivity Commission. A Crisafulli government will restore it. We need the best and brightest independent minds on the job to drive productivity. The re-established Productivity Commission will tackle the challenges of growing Queensland's economic prosperity and what can be done to manage the cost-of-living pressures.

Since my announcement last year of our groundbreaking social enterprise financing fund, I am pleased to note the member for Bulimba's new-found interest in the sector. Media release after media release has emanated from the minister's office; some of it is good news but there is more to do. I note that the Social Enterprise World Forum is to be hosted right here in Brisbane in September and I look forward to being there. There will be thousands of social impact businesses visiting our great state to see what our thriving sector has achieved and what would be our future. However, the state government has still not released, announced or even murmured their social enterprise finance policy. I look forward to seeing more media from the minister ahead of SEWF in September.

I want to finish where I began: the Treasurer and his best efforts to ignore the truth of this budget and Labor's economic management over so many years. Here is the truth: the Treasurer promised at least 26 times there will be no new or increased taxes this term. He has broken that promise this week and then offered embarrassing excuses. His integrity lies in tatters. The truth is that this budget is a budget of missing, hidden or empty funds. Last budget the Palaszczuk government grabbed headlines with a \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund. The truth? The Housing Investment Fund has \$65 million in it this year. That is not from the budget papers; that is from the Treasurer today and from a government website this week. It is a pretend fund without funding and more accounting without principles.

The truth is that tricky accounting, more Labor debt and surprise taxes do not solve a full-blown cost-of-living crisis. The truth is that more Labor debt means higher interest costs. This means less money for health, housing and community services. The truth is that an economy that works for everyone would not have the worst ambulance ramping in the country, 50,000 Queenslanders on the social housing list and rampant youth crime across our communities. The truth is that for seven years the government has destroyed the health system and now they are asking for another seven years to fix it. The truth is that this was a budget brimful of broken promises delivered by a government Queensland can no longer trust.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Before I call the next speaker I will remind the House that the following members are on a warning: Chatsworth, Southern Downs, Kawana, Redcliffe, Murrumba, Mermaid Beach, Coomera, Everton, Nanango and Miller.

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (12.38 pm): Budgets are about making choices: hard decisions about where public funds are best directed and spent. Budgets are an expression of what a government takes seriously and what it does not. Ultimately budgets are about values. There has been deafening silence from those opposite so far. In this budget the Palaszczuk government has once again given a clear marker

of our priorities for the state. Here on this side of the House we are for good jobs, better services and investing in our wonderful Queensland lifestyle. It is not the approach of those opposite with their agenda of cut, sack and sell.

At the last three state elections, the people of Queensland have given their resounding verdict on what they think about that way of doing things. Instead, our approach is one of investing, sensibly and wisely, in the future of our state and backing Queenslanders all the way, regardless of where they live. In my portfolio, this means investing in the future of our kids and grandkids through both schools and early childhood care. We are giving our kids the best possible start in life and supporting our tireless teachers and educators every step of the way. Therefore, I am delighted that in this year's Education budget the Palaszczuk government has invested a record \$16.5 billion.

Mr Skelton: It's a great budget. Thanks, Minister.

Ms GRACE: I take that interjection from the member for Nicklin. We are doing this because we know that delivering a world-class education allows every child to reach their full potential. That is what I mean when I say budgets are an expression of our values about making choices and setting priorities for the future, just as the great member for Nicklin does.

I turn now to summarise some budget highlights and welcome initiatives in my electorate of McConnel, before going into further detail. As I said earlier, I am thrilled that we have announced a game-changing shift in the way we fund schools to support students living with disability. Among other benefits, that is going to mean dedicated support for an extra 30,000 students a year and an additional \$80 million over the next two years to ensure that no school or student misses out on support as we transition to a new model.

Queensland has led the way with our approach to respectful relationships education, providing students with the skills and knowledge to form relationships that are safe, healthy, free from harassment and sexual violence, and based on mutual respect. In this budget we will invest an additional \$15.5 million over three years to support the delivery of respectful relationships education.

Access to period products should never be a barrier to learning. That is why we are investing \$13.3 million to expand our partnership with Share the Dignity to fund the installation of free period product vending machines in every Queensland state school that wants one. Students will also have access to the Period Talk education program, to help reduce misplaced stigma around periods.

We know how important the early years are and this budget increases our investment in that critical area, with increased funding of \$263 million over four years and \$77 million ongoing to support universal access to kindergarten in the year before school. That is part of our total investment of more than \$1 billion over the next five years, which is the most significant reform to kindergarten in over a decade. It is a great investment in our youngest Queenslanders and a great investment in our state's future.

The Palaszczuk government is committed to all our students having first-rate facilities to learn in. In 2022-23, we will invest almost \$2 billion in hundreds of infrastructure projects from the Gold Coast to the Cape, supporting around 4,200 jobs. In the fastest growing areas of Queensland, that means building new schools. In this budget we announced \$390 million to build another five new primary schools in 2025-26 in Caboolture West, Caloundra South, Ripley, Flagstone and Bahrs Scrub.

For those schools experiencing enrolment growth, there is almost \$220 million to deliver more classrooms. The Palaszczuk government delivers for all of Queensland and that is why we will invest around \$650 million on hundreds of infrastructure upgrades right across the state. Thirty-six schools will share in over \$183 million for the contemporary renewal of learning spaces for specialist curriculum delivery, such as industrial design and science, manual arts, hospitality, home economics and the arts. There is \$109 million for substantial renewal at special schools. There is so much! Every single one of our 18 discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities will share in \$43.2 million to get a targeted infrastructure project, co-designed with the local community.

As the Premier talked about this morning, we are also investing \$20 million for playgrounds and tuckshops right across the state. In the coming year, we will invest \$147 million on facility upgrades, including new security fencing, electrical safety, amenities, administration spaces and upgrades to outdoor areas.

This time in 10 years, Queensland will be proudly hosting the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and we want our kids to start getting ready now. Our \$100 million Go for Gold Fund will see major investment in new and improved high-performance sports infrastructure for schools and their local communities. We are also investing \$3.8 million to plan and design 19 school halls and performing arts centres. There is no doubt that investing in education is in Labor's DNA and this budget proves it.

This budget has also delivered a boost to Queensland's racing industry, especially country racing, through a new sustainable funding model. Our five per cent levy on the point of consumption tax and the inclusion of bonus and free bets is levelling the playing field for all wagering operators. Increasing the proportion of betting tax revenue that goes directly to the racing industry from 35 per cent to 80 per cent will provide certainty and, of course, if the size of the pie grows so too will their share. These reforms mean organisations profiting from Queensland's thriving racing industry will be investing in its future.

There are some fantastic highlights for the electorate of McConnell too. The brand new world-class \$750 million Queensland Cancer Centre at the Herston Health Precinct is a fantastic part of our record health budget. There is also the ongoing funding for Newstead House as part of a major conservation project to safeguard Brisbane's oldest surviving European residence. Building on new renovations, there is a much welcomed funding boost for the New Farm Neighbourhood Centre as part of a \$115.8 million investment in neighbourhood and community centres. I know Brisbane Central State School will welcome \$400,000 for equitable access at Block E and there is around \$750,000 for maintenance and minor works for schools. Since 2015 in my electorate, \$180 million has been spent on new school classrooms, the Ballet Academy, multipurpose courts, et cetera.

Of course, like many other residents in Brisbane and those who travel here, my community will benefit hugely from the breathtaking Cross Rail project that is really taking shape and will revolutionise public transport around Brisbane.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech reads as follows—

I'd now like to look at some of the announcements I've already mentioned in a little more detail.

The changes we are making to support for students with disability are game changing.

We will be moving to a model that is based on the level of support and adjustment that a child needs to participate in education.

This means that for the first time all disabilities will be formally recognised—including dyslexia, ADHD, foetal alcohol syndrome, Tourette Syndrome, and mental health conditions.

While schools already support these students, there will now be more dedicated resources available.

As well as supporting an extra 30,000 students, other benefits of the new model include:

- A focus on Prep students to give them a great start;
- A new Extensive Plus resourcing category for students with the most intensive needs;
- An easier, streamlined, single process for families without the need for additional medical or specialist reports.

It's a major change, and schools will need time to adjust to the new way of gathering and recording information for the new model. We don't want any school or student to miss out on support during the transition.

That's why we are investing \$80.6 million over the next two years as part of this budget.

This money will fund almost 500 new frontline positions to support students, and provide continuity and certainty, until the new model is fully implemented.

Speaker, students living with disability have the right to participate fully in education on the same basis as their peers. That's what this new model will deliver.

I'm delighted about the \$15.5m we're investing for Respectful Relationships too. The funding will support eight principal advisor roles across the state to provide tailored professional development for our schools and teachers.

This will ensure they are prepared to deliver what can be at times challenging and sensitive topics.

With this funding, every Queensland state school will also be provided with a pro-rata amount of Teacher Relief Scheme funding for three years.

Again, this funding will assist in providing teachers and staff with time to access appropriate personal development and curriculum planning. This is all about building teacher capability and supporting our students' health and wellbeing.

Speaker, let me come back to the 5 new schools we have announced.

Since 2015, the Palaszczuk Government has opened 21 schools, with 11 more already planned for 2023/24.

This means since we launched our Building Future Schools Program, we have invested over \$3 billion for 37 new schools in the fastest growing areas of Queensland.

We are upgrading our existing schools too. This deliberate focus on school renewal has projects from the smallest classroom refurbishment, to multi-million specialist facilities.

Under our \$650 million renewal fund, we have \$183 million for contemporary specialist spaces.

Gladstone High will receive almost \$13m towards renewal of its manual arts building—a project I'm personally delighted to see happen.

There is \$8.5 million for Kepnock State High in Bundaberg for ITD studies.

It's for smaller schools too: \$900,000 each for a science block refurbishment at Springsure State School (Gregory) and a tuckshop upgrade for home economics students at Keppel Sands State School (Keppel).

We've already identified the six special schools that will get major upgrades:

- Red Hill Special School (Cooper)
- Ipswich Special (Ipswich)
- Western Suburbs Special (Inala)
- Kuraby Special (Stretton)
- Woody Point Special (Redcliffe)
- Maryborough Special School (Maryborough)

This builds on the almost \$120m invested last budget to cater for increasing enrolments in 13 special schools across the state with many of these projects still under construction.

There's \$147 million for facility upgrades, which will include:

- A \$2m amenities upgrade at Millmerran State School (Southern Downs) as well as investing \$500k to upgrade the amenities at Garbutt State School (Townsville);
- New security fences will go up at Mareeba SS in Cook (\$1m) and at Miami SHS in the electorate of Mermaid Beach (\$1.2m);
- At Petrie Tce State School in Cooper, we'll invest over \$1m to replace shade sails and install a cover of the walkway;
- Water and sewerage systems will be upgraded at Laura SS in Cook (\$100k), Glenore State School in Lockyer (\$300k) and at St Helens State School in Maryborough with \$2m to be invested there to review and replace the sewerage system.

Schools right across the state will receive money for new classroom buildings, such as:

- \$7.2 million for Darra State School (Mt Ommaney)
- \$8.8 million for Emerald State High (Gregory)
- \$8 million for Moranbah State High (Burdekin)
- \$5.8 million for Serviceton South State School (Inala)
- \$2.3 million for Tully State High (Hill)
- \$9 million for Yandina State School (Nicklin)

And let's not forget our \$362m investment in school maintenance to maintain existing facilities and modernise education infrastructure across the state.

It's wonderful that \$5m has also been set aside for a painting program for over 50 of our smaller schools—mostly in regional Queensland.

Speaker, the budget also continues our investment in a range of other areas, including our Schools Refresh Program, a co-contribution program to further boost investment in school maintenance and improvements.

Schools have had the opportunity to apply for further funding to carry out projects like painting and upgrades to flooring and furniture, tree trimming and roofing maintenance including gutters and downpipes. Some of these projects are still being delivered across the state.

There is also our \$100 million student wellbeing package. It's delivering GPs in 50 state schools across the state providing access to free and confidential health care in areas that need it the most, and employing up to an additional 464 health and wellbeing professionals, mainly psychologists, to support our students and reduce the burden on teachers and families.

We are improving internet access for school staff and students by boosting bandwidth at all Queensland state schools through our \$190million partnership with Telstra.

We are on track to meet our target of employing more than 6,100 new teachers and 1,100 new teacher aides over four years, and our Turn to Teaching program is going from strength to strength.

Speaker, our reforms in racing are going to make a real difference.

The Palaszczuk Government is a strong supporter of racing, and the many regional communities it benefits.

In fact, the economic contribution of the industry has grown 60% to \$1.9 billion under this government.

There are 125 racing clubs across Queensland.

For 85 of those clubs, a race meeting is the biggest or second biggest event in their community each year.

For many of those clubs, a race meeting is a once-a-year event that is an unparalleled opportunity for people to get together.

Our government recognises how important those gatherings are to the social fabric of Queensland.

The changes we've made level the playing field, ensure the industry benefits directly from growth, and will also create opportunities for:

- increased prize money;
- enhanced infrastructure;
- better training facilities.

Speaker, I mentioned some highlights for my electorate of McConnel, which I'd like to go into in a little more detail.

The brand-new world class \$750 million Queensland Cancer Centre will be life-changing for thousands of Queensland cancer sufferers.

With more and more cases each year, we've made a clear decision to invest in the world's best facilities, treatments and research to give Queenslanders the best shot.

It's also about jobs—creating local opportunities for Queensland contractors with more than 2000 construction jobs.

The work at Newstead House shows this government values the past and will protect our shared heritage. This year will see a further \$3.6 million out of a close to 5 and a half million-dollar investment in conservation of this important building.

Works to be undertaken this financial year include critical drainage and service upgrades, repairs to timbers, stone and brickwork, and interior works.

The New Farm Neighbourhood Centre provides critical social infrastructure to my local community, and helps to connect people in McConnel to the support and services they need. I'm so pleased about the investment into neighbourhood and community centres that will allow the team there to do even more great work.

I know the centre can be a beacon of hope for those doing it tough and experiencing social isolation or loneliness, and that's why this investment is so important.


Speaker, this is a budget in the best traditions of progressive Labor Governments.

Budgets are about values and this budget reflects our long-standing and dearly held values about the importance of education to give every child a great start, about investing in our communities, and about governing for all of Queensland.

It delivers good jobs, better services, and protects and enhances our fantastic Queensland lifestyle.

I am proud to be associated with it.

I commend it to the House.

 **Ms SIMPSON** (Maroochydore—LNP) (12.46 pm): This is a budget of broken promises with new and increased taxes. There are broken promises on delivering the services that Queenslanders need right now from a tired, third-term government that governs for its mates and not for Queenslanders.

One of the biggest disappointments of this budget is that it not only fails to fix the urgent housing crisis; it ignores it. This is not just a humanitarian crisis. This is also an economic crisis, because in many areas of Queensland workers cannot get houses so they can take up jobs or hold onto their jobs. The unavailability of housing for workers and their families threatens people's safety and wellbeing and also the economic development of our regions. I have never had so many people, desperate for a rental house, coming into my office or ringing me as I have in the past few months. While the working homeless is a growing segment of our population, if you do not have a job and you do have children then you are even more vulnerable.

While there is a deficiency in the social housing ledger, a far bigger shortfall is in the general rental market where the majority of renters rent. COVID and interstate migration have thrown fuel on the fire of housing undersupply, which was already burning before the pandemic, with rates of new housing supply relative to population growth falling for more than half a decade. Many regions of Queensland have a less than one per cent or under two per cent vacancy rate. On the Sunshine Coast, the vacancy rate for rentals is at about 0.04 per cent. Property analysts estimate that the shortage of required new housing on the Sunshine Coast is about 2,000 homes per year. If you simply blame COVID and interstate migration, you will be doomed to miss the underlying problems and fail to provide the right solutions to help address the issues.

Property analysts tell me that government data on available land and housing is simply wrong or inadequate, and that has made the problem far worse. For example, it impacts forward planning and the delivery of infrastructure and services in growth areas which are necessary to support new housing and business. Some of the growth areas the government is scrambling to bring online did not even have the arterial road corridors or school sites set aside, which should have been done years earlier. They have only just woken up and said, 'Oh boy, we better do this,' even though the land had been identified for some time. Those delays in timely government decision-making are affecting housing supplies, and the lack of a whole-of-government coordinated focus on addressing these issues is just

diabolical. Where is the plan? Where are the performance measures in this budget for new housing stock? There are none! This is an ostrich budget: they have hidden their heads in the sand with regard to the release of new housing throughout Queensland.

Unfortunately, dumb government decisions continue to delay and add cost to the pipeline of housing and construction—not creating better plans or more livable and affordable communities. Let us see a plan. Let us see someone in government drive it rather than the multihead monster of different government ministers, agencies and departments wandering along with no urgency or strategy. If we want to help renters in terms of having greater security in rentals and affordability, then fix the barriers to supply of new housing stock in the market. That is critical. It starts with better data. What the government releases has a huge lag and is out of touch with what is happening in the market. Is it any wonder there is such a disaster?

I would like to table a thought-provoking analysis from one property expert, Mal Cayley of Direct Collective. This relates to *Sunshine Coast: The Future 2022*, which I table.

Tabled paper: Document titled 'Sunshine Coast: The Future 2022' [\[912\]](#).

He identifies what he sees as a shortfall of 2,000 new homes a year on the Sunshine Coast. There is a need, he says, for 3,000 new homes every year, but only about 1,000 are coming to market. He outlines some of the solutions he sees. There will be debate about some of those solutions, but let us have accurate data. We need reports such as this being driven throughout all regions of Queensland so we do not continue to see the crisis rolling over or the government popping up to say, 'Oh, we have a policy.' The government gets its 1,000-plus-strong communication team to put out more releases but fails to address this very real humanitarian problem.

The state government talks about build to rent and Growth Areas Team projects in some parts of South-East Queensland, but there is nothing about the size of the annual shortfall in general housing stock and solutions to drive systemic reform to help the thousands of people finding themselves homeless and vulnerable.

Ironically, there are reports that the state government has made rental affordability and availability worse in some communities by buying up rental stock for social housing and removing tenants from that rental stock. They are not actually increasing the available rental stock; they are just shuffling people in need. The market failure to meet the overwhelming undersupply has multiple points of contact—roadblocks with state government agencies and decision-makers dragging the chain. Far more timely decisions need to be made for a more timely release of housing, and it can be done well. We can have the right amenity and look after livability and affordability, but there is just far too much of a delay in the way this government handles this critical issue. It needs to be coordinated, but that is simply not happening.

I thank Mal for that report, but we need figures such as this collated and released in a timely way to help drive private sector investment which will enter into the market if they can see the government is serious about enabling housing release in Queensland. That is what we need to see.

I want to talk about private versus public investment. Unfortunately, under this government we have seen a falling off in the pace of the private sector wanting to invest. Is it any wonder after the disgraceful behaviour of the Treasurer earlier this week in defending his broken promise about having no new taxes or increased taxes in Queensland? It was embarrassing and unedifying for the state's Premier as well then to defend the Treasurer, who pre election, as I understand, 26 times claimed that there would be no increased taxes and no new taxes in Queensland. That was a blatant mistruth. No wonder business is then saying, 'Well, we will be a little more uncertain about investing in Queensland,' because business confidence relies on governments telling the truth. This government has no shame and has failed to do that.

Maybe some of those businesses are copping those increased taxes, the taxes on jobs, because they have not employed the right Labor lobbyist to grease the wheels, to open the doors and to take them to the halls where the decisions are made now that this Labor government has outsourced governing to Labor lobbyists to launder money back into the coffers of the Labor Party. Integrity matters. People are seeing that they can buy access to government decision-making via Labor lobbyists.

I address this issue of integrity with the state government. The fact is that we still do not know what was on the laptop. Why did they raid the laptop? At one point, why was the Integrity Commissioner's own office locked down so she could not access it? Why were staff removed—

Ms RICHARDS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. I do not see how that relates to the Appropriation Bill.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Order, members! It is an appropriation bill, so that allows members some latitude. That being said, I would ask that the member continue her comments in relation to the budget.

Ms SIMPSON: How Labor members hate to raise this issue of the Integrity Commissioner's office being raided! I have heard a minister opposite trying to say that this has nothing to do with the budget. Not only was the Integrity Commissioner's office subjected to a raid; she also had staff taken off her. This government has no shame. If you are not a Labor lobbyist putting money into the coffers of the Labor campaign machine and running the campaign at 1 William Street, then you are at a disadvantage. The Integrity Commissioner started to ask uncomfortable questions about Labor lobbyists and the connection with decisions taken in this state. This government cannot handle the truth. Members of the government want to hide the truth and do not want transparency. Who pays the real price? Queenslanders do.

It matters every day when poor decisions are taken by this government, because money has been laundered into its coffers thanks to Labor lobbyists. It is no wonder members of the government dislike the Integrity Commissioner. It is no wonder they tried to use a black ops unit behind the scenes to try to besmirch her character. Private investment should arise from the private sector having confidence that the government will make decisions based on good policy—not because they can buy access through Labor lobbyists laundering money and putting it to the campaign machine of government.

I want to address some local issues in my electorate. First, I will start with the health system. We have heard government members talk about future investment in health. I am wondering what it will do for the three category 1 cancer patients who have come to me in the last two weeks and said, 'We are category 1; we are supposed to be seen within 30 days.' Some have had to wait months—with cancer. I want to talk about this because this has been replicated elsewhere. This government can waste money on 1,000-plus communication officers to pump up their tyres and put out media releases while cancer patients in my electorate and throughout Queensland are shuffled off onto waitlists months long. This is potentially threatening their lives and their ability to recover. We have had three examples recently. I could run through this, but there is not a lot of time. It matters and it is distressing.

Mental health is a major issue. It is made worse if you have cancer and you have been forced to wait several months just to get treatment even though you should have been seen within weeks. This situation is diabolical. I have had a number of category 1 cancer patients in that situation. They need an operation. They need treatment. They need to be seen. They need their health made the first priority—not in several years time—by this government that has a complete misunderstanding of how serious it is. I know there are Labor backbenchers who think it is funny, but I do not. I want to see this addressed.

We saw a diabolical situation years ago under Labor governments that dropped the ball on health. This is worse. People should not have to wait months to get cancer treatment. It is completely unacceptable. This government is literally killing people through its ineptitude in making the health crisis worse. The government has not acknowledged that this is happening now.

I also address the issue of the need for rail to Maroochydore. This state government had the opportunity to say 'thank you very much' when the former federal government announced \$1.6 billion to build the rail to Maroochydore, to get that project underway from Beerwah to Maroochydore. We are still to see this government say, 'Yes, we are going to commit and go forward with this.' They put a little bit of planning money in when a fast rail project had done a number of the business case numbers with regard to Maroochydore to Beerwah. I fear that the government is dragging the chain so that it can make excuses about not doing this transformative public transport infrastructure we need if we are to see people connected by new transport options so the growth of our regions does not clog or become so congested by a lack of appropriate transport. It is time this government backed rail rather than blocked rail.

I also refer to Mooloolaba Harbour. There is nothing in this budget that addresses the need for Mooloolaba Harbour to have a permanent solution, the right one, for maritime safety as well as for the environment. There has been more money, I think, announced in this budget for streetscaping than for a solution for Mooloolaba Harbour. That is a disgrace. This harbour services the recreation industry, yes, but also the fishing industry, emergency services and the pilots who access and provide safe navigation for ships coming into the Brisbane port. In recent times, the government has been very slow in engaging the necessary, aggressive dredging to keep this harbour entrance open. Still the government has not committed to a plan and a process to fund and bring forward that more permanent solution to make this harbour entrance safe. They must fix it.

I also want to talk about Maroochydore State High School. This is one of South-East Queensland's top performing schools. They have done an outstanding job, but there is an extremely dangerous situation with the drop-off zone where the buses come and go and students enter and exit and cars also move through the same area. The senior teachers of the school have to go out and direct traffic. That is unacceptable. That is putting them at risk. I know that the teachers are doing this to keep students safe, but they should not have to direct traffic. This needs a funding solution. I know that a plan has been put forward to the departments of education and transport because it involves property both inside and outside the boundary line of the high school. We must see funding for this come forward as soon as possible so a safe solution can be found. That way, teachers can get on with the job of teaching, and the buses and parents who are coming to pick students up can safely navigate this very busy area.

I also want to address the road network on Sunshine Coast and the need for investment in the duplication of the Sunshine Motorway. The section near the Mooloolah River Interchange is not in the government's current funding envelope. The duplication must occur on that section between Kawana Way and Mooloolah River Interchange. There is also a need for duplication of the motorway north of Pacific Paradise to provide extra access points and make it safer north towards Coolumb.


(Time expired)

Sitting suspended from 1.01 pm to 2.00 pm.

Debate, on motion of Ms Grace, adjourned.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Message from Deputy Governor

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (2.00 pm): I present a message from the Deputy Governor.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): The message from the Deputy Governor recommends the Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. The contents of the message will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the message for the information of members.

MESSAGE

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022

Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, HELEN PATRICIA BOWSKILL, Deputy Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intitled—


A Bill for an Act to amend the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991, the Associations Incorporation Act 1981, the Associations Incorporation Regulation 1999, the Industrial Relations Act 2016 and the Public Trustee Act 1978 for particular purposes

DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Date: 21 June 2022

Tabled paper: Message, dated 21 June 2022, from the Deputy Governor recommending the Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 [\[913\]](#).

Introduction

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (2.00 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991, the Associations Incorporation Act 1981, the Associations Incorporation Regulation 1999, the Industrial Relations Act 2016 and the Public Trustee Act 1978 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Education, Employment and Training Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 [\[914\]](#).

Tabled paper: Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, explanatory notes [\[915\]](#).

Tabled paper: Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, statement of compatibility with human rights [\[916\]](#).

I am pleased to introduce the Industrial Relations and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022. The bill implements the recommendations of the *Five-year review of the Queensland Industrial Relations Act 2016: final report* which will ensure workers in Queensland's industrial relations system have access to prevailing employment standards and that the IR Act continues to reflect evolving community expectations, including in the areas of workplace sexual harassment, equal remuneration

and the effective representation of employers and employees by industrial organisations. The bill also makes minor supporting and complementary amendments to the Public Trustee Act 1978, the Associations Incorporations Act 1981 and the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991.

On 3 May 2021, Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and I announced the five-yearly review of the Industrial Relations Act 2016. The review looked at the operation and performance of the act. I considered it timely that it also investigate the protection of workers subject to sexual harassment. The last time Queensland's industrial relations legislation was reviewed was in 2015 by a reference group of key stakeholders, chaired by former director-general Mr Jim McGowan AM, which led to the introduction of the current IR Act.

Since the act's commencement on 1 March 2017, we have seen a greater awareness of gender inequality and sexual harassment through the publication of the *Respect@Work* report and the national discussion that ensued after the spotlight was shone on the all-too-frequent experiences of women who have been subjected to sexual harassment in the workplace. It is important our industrial laws remain relevant for both employers and employees and provide industrial protections that are contemporary, fair and balanced. To respond to these issues, last year I appointed former attorney-general Ms Linda Lavarch and retired industrial commissioner Mr John Thompson to inquire into and report on the operation of the IR Act.

On 25 October 2021 the reviewers provided their final review report to me, noting that the IR Act is operating as intended since the McGowan review in 2015. They also identified areas where the act may be amended to better reflect evolving community standards for the workplace. The reviewers recommended the government: strengthen protections against workplace sexual harassment; support effective primary representation of employers and employees by registered industrial organisations; ensure that employees covered by the IR Act have access to prevailing employment standards; introduce a jurisdiction to provide for minimum entitlements and conditions for independent courier drivers; and address redundant and superfluous provisions identified by the review report, including historical Queensland Health overpayment provisions. The review report made 40 recommendations, 36 of which were accepted in full and four in principle by the Queensland government. Of the accepted in full recommendations, 31 called for legislative amendments which are provided for in this bill before the House.

Before moving to the substance of the bill, I wish to acknowledge and express my thanks to the two independent reviewers, Linda Lavarch and John Thompson, for their careful and thorough consideration and sterling work on the five-year review of the IR Act and its operation. I would also like to recognise and thank Professor David Peetz of Griffith University and Professor Gillian Whitehouse of the University of Queensland for their contributions, keen insights and assistance to the independent reviewers and the review process.

I also express my thanks to the stakeholders involved—unions, employer groups, state and local government, the courts and tribunals, community legal groups, the legal sector and academia. Your expertise and applied knowledge and experience enriched the consultation process and was invaluable to the independent reviewers and their formulation of the review report. I note the remarks in the review report that the report was well received. I note stakeholder appreciation for the government's initiative to establish the review. I am also pleased to note the general satisfaction with the operation of the act.

Finally, I offer my sincere appreciation to the women who courageously shared their personal stories of sexual harassment in recent years. Their bravery in exposing the prevalence of sexual harassment in the workplace means we also need to find the courage of our conviction to address this insidious blight on our workplace. As the adage goes, 'Bad things happen when good people do nothing.' Therefore, it is heartening to know that the review report noted that stakeholders to this review overwhelmingly supported action to protect employees against sexual harassment, along with sex based and gender based harassment.

In March 2020 a national inquiry into sexual harassment in Australian workplaces was led by Ms Kate Jenkins, Sex Discrimination Commissioner of the Australian Human Rights Commission. This inquiry delivered the *Respect@Work: sexual harassment national inquiry report*. *Respect@Work* made it clear that addressing sexual harassment in Australia is complex and confusing for victims and employers to understand and navigate. Governments at the state and national level were urged to move away from reactionary approaches to dealing with sexual harassment which place the onus on the victim to do the heavy lifting. A nationally consistent approach was called for and the Palaszczuk government listened. I am proud to advise the House that this bill is just one of many actions being undertaken by the Palaszczuk government to support the *Respect@Work* recommendations.

This important work spans a number of areas within government, including the realm of anti-discrimination legislation. The Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 plays a central role in preventing and eliminating discrimination on a range of attributes, including on the basis of sex, gender identity and sexuality. I note the Queensland Human Rights Commission is due to soon report on the outcome of its review of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991. I, along with my ministerial colleagues, look forward to considering this important review in the near future.

The current legislative framework offers various industrial avenues for redress concerning sexual harassment in the workplace spanning from dispute resolution provisions in modern awards and agreements to general protections against adverse action to work health and safety protections. We can and must do more to prevent and address the insidious and sadly widespread scourge of sexual harassment in the workplace. That is why a key focus of the IR Act review was on exploring industrial protections for workers subject to sexual harassment.

The independent reviewers considered the *Respect@Work* report recommendations and made six recommendations to further prevent and eliminate sexual harassment in the workplace, which this government supports. The former Australian government provided limited response to the *Respect@Work* report by amending the Fair Work Act 2009 in 2021 to clarify that sexual harassment can be a valid reason for dismissal and expanding the existing stop bullying audit provisions to include stop sexual harassment orders.

In contrast, and demonstrating the seriousness of the Palaszczuk government's commitment to addressing these issues, this bill introduces broader protections for persons subject to sexual harassment and for sex or gender based harassment in employment. The bill amends the objects of the act to expressly include the prevention of sexual harassment and sex or gender based harassment in employment to crystallise the intentions of the act.

The bill defines 'sexual harassment' as being the same as provided for in the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 or the federal Sex Discrimination Act 1984. This provides for the broadest application of related IR Act provisions and ensures contemporary definitions are applied.

The bill also amends the definition of an 'industrial matter' to include the sexual harassment or sex or gender based harassment of an employee in the workplace, enabling the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission to exercise their powers to conciliate, arbitrate and make interlocutory orders or interim injunctions in such matters.

The bill amends the definition of misconduct for the purposes of dismissal to include sexual harassment or sex or gender based harassment. Occasions for summary dismissal—that is, dismissal without notice—are limited to theft, assault and fraud. This bill makes it clear that, if an employee sexually harasses another person, then that would make it unreasonable to require the employer to continue the employment during the period of notice set out within the IR Act.

This is further supported by amendments relating to unfair dismissals. The bill enables the QIRC to consider whether a dismissal related to the sexual, sex or gender based harassment of another person in determining whether a dismissal was harsh, unjust or unreasonable in an application for an unfair dismissal remedy.

These reforms provide far more comprehensive relief and further avenues for the resolution of a complaint than the stop sexual harassment orders available under the Fair Work Act 2009 and will maintain Queensland as a nation-leading jurisdiction in implementing the *Respect@Work* recommendations and protecting workers from sexual harassment and sex and gender based harassment. These reforms will ensure Queensland's IR system provides comprehensive and contemporary industrial protections to guard against and address the scourge of sexual harassment, sex and gender based harassment.

Gender pay equality was an issue I advocated and fought for as a unionist and leader within the union movement. Whilst we have seen improvements, unfortunately there remains much more to be done. Australia ratified the International Labour Organization convention No. 100 in 1974 to provide for equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value, but the gap continues to exist.

The reviewers recognise the IR Act deals with equal remuneration principles up-front in the objects of the act and requires the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission to consider equal remuneration when certifying modern awards and enterprise agreements. These are important foundations. I am proud that Queensland's IR system is a nation leader when it comes to equal remuneration principles.

The bill amends the IR Act to require parties at the commencement of collective bargaining negotiations to obtain, and disclose in a timely way, information about employees who would be covered by the proposed bargaining instrument, including the distribution of employees by gender, the gender pay gap and any major factors identified as contributing to the gender pay gap and, if appropriate, the projected effect of the proposed instrument on the gender pay gap.

This is a subtle but important change. By putting these issues to the forefront of the bargaining process supported by data, the equal remuneration principles considerations is likely to feature more strongly throughout the bargaining process and be reflected in final outcome.

I now move to the review report's recommendations to support effective representation of employees and employers by registered industrial organisations. Queensland's industrial relations system is predicated on the notion of cooperative industrial relations—that is, a system committed to building fair, safe and productive workplaces and communities where workers' and employers' rights are protected and advanced and where workers are provided with financial security through fair and reasonable wages and conditions.

The primacy of registered organisations representing both employers and employees has been a central feature of IR systems throughout Australia for generations, and Queensland's industrial relations system is no different. Registered organisations play a central role in the IR system and represent both employees and employers. The IR Act sets out the roles and responsibilities of registered organisations which include, but are not limited to: representing and organising under the right to freedom of association convention; being a party to bargaining; and the ability to bring actions and represent members before the QIRC in a wide breadth of matters including industrial disputes, interpretation of agreements and general protections.

Sitting alongside these rights comes responsibility and accountability. The IR Act imposes on registered organisations rigorous reporting requirements to ensure registered organisations are transparent in their dealings, accountable to their members and demonstrate good governance practices. By contrast, an entity that is not defined under the IR Act as a registered organisation is not subject to the same rigorous level of scrutiny, reporting or prudential standards.

The review report heard from stakeholders that there is growing confusion and concerns by employees and employers in identifying which organisation can fully represent their industrial interests under the IR Act. This follows the emergence of self-proclaimed entities promoting industrial representation capabilities without adhering to the strict regulatory requirements to be recognised by a registered organisation under the IR Act and not being subject to the same level of reporting, accountability or democratic processes.

The bill clarifies the rights and protections conferred upon registered industrial organisations and provides that such rights are limited to organisations which are registered or otherwise eligible for taking steps towards registration under the IR Act. It provides clear distinctions between registered employer and employee organisations and other bodies not registered under the act who seek to represent employers and employees.

The bill confirms the status of incorporated associations not being eligible for registration as an employee organisation. It also makes supporting complementary amendments to the Associations Incorporations Act 1981 to address confusion on the part of employers and employees regarding the ability of an entity to represent their industrial interests where the entity is not a registered organisation under the IR Act but is incorporated under the Associations Incorporations Act.

The bill also introduces civil penalties for misrepresenting an entity's registration status or its ability to exercise rights under the IR Act. It empowers the QIRC to declare that an entity is ineligible for registration under the IR Act. The QIRC is also empowered to issue injunctive relief.

The bill also streamlines definitions used throughout the IR Act, making it simpler for the reader to understand the roles and responsibilities to representing entities for the purpose of industrial matters under the IR Act. These changes align with the recommendations of the review.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, members! There will be time to debate the bill.

Ms GRACE: They uphold the freedom of association principles by allowing individuals to become or not become a member of a registered organisation and provide a pathway for entities to be established and become a registered organisation under the IR Act. Importantly, these amendments ensure the primacy of registered organisations under the Queensland Industrial Relations Act.

Ensuring that employees covered by the IR Act have access to prevailing employment standards is another element the bill addresses through a range of amendments concerning the use of annual leave, personal and parental leave. The bill clarifies that an employee taking a period of approved annual or personal leave is not required to use approved leave if the leave falls on a public holiday. The bill also includes a transitional provision to clarify that the entitlement to personal leave has always been exclusive of a public holiday. For industrial instruments that address employee compensation of public holidays during the period of annual leave the bill does not interfere with those existing arrangements.

The bill also aligns the evidence requirements for absences exceeding two days for personal leave under the IR Act with the equivalent in the Fair Work Act 2009. The amendments broaden the evidence requirements so that an employee must provide an employer with sufficient evidence of the illness to satisfy a reasonable person should the employer require it. An employer may still require the evidence to be a certificate; however, rather than limiting this certificate to only a doctor, the bill provides that the certificate can be from a relevant health practitioner. Examples of health practitioners include midwives, doctors and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners.

The bill also makes amendments to bring entitlements into line with the prevailing conditions in the Fair Work Act. These include providing employees with greater flexibility when taking unpaid parental leave by being able to take up to 30 days unpaid flexible parental leave within the first two years of the child's birth. The flexible portion of the leave may be taken in separate blocks and will come out of the existing entitlement of up to 52 weeks unpaid parental leave. This entitlement will be extended to employees who become parents through adoption, surrogacy arrangements or cultural recognition orders. They also include allowing an employee returning to work on a full-time basis following parental leave to apply to the employer to change to work on a part-time basis; providing for parents who experience a stillbirth access to unpaid parental leave, giving these parents time and space to recover from such a devastating loss; increasing the age limit in the definition of a child from five to 16 years for the purpose of adoption related leave and cultural parent related leave; providing that the evidence which an employer may require of an employee who is intending to take birth related leave for the employee's own pregnancy or that of the employee's spouse is to be evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the employee or the employee's spouse is pregnant and the expected date of birth. This amendment retains the employer's discretion to require that the evidence be a health practitioner's certificate. As I have previously stated, health practitioners include midwives, doctors and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practitioners.

The bill also makes a number of amendments throughout the act to update the language to avoid gendered divisions of parental care; for example, 'maternity leave' is replaced by the term 'birth related leave'.

The bill also seeks to expedite time frames in collective bargaining by providing for a single commission of the QIRC to arbitrate a disputed matter during bargaining negotiations at the request of the bargaining parties. The bill also provides that the QIRC may consider whether it should apply a State Wage Case increase to an award if the increase would result in the wages payable to the employees under the award equalling or exceeding the wages payable to employees in relation to the same employment under a certified agreement. This provision provides explicit discretion for the QIRC to consider the unique features of Queensland's industrial relations jurisdiction when making its determination as to the application of a state wage outcome on awards.

The bill repeals the health-employee-specific wage recovery provisions for historical overpayments made by Queensland Health prior to 14 August 2012 and creates a bar on legal recourse for the recovery of those overpayments. Queensland Health will retain the same rights available to all other employers in relation to the recovery of overpayments to employees. Existing agreements for the recovery of an overpayment or repayment of a transitional loan made between Queensland Health and an employee or former employee will continue to be recognised.

The Palaszczuk government is committed to ensuring that workers in precarious and insecure work are provided with minimum standards and entitlements. That is why we are committed to lifting the standards for independent couriers following the abolition of the federal Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal in 2016. We want to ensure there is a fair contest between the commercial operators in this space. We do not want a race to the bottom, as this usually results in compromises in other areas such as worker and community safety and lower industry standards and quality.

The bill empowers the QIRC to make orders setting minimum conditions for independent courier drivers in the transport industry. The amendments are modelled on the longstanding provisions of chapter 6 of the New South Wales Industrial Relations Act 1996 and permit the making of contract

determinations and negotiated agreements covering independent courier drivers, principal contractors and relevant registered organisations. Contract determinations similar to awards and may set minimum remuneration and working conditions for a cohort of courier drivers. Independent courier drivers may also collectively bargain with principal contractors and seek QIRC certification of negotiated agreements, which are similar to enterprise agreements. These provisions seek to provide appropriate regulation for workers engaged in arrangements outside of traditional employment and provide an avenue for the resolution of disputes between independent courier drivers and principal contractors.

The need for minimum standards in the transport industry has been made clear by the improvement and safety outcomes in states where such standards have been introduced. These amendments may be introduced and passed in the Queensland parliament but will not become operative until the Australian government amends the Independent Contractors Regulation 2016 to specify the provisions as exempt and able to operate. I look forward to working with the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Tony Burke, on this important issue.

The amendments in this bill will ensure the Industrial Relations Act 2016 responds to the changes of the last five years and remains responsive and nation leading, particularly in the areas of: sexual harassment and sex or gender based harassment; working to reduce gender pay inequality; making sure employers and employees have certainty about who can represent them industrially and that they are able to turn to appropriately regulated registered organisations when in need; making improvements to Queensland Employment Standards; and ensuring we look after independent courier drivers and make their jobs and our roads safer.

These reforms continue and build upon the Palaszczuk government's proud nation-leading IR track record. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. G GRACE (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (2.27 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to Education, Employment and Training Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Education, Employment and Training Committee.

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading (Cognate Debate)

Resumed from p. 1688, on motion of Mr Dick—

That the bills be now read a second time.

Mrs MULLEN (Jordan—ALP) (2.27 pm): I just want to start by saying that I am very glad we had a lunch break, because I really needed that time to get over the budget reply speech. Today the Leader of the Opposition announced two things and they were both jobs for themselves: one for the member for Maroochydore and one for a yet-to-be-named woman at some point. Given how few women they have on their side of politics, I am sure it really narrows the field in terms of who it will be. What an absolutely embarrassing display of nothingness. Does that not really sum up the Leader of the Opposition, the sad front bench they have and really, frankly, the deflated members on their side of the chamber—absolute nothing. So let's talk about something.

I am pleased to support our Appropriation Bill and acknowledge my strong support for the state budget delivered by the Queensland Treasurer this week. The 2022-23 state budget reflects the Palaszczuk government's commitment to deliver better services aimed at improving the lives of Queenslanders, supporting the state's growing population and unlocking further economic and employment growth. Our government's strong response to the pandemic has seen our domestic economy grow faster than the rest of Australia. This is despite the first half of 2022 delivering us a triple whammy: surges in Omicron variant cases, major flooding in South-East Queensland, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the impact this is causing the supply side of our economy.

Despite these challenges, may I echo the Treasurer's words—this is a state budget built on the perseverance, discipline and hard work of the Queensland people. We continue to see more jobs created. Labour force data released only last week showed Queensland created an incredible 46,600 jobs in the month of May, which is 75 per cent of all jobs in our nation. ABS data also shows that Queensland remained the most attractive jurisdiction to live in, with the strongest population growth of any state or territory—responsible for 83.8 per cent of total national population growth over the year.

This incredible growth in our population has certainly challenged our state in the areas of health, education, housing and infrastructure, but as this budget shows we are listening to the people of Queensland and we are responding to these challenges. This is particularly evident in my own electorate of Jordan—an electorate of high growth and ample opportunities.

The 2022-23 budget is first and foremost a health budget—for all Queenslanders. Like all states across our country, our healthcare system in Queensland is facing unprecedented challenges, with rising presentations to emergency departments and the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The recent parliamentary inquiry into the provision of primary, allied and private health care, aged care and NDIS care services and its impact on the Queensland public health system revealed that only through systemic change can we really see our health system improve.

I was so pleased last week that, through a refreshingly collaborative National Cabinet, our new Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, announced not only additional funding but also a commitment to and understanding that our health system needs proper reform—whether it is through our primary and allied health care, or ensuring that those currently in our hospital system who should be better cared for in aged care or disability care can be. I am proud to be part of a government that understands the importance of resourcing our health system properly.

It was interesting that the Leader of the Opposition said nothing about coal royalties, so it begs the question: if they do not support the coal royalties change, if they remain silent on what is a major budget issue, does it mean they do not support hospital investment? If they do not support the coal royalties change, does it mean they want to cut \$1.2 billion from our hospitals? If they do not support the mental health levy, which was not referenced, does it mean they want to cut \$1.6 billion from our plan to support those who need mental health support? Those opposite want to cut the mental health budget like they cut the Barrett Adolescent Centre so many years ago.

The 2022-23 budget will provide a record \$23.6 billion for the Queensland health system to help meet growing demand. This operational funding will see the deployment of more doctors, nurses and paramedics. We are also building and expanding our network of public hospitals, with additional funding: \$9.785 billion to deliver more than 2,200 additional overnight beds at 15 facilities, including expansions at the Ipswich and Logan hospitals; \$710 million for the expansion of the Ipswich Hospital, which will create an additional 200 beds; and \$530 million for Logan Hospital that will see 112 additional beds created. The Springfield public hospital remains funded through our \$2 billion Hospital Building Fund announced in last year's budget and will continue to be delivered. As exciting as this capital investment is, the operating budget is equally important, and this year's budget has seen this grow by 5.6 per cent and it will allow an additional 9,475 staff to be employed to deliver world-class health care to Queenslanders.

One of the most significant commitments in this budget has to be our \$1.64 billion investment to improve mental health, alcohol and other drugs services and for a range of initiatives to support suicide prevention and deliver additional beds. This will make an incredible difference to those in my electorate who are struggling with their mental health or with addiction. In particular I would like to congratulate the Minister for Health for her commitment to a new five-year plan, focused on building services, supporting vulnerable groups in our community and strengthening access to care.

The growth that we are experiencing is not limited to our health services. With so many young families moving into our region, we are seeing an explosion in student numbers as well. Our record \$19.6 billion for education and training in this year's budget will see the delivery of more classrooms at Flagstone State School, Spring Mountain State School and Woodcrest State College. There is funding

for our new primary school in Augustine Heights, which is due to open in 2023. There is a commitment for a new primary school in Flagstone for 2025, and there are further funds for land acquisition for a new school in Greater Flagstone, and I will be strongly advocating for this to be a new high school in Greenbank or a P-12 campus in the area.

I am also pleased to see further funding for Greenbank State School, with \$500,000 for refurbishments, and almost \$1 million for maintenance for our Jordan schools. Whilst it may not seem like much, this is funding that I am extremely proud of—\$1.5 million for Flagstone State Community College which is getting a new fence, something the school has worked closely with me to make a reality.

We continue to see strong investment in infrastructure. I am so pleased to see an increased focus and funding for the Centenary Highway. In two weeks, we begin construction on the \$15 million Centenary Highway and Logan Motorway interchange upgrade—a significant and much anticipated project in my electorate. I am also pleased to see funding that will support the Centenary Highway interchange upgrade at Augusta Parkway and an off-ramp upgrade at Springfield Greenbank Arterial. I look forward to sharing those details with our community as they progress.

There is also funding in the budget for further planning from Richlands to Yamanto—aimed at futureproofing the Centenary Highway for the significant growth from Springfield to Ripley and beyond. This will recognise the need for additional lanes, upgraded off-ramps, new interchanges and the extension of the Centenary Cycleway—a project that many in my electorate would like to see constructed. There is funding for the Centenary Bridge at Jindalee and additional funding for the Centenary from Darra to Toowong through an Australian government commitment. I am also pleased to see the additional commitment of \$150 million for catalyst funding for priority development areas like Greater Flagstone. This will ensure we are building the new roads, as well as water and sewerage infrastructure to support the development in this area.

Our government is also supporting the Ipswich City Council with funding for the Springfield Greenbank Arterial duplication, the Springfield Parkway duplication and duplication of Augusta Parkway. We continue to progress rail corridor planning for the Salisbury to Beaudesert rail line business case, which is jointly funded and strongly supported by a good federal Labor government, and the Ipswich to Springfield passenger transport corridor, which also saw a welcome federal election commitment from Labor which will now be delivered.

Mr Deputy Speaker, you have reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Housing

Our Government continues to recognise the importance of housing—affordable housing, housing for vulnerable people, for families escaping domestic and family violence.

Our \$1.9 billion investment over the next four years and our \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund will continue to boost housing supply and increase housing and homelessness support across Queensland.

I'm particularly proud of our Housing Investment Fund that calls on developers, institutional investors, registered community housing providers and eligible government entities to bring forward innovative proposals to add new social homes and affordable housing builds, refits or refurbishments across Queensland.

Earlier this week, the Treasurer and Minister for Housing announced the HIF would deliver a pipeline of up to 1200 new social and affordable homes through a commercial partnership between community housing provider Brisbane Housing Company and the Queensland Investment Corporation.

This is exactly the types of partnerships and projects we wanted to see through HIF—and the seven projects announced will deliver half of this planned total comprising almost 600 new social and affordable homes.

And only last month, we announced the first two projects from HIF, located at Ethel Street, Chermiside and Sutton Street, Redcliffe.

Skills and Training

Deputy Speaker, I am also pleased to see that skills and training remains a priority for the Palaszczuk Government with more than \$1.2 billion invested to continue delivering high quality training and creating career pathways for Queenslanders.

We know that our investment in training and skills yields results—only last year we saw more than 52,000 Queenslanders starting as an apprentice or trainee, an incredible 63 per cent increase from the previous financial year.

I recognise that workforce supply issues continue to impact us in Queensland and am very pleased that the Queensland Workforce Strategy 2022-2032 is set to be delivered and will have a focus on expanding training and skills programs to ensure we have homegrown talent to relieve pressure on employers now and as we head into the exciting Olympic decade.

Trade and Investment

As the Assistant Minister for Treasurer, I have been really pleased to be supporting the Treasurer through the important portfolio of trade and investment—which has never been more important.

I was pleased to highlight the work of some of our TIQ Queensland success stories during my recent visits to Toowoomba and Cairns.

Companies like Milton and King, Mort and Co, Kialla Pure Foods and Allfish for Dogs.

Deputy Speaker, we are exporting so much more—in fact, Queensland exports hit a record \$99 billion.

Over the next decade the world's gaze will turn towards Queensland even more. One of Queensland's greatest economic opportunities will come from hosting the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

This is more than just a few weeks of competition—but a 20-year opportunity for Queensland to capitalise on investment and development up to the Games and the legacy benefits beyond.

As we head into the next decade, it is timely to see a new Queensland Trade and Investment Strategy 2022-2032 and I would like to congratulate Trade and Investment Queensland for their work on the strategy.

Our Government will invest an extra \$150 million to deliver the new strategy—a strategy that will ensure that we continue to support our exporters as they reach for new markets and boost sales where they are already currently trading.

Conclusion

Speaker, in conclusion I would like to congratulate the Queensland Treasurer on the delivery of the 2022-23 Budget—I know just how challenging it is to meet the needs of our growing state and to ensure we are continuing to fund frontline services, to fund infrastructure and our growing health and education systems.

May I also acknowledge and thank the Under Treasurer, Leon Allen and the many Treasury officers who worked so diligently and professionally to meet the Government's requirements of delivering the State Budget.

The Treasurer in his Budget Speech made the following observation:

The Queensland Government interacts with hundreds of thousands of people every day. Often during some of the most difficult times in their lives. As we grow and transform, we must remember that we live in a community, not just an economy.

At its heart, this is a caring Budget—it recognises the challenges we currently face and tackles them head on, particularly in the critical areas of health and mental health provision.

It supports our incredible frontline officers, our wonderful neighbourhood centres, our beautiful environment.

We have continued to invest in Queenslanders—to meet their needs and to support their aspirations.

I commend the Bills to the House.



Mr PERRETT (Gympie—LNP) (2.36 pm): I rise to speak on the 2022 budget. This government is riddled with integrity and transparency issues, and that character is written throughout this budget. It treats the trust of Queenslanders with contempt. It treats Gympie with contempt. It fails the Gympie residents. The Treasurer promised 26 times there would be no new or increased taxes. The government broke its debt promise, its no new tax promise, and its service and spending promise. It has failed on integrity and transparency.

Despite all this, the health crisis will continue. Nearly a third of the record \$9.785 billion to deliver new hospitals and beds is not identified until beyond July 2026—in four years. Only \$85 million is allocated for next year. None of the beds will be a reality until 2028. There will be no new hospitals until after the next election. The AMAQ has said that our health system is on life support. The government has overseen its destruction and wants another decade to fix its health crisis.

This is not about a record health budget; it is about the government's record on health. Its record in Gympie shows it is in crisis and it refuses to deliver a new Gympie hospital. Last year the government finally released the Master Clinical Services Plan—20 months late. It is now clear the plan was delayed because the government does not want to deliver a new hospital. The report found—

The existing Gympie Hospital infrastructure creates significant clinical and operational challenges, with services spread across multiple, poorly connected, multi-aged buildings. The fragmented operation of the facility is exacerbated by the steep topography of the site, and the inherent forms and structural constraints of the aged buildings.

The hospital cannot be patched. The report said—

Whilst ongoing minor capital works are undertaken ... to maintain safety standards, there is a need to move away from incremental capital works in favour of a broader investment in the site.

It cannot be clearer. I asked the minister in May to support fast-tracking a new hospital. The minister could not even be bothered to respond. The only response was from a departmental bureaucrat advising that Queensland Health, the bureaucracy, will consider it against other funding priorities. In other words, it is the department, the bureaucracy, which is determining the priorities for our region. Does the minister advocate for anything?

The hospital is a priority for my residents. Whichever statistic you look at—ambulance ramping, wait times or rates of chronic disease—Gympie has systemic problems. Every Labor budget since 2015 has contained a record investment in health, but services in Gympie keep declining. Patients and their families are being distressed. The community is frustrated as services are run down, closed or ignored. Almost daily I am told of problems. They are systemic: patients are discharged late at night; patients are forced to sit outside in the cold and wind, including a mother and young baby; an elderly man with atypical pneumonia who waited for his 78-year-old wife to travel more than 60 kilometres; mental health patients told to return home even though their GP says to urgently go hospital; those transferred to the Sunshine Coast are discharged with no way to come home; patients use their mobile phones to ring for staff attention; emergency department waiting times; no beds; being sent home only to return with a worsening condition; told the hospital cannot help and 'go talk to your GP' which is a bit hard when you cannot get in to see a GP; no response from phone calls and long waiting lists.

Ambulance ramping is concerning. In the December quarter, it was 23 per cent in Gympie, 44 per cent in Nambour and 46 per cent at the Sunshine Coast. They cannot even get the ambulance ramping figures right which is the percentage of patients not seen on time. Last week, the minister was caught using misleading ambulance ramping figures for Sunshine Coast University Hospital or SCUH. Instead of the claimed 18 per cent, it was really 40 per cent.

Since the last record health budget last year, staff have told me that Queensland Health is trying to spin its way out of problems and massage messages. There is a culture of secrecy, a lack of transparency, cover-ups and stalling. I have heard anecdotally that the staff are run off their feet, stressed and overworked. They are concerned about the lack of equipment and patient care.

Three weeks ago, people started telling me they tried to attend the hospital's fracture clinic, only to be told it was shut. The closure follows last year's fiasco from the closure of the paediatric ward. There was no warning to the community, let alone the patients. Patients were sent away from booked appointments or either told to see their GP or book an appointment at SCUH, a hospital at the southern end of the Sunshine Coast more than 100 kilometres away. It is up to a two-hour trip for patients from the Cooloola Coast. How can Queensland Health book you an appointment on a Monday, tell you to have an X-ray beforehand and bring it to the clinic to then tell you to drive more than 100 kilometres with a broken limb? You cannot not provide service at the hospital.

We have had issues in the paediatric ward, ambulance ramping, emergency departments, contraction of services in obstetrics, gynaecology and orthopaedics. When services are removed altogether, no-one finds out until they notice a change in what is provided or the loss of service. No-one is told anything. When I have raised issues, all I have received is evasive answers. These should be frontline services, often the first experience at a hospital. The state government seems to be deliberately running down services at the hospital. It knows the hospital facilities are old, not fit for purpose, with services fragmented and spread across multiple buildings. Its own master plan recommended preparing a business plan for a new hospital on a new site. The only plan seems to be to close services with no warning.

The glossy budget highlights brochure scraped the bottom of the barrel to find Gympie projects to showcase. The government has hitched itself to projects primarily funded and delivered by the former federal and the Gympie Regional Council. The \$834,000 for the Cooloola Coast Esplanade revitalisation will be delivered by the Gympie Regional Council. The state is making a part contribution to a council project. It is claiming credit for total funding of the ongoing commitment to deliver the Gympie bypass project. The former federal government funds the bulk or 80 per cent of this \$1 billion project.

I welcome the \$100,000 to commence replacing the permanent fire and rescue station in Gympie. It is projected to cost \$6 million. Since I was elected in 2015, I have advocated for a new station. Land was purchased in 2014 for a site. Whenever I have asked, time lines are bounced around. I have also raised local concerns about the suitability of the site and the possibility of an alternate site. Twelve months ago the minister advised me that the current station was functional and a replacement would be delayed until 2024. I am pleased the minister has now relented.

Rainbow Beach needs a properly designated police station and additional personnel. The Police Minister should be acutely aware that the population surge in the area during tourist season and on weekends is renowned for generating policing issues in popular spots like Teewah Beach. When I specifically raised the need for a station in the parliament more than 18 months ago, the minister asked me to raise it with him. I said I looked forward to seeing it in the following budget. I again wrote to him that same week. There was nothing in that budget. When the minister was in Rainbow Beach last year, I suggested he find the police station which operates from underneath a house. I never have been told if he ever found it. I wrote again asking for it in this year's budget.

The capital statements show a \$100,000 commitment for a Rainbow Beach replacement police facility. There is no mention of my request for additional personnel and an upgrade at Imbil police station. I trust the \$100,000 commitment is not simply designed to keep my community quiet. It must be followed up with the full funding to replace the police station.

I welcome the admission there has been a problem with Weapons Licensing. The process to modernise with streamlined processes and digitising records for a new management system must be real and effective.

This budget has almost nothing for increased social housing, state controlled roads, bridge upgrades and schools in Gympie. We have had three floods this year, one of which was only beaten by the 1893 flood. Despite the hand-wringing and media opportunities, the government is clearly reluctant to flood-proof the Gympie region or provide special assistance for sporting clubs which have been hit hard. It has ignored requests to invest in high quality sporting facilities. It has ignored fast-tracking investment in new school buildings and flood-proof them, especially at One Mile State School. Demountables should only be temporary; they cannot be a solution.

The Premier turned up for the first time. I asked her to listen and to deliver. We were hopeful. Nothing has been delivered. The government's announcement to build 1,200 new social and affordable homes is an exercise in cynical and cruel trickery. It was already announced in last year's budget, but unfunded. The Treasurer's breathtaking claim was, 'That's what governments do. We make our announcement and then deliver.' It did not deliver. The government is not looking for a housing crisis solution; it is only looking for a political one. Gympie has next to nothing for anyone needing crisis or social housing. It is compounded by pressure on the tight private rental market. The situation is exacerbated by the floods which have forced renters and home owners out of homes which need repair to compete for limited accommodation.

Last month, I asked the minister if land was identified for future housing as part of the \$10.5 million funding for emergency accommodation in Gympie. The minister said that two projects would deliver three homes. Another project is going through the final design stages. Another three sites are identified as potentially suitable for development. It is not much to meet Gympie's acute housing crisis. When people are living in their cars, in tents, couch surfing, families are being split and forced to live apart, the last thing they need is platitudes and budget trickery.

We need substantial funding for road and bridge infrastructure and improved train services. There is increasing pressure on local state controlled roads. The minister knows about them because I frequently raise them. The government is refusing to help improve flood immunity and start planning for a high-level bridge to improve access between north and south Gympie, or to provide special assistance for road upgrades. There are no increased train services for Gympie in the government's \$3.5 billion road cash splash to revolutionise the rail network.

The budget has wrong priorities and missed opportunities for agriculture, fishing and forestry industries and the communities they support. After adjusting for CPI, DAF's expenditure is cut by more than \$6.2 million from \$614 million to \$608 million and, even more concerning, staff have not increased. The government is promoting its commitment to mental health in the budget. DAF's budget has no mention of or funding for the dedicated mental health support or assistance for fishers. There is no funding to complete a regulatory impact statement.

Fishery operators are experiencing extreme hardship caused by the government's fishery reforms which is exacerbated by the minister's continual refusal to complete a regulatory impact statement. The former Productivity Commission heard that commercial fishers experienced significantly higher levels of high and very high psychological distress than the general Australian population, with the perpetual uncertainty generated by fisheries' management strategies cited as the key contributor. It heard the mental health issues are a direct by-product of legislative or regulatory change as there was no regulatory impact statement and mental health did not even feature in what was going to happen.


Last year during estimates I asked the agriculture minister about the mental health impact of the reform process. I had to ask three times. The minister did not want to consider it and deflected to the director-general, who eventually said it was not their role.

DAF's budget does not address timber supply issues, which are significantly impacting housing and construction. A more than 100 per cent increase in raw timber costs and lengthy delays to source products have inflated building costs. If nothing changes we will be short 56,000 house frames by 2035. The timber shortage crisis is fanned by this government's policies and inaction and is underpinned by systemic failure of government policy over two decades. The government will not discuss it. In

November 2019 the Premier promised a timber action plan within two years. It still has not been delivered. She promised a timber advisory panel. The panel has rarely met, and during question time the Premier could not list even one recommendation it has made.

Piecemeal government assistance, poor policy and cuts to service delivery have driven up the price of fruit and vegetables. Biosecurity has no additional staffing as the sector is threatened with Japanese encephalitis, which is already here, and foot and mouth disease at our borders. The war against fire ants is being lost. The agriculture minister is weaselling out of his national responsibility to eradicate fire ants and has reinvented the eradication program as a 'suppression task force'. It is clear the government has no intention of meeting its responsibility. The minister's press release ignored the discontinuation of the extension program for primary producers who adopt improved management practices. It flies in the face of the minister's claims to work with agricultural industries to achieve best practice.

This budget demonstrates Labor's ingrained cynicism, its spin, its trickery and its lack of integrity by dishonouring commitments and breaking promises and the trust of Queenslanders.

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (2.50 pm): I am so happy to rise and contribute to this debate. From the outset I congratulate the Treasurer on a sensational budget for Queensland and for my community of Pine Rivers. This budget focuses funding where it is needed most: in dealing with the demands of a growing population and investing in a bright and safe future for us all. There are major investments in our schools, particularly our high schools and special schools, an ambulance station in Lawnton, a replacement police station in Dayboro, major road safety upgrades, public transport upgrades, increased funding to our neighbourhood centre by over 81 per cent over four years, 93 more hospital beds at the Prince Charles Hospital and 204 new beds at Redcliffe. It continues to repair the damage still felt from the tyranny of conservative governments at state and federal levels and focuses its attention on the best asset our state has: our people.

Sitting through the LNP's budget response often feels like an endurance test and all indications are that this year there will be no change in circumstance in the Legislative Assembly. The lectures continue with veracity and despite the claims and chest beatings from those opposite, who hold themselves up to be superior economic managers, speaker after speaker from the LNP will stand up demanding their pet projects get a run or stomp their feet when they are not getting enough or not getting all of the presents under the tree for themselves. As I say, this often feels like an endurance test.

Even this week I have been talking to members of the opposition, crossbench and government about getting in the right frame of mind to conquer the long hours of budget week. Endeavouring to be prepared as always, I started to turn my mind to this some time ago and was thinking: is there a community service opportunity here? Is there a charitable act or an act of service I can perform to be of help? As I was preparing I contemplated that the best predictor of future behaviour is past behaviour and I had an idea.

In the seventh year of the dark oblivion of opposition with their fourth opposition leader and countless other iterations, I thought to myself that perhaps the most useful thing may indeed be light. I suppose it may be useful to provide some light to those opposite. I set out in search of a compact or convenient minitorch for them, something to assist them in their darkness. I imagine that members may indeed use it differently. The Leader of the Opposition, I imagine, would hold the torch under his chin like he is telling a horror story only to realise mid story that he is spilling out the same yarn as all of his failed predecessors but just to a smaller and smaller audience. The member for Kawana may use it as a safer option than a naked flame when he is reapplying his hairspray. The member for Currumbin can use it to guide people over the hard border closures. The member for Burdekin can use his torch to directly shine it in the faces of people during his vigilante activities. I imagine in their partyroom meeting they turn off the lights and one of them would draw the short straw and have to move it around the room so they can chase it like a cat with a laser for team-bonding activities.

My community service leads me to no other than the LNP website for a brilliant blue branded LNP LED torch/light, heavily discounted—slashed, in fact, in typical LNP style—so it is now only \$3.50 a pop. You beauty! Imagine my deep and enduring disappointment when I clicked on the link only to be greeted—

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I ask that you rule on relevance.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): I will rule on relevance. There is no point of order.

Ms BOYD: I think those opposite may be hiding the replacement batteries from the member for Nanango so she cannot get another go. As I say, imagine my deep and enduring disappointment when I clicked on the link only to be greeted by an error notice and an apology that the link leads to a place that cannot be found. How is this for consistency? Still in the dark, substantive content still cannot be found, broken link and even though heavily reduced, they are lacking.

Tabled paper: Extract from LNP webpage, undated, regarding the sale of LNP LED lights/torches [\[917\]](#).

Mr Deputy Speaker, you have reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Education

Deputy Speaker we continue to build upon the proud legacy of Palaszczuk Government school investments throughout our community. Prior to our government, many of our local schools had been long waiting since their BER halls and resource centres to have any infrastructure investment commitments made at all.

Only months after I had the honour to cut the ribbon on the Bray Park State High School's innovation centre, this budget brings another massive commitment for the school community with another new building. This budget announces a \$15.4 million building with 10 learning spaces, 4 specialist spaces, and an extension to the design technology centre. The specialist spaces will make for a well being hub for the school and all-round health and wellness of students.

Pine Rivers State High School \$5.7 million investment in learning spaces that assist in vocational training- certificate II and III courses. These will make for contemporary specialist spaces and enhance mechanics, manual arts, hospitality and the arts.

Both of our state high schools are already tremendous spaces for getting the foundations for a bright and limitless future and these investments will make them even better places to learn and develop.

At Dayboro State School this year we have opened the senior playground, a election commitment and work is coming to an end on our accessible pathways program, making the school campus on a steep hill, a learning space for all. This budget will continue to build upon the classroom refurbishments in the school with 3 more learning spaces getting modernised under the infrastructure enhancement program.

Pine Rivers Special School additional classrooms is a \$14.7m investment in what I am told is the states largest special school. This double story building is currently coming out of the ground and will be the third large scale building delivered on the campus by the Palaszczuk Government. The prior buildings have provided modern teaching and learning environments for staff and students alike, and I am eagerly awaiting this construction finalisation- and am confident this building will be just as transformative for the special school community.

Strathpine West State School's Outside School Hours Care program is bursting at the seams and my election commitment of a renovation to the space will result in the OSHC being able to increase their capacity. I know the school and OSHC has been working hard to get the program shovel ready and this budget will see the dollars start to flow to this program. Strathpine West will also see a major investment in a school security fence as part of our facilities renewal program.

Health

We know Deputy Speaker that there is unprecedented pressure on our Health and Hospital system right across the country, there is a range of complex factors that are underlying this pressure, but what we know for sure, is that there is increased demand on the system right now.

Be it population growth, a lack of primary care, ageing population, a lack of aged care and disability care, declining private health cover or covid-19. 2020-21 when compared to 2014-15 patient admissions in our hospitals has increased nu 40.1% and emergency department presentations has seen category 1, 2 and 3 presentations (the most serious types) increase by 28.6%

This budget brings a comprehensive plan and funding to address this unprecedented pressure. Locally we have the satellite hospital underway- which will free our major hospitals of presentations and allow for more acute beds.

We will a 150 bed Cancer care Centre based at the Royal with 150 beds. Hospital expansions are happening across Queensland including 93 new beds at The Prince Charles Hospital and 204 new beds at the Redcliffe Hospital.

The antiquated and badly placed Petrie Ambulance Station will be waved goodbye as we commence construction of the contemporary new station with increased capacity on Gympie Road in my electorate at Lawnton.

Roads

The size and diversity of my community means, more often than not, that people move around it using their cars. I have very long stretches of state roads and this budget continues to progress major safety upgrade works on Eaton's Crossing Road, Samford Road and Mount Glorious Road.

Eaton's Crossing Road and particularly the Lilley Road intersection, is a notoriously unsafe road with a high rate of crashes, including many fatal crashes over the years.

There is a major end-to-end safety upgrade which will also spill out to make safer the Gibbons Road intersection in Samford.

Detailed design on these works is almost completed and we expect the construction to go to tender later this year.

This is a project I have campaigned hard for, and I am so pleased to see it move forward in its delivery and address the major areas of concern for local commuters.

I've spoken in this place before about the Samford Road upgrades and the strong community call to keep the overtaking lanes for road users.

After some immediate surface works on the road, the department has been working hard designing and finding dollars to retain the overtaking lanes and carry out safety works required to make this notorious stretch of road between Lomandra Picnic Area and the Camp Mountain Road intersection safer. We will also be upgrading the Camp Mountain Road intersection as part of the project works.

For some time the bus station at the Strathpine Centre has been getting expansion works to increase capacity and I am pleased to see that with additional need to this major shopping destination- there will be further investment to make this safe and able to deal with the bus and passenger movements.

Emergency services

Deputy Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with our Police Minister to engage with the community in Dayboro as we plan the replacement Dayboro Police Station.

This will be a facility that will serve the community well into the future and will be a modern, purpose-built facility for our hardworking QPS team.

Community feedback has changed the design to have more of a heritage style design and make sure the facility has ample parking spaces to avoid occupying carparking on the street side.

I look forward to continuing to work with this community to deliver this resource, along with the Palaszczuk Governments record investment for more police officers in our community.

Community services

We have such a hard-working team at our Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Centre- a team that always manages to stretch a dollar as far as they can, so it is of real comfort to know that this centre in Lawnton will be receiving a 81% increase to funding to continue their great work.

SEQ stimulus funding

Following on from the proven success of the Works for Queensland program, the SEQ Community Stimulus Funding provides local councils the funding they need to deliver long lasting infrastructure, in areas where they need it- putting dollars into the local economy and generating local jobs.

Only a couple of weeks ago I cut the ribbon on the long-awaited Percy Cash Pedestrian Bridge in Samford and there is more exciting upgrades in the pipeline for our community.

The Pine Rivers Swans have a new changeroom delivered and we are constructing right now a new clubhouse.

The Pine Rivers BMX club have a state-of-the-art facility under construction at Nolan Park, which will continue to see more World Champions come up through this great club.

The Dayboro community will finally get safe Footpath's infrastructure on Hay Road and the Dayboro Dingos will see lighting installed at their fields.

Local government portfolio

It has been an honour to serve Palaszczuk as the Assistant Minister for Local Government and I wanted to highlight some of the valuable programs this budget delivers for Councils across our state.

There is \$36.1 million for the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program. This is funding assistance to support councils to deliver priority infrastructure projects to meet identified community needs and supports projects that will create sustainable and liveable communities.

Spend for 2022-2024 round of Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program is almost \$86 million. I am advised that the above funding represents the first 30% payment for the 2022-2024 round and some funds to pay out projects delivered under previous rounds

Next Mr Speaker is the \$88.2 million towards the \$1 billion Works for Queensland program (2021-2024 round = \$200 million). This supports local governments in regional Queensland undertaking job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure works.

\$24.8 million is going towards the \$200 million SEQ Community Stimulus Program (2021-2024 round = \$100 million)— a program I see working in my own community as I highlighted earlier. This fast tracks South East Queensland councils' investment in new infrastructure and community assets that create jobs and deliver economic stimulus.

There is also \$22.3 million towards the \$120 million Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure Program to support Indigenous councils to implement projects and infrastructure works relating to critical water, wastewater and solid waste assets, and provide a basis for the long-term strategic management of essential assets.

\$9.9 million is going towards the \$200 million COVID Works for Queensland program to support local governments in regional Queensland undertaking job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure projects.

\$2m for the Burdekin Shire Council Ayr Water Supply—Infrastructure (Stage 2) Project, our government is providing increased funding of \$2 million in 2022-23 for the Burdekin Shire Council to complete Stage 2 of the Ayr Water Supply Infrastructure project. Total funding for this program is \$12 million over 4 years from 2019-20. I was there only a couple of weeks ago to see the benefit this project will deliver.

In addition, there is \$5 million for sustainability of Queensland local governments. Our government is providing additional funding of \$5 million over 3 years to deliver a suite of local government sustainability initiatives focused on supporting Queensland councils address capability, service delivery and financial challenges that are impacting the sector's long-term sustainability.

Summary


There is plenty more Deputy Speaker in this budget for Queenslanders- from our enormous housing plan, our environmental action and our renewables future. A huge investment in the SES, an invaluable resource through Queensland's natural disasters. My community has not escaped the impact of the February floods and the resilience and rebuild funding in this budget is a welcomed investment for many still putting the shattered pieces together.

Small and medium sized businesses will get payroll tax relief and there is a historic spend addressing the challenges of mental health response, support and treatment which is a watershed moment in the history of our state.

Deputy Speaker, this is a budget that is already being embraced by my community. It's a budget that get the priority balance right and delivers the services Queenslanders want and need.

Can I conclude by thanking the Treasurer, Premier and Cabinet for taking these decisions and continuing to keep the trust and build the trust with the people of our great state. This is a budget that delivers for all of Queensland and will propel us forward in our recovery efforts to a brighter future.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Before I call the next speaker, there is an extremely wide latitude when it comes to relevance in budget debates. I am going to save people the time of rising on each other on points of order around relevance. All temporary speakers will be adopting a very wide latitude in relation to budget speeches, as has been the convention in previous debates that I have been involved in as a temporary speaker and now as the Deputy Speaker.

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (2.56 pm): I rise today with my response to the government's 2022-23 budget. I do so having the great privilege of being the opposition's shadow minister for health and ambulance services, shadow minister for medical research and shadow minister for women and as the proud member for Mudgeeraba.

We are in the midst of a Queensland health crisis. That is now a well-known and well-established fact. Patients know it, our clinicians know it and Queenslanders know it. It has been building for more than half a decade—seven years—over three terms. All that time the government's grip on Queensland's public health system has been wavering. That entire time they have been losing control. Now we have arrived at crisis point—situation critical: a health system on its knees overseen by a government incapable of managing it.

Queensland Labor and Queensland Health—it is a sad and sorry tale that can be traced back decades now. In a previous era it was plagued by a payroll system that did not pay nurses. We had a fake prince who stole millions in taxpayer cash. We had a Premier who called the whole thing a basket case and that it should be split in two, and we had ambulance ramping at 30 per cent, a level which at that time had never been seen before. Fast forward to today and the mess that was made back then is with us again, only this time the government inherited ambulance ramping at 15 per cent; it had been halved in less than three years. Today it is at 42 per cent, the highest on record in Queensland and the worst in the country.

Just like the Labor government in the first decade of this century, this Labor government is tired. It is running out of puff, it is running out of ideas and its integrity lies in tatters. It is overseeing a health system on the verge of collapse. It is a familiar story which Queenslanders know all too well.

On Tuesday we heard the Treasurer and the Premier ask Queenslanders for another seven years to sort out the health crisis. It is not just 'another seven years'; they are breaking a promise and taxing Queenslanders to try to pull themselves out of a mess. The problem is that the health crisis is not arriving in seven years time; it has arrived. It is here now. I have been talking to those on the front line of our health system—the heroes who have shown up every day through the pandemic, through the flu season and through the staff shortages to help Queenslanders. They have known for many years that this health crisis was coming.

When Queensland families think about the services that are delivered by the state government they think of health care. It is a core responsibility. It is a responsibility that for seven years and three terms this government has often absolved itself of, to the detriment of Queenslanders. Queenslanders expect an ambulance to come when they call triple 0. They should rightly expect that. They do not expect to be told there will not be one for hours or to consider finding their own way to hospital, yet that is what is happening in Queensland today.

On this side of the House, we have consoled those mourning the loss of a loved one because the ambulance they called did not arrive in time. On this side of the House, we have looked into the eyes of those desperate for their elective surgery to fix a knee, a hip, their heart or their eyes. Nearly

60,000 Queenslanders are waiting for elective surgery today. On this side of the House, we have sat and listened to Queenslanders who have been waiting years to see a specialist. There are more than a quarter of a million people on that list right now. These Queenslanders—like the doctors, nurses, paramedics and allied health professionals who care for them—are crying out for help. They are desperate for it. They are crying out for help, despite there being record health budget after record health budget for the last eight years.

If the last eight health budgets have been so great and so record breaking, why are we in this mess? Why is Queensland's ambulance ramping rate of 42 per cent the highest on record and the highest in the nation? Why has Queensland's elective surgery waiting list nearly doubled since this government took office? Why do more than a quarter of all patients presenting at our emergency departments wait longer than the clinically recommended times? If this government and its budgets have been so fantastic for our public health system, how did we get to where we are today? They are fair questions that every Queenslander has the right to ask, and the common denominator is this government.

As an opposition, we have consistently spoken about our view on the solutions to the Queensland health crisis. We have done it for well over a year now. I have always said that more resources are critical—I welcome any investment for our hospital system, and I will always fight for more—but I want to be clear on this point: additional investment and more resources are only one piece of the puzzle. The health crisis in Queensland is a problem today. It is not a problem to be fixed in seven years time, which is when the key facilities the government has announced will come online. Less than 10 per cent of the government's \$9 billion hospital building program will be expended this coming financial year. Nearly a third of it has not even been allocated in the forwards. They have made huge promises, but it is possible that the outcomes of those promises will not be seen until after the next decade begins. As Dr Bolton, the president of the AMAQ, put it, we needed more resources and more beds yesterday.

With a majority of the other promised beds slated for beyond two years time, where does that leave our hospitals for the remainder of this winter or the next flu season? Are we destined to see the frenzied scenes on ambulance ramps and in our emergency departments repeated year after year for the foreseeable future? Based on the announcements in this budget, I fear that this may well be the case.

The issues besieging our health system are not just born of a lack of resources; many of the problems are structural and cultural. Those issues cannot be solved with money alone. The opposition believes that clinicians must be re-empowered. To do that will not cost a cent. Frontline health staff know our hospitals best. They know the communities they serve and the health needs of those communities. They understand the intricacies and complexities which are involved in delivering care in their own local areas. Empowering them to identify and enact local solutions to local problems is a must. That is particularly the case in our rural and regional facilities, because Brisbane just does not get their patch like local clinicians do.

This government has form when it comes to stripping services out of the bush. Look at the number of birthing services closed under Labor across rural and regional Queensland. As the shadow minister for women, I believe it is totally unacceptable. It means that babies are being born on the side of the road, because when baby decides to come it is hours to the closest facility capable of birthing a child. It is inexplicable that this could be happening in Queensland in this day and age. We should be giving women in rural and regional Queensland the facilities and the support they need to birth safely; however, women in these communities and their precious babies continue to be left in these dangerous and undignified situations. It is a shameful record which this government has overseen.

More resources and empowering clinicians are things the opposition sees as critical to healing the health crisis; however, there are two further points. As an opposition we have spoken about improving triage practices and expanding training pathways for triage staff, which can also help ease blockages at the front door of our public hospital system. For many Queenslanders, arriving at the triage window is the first interaction they will have with our public hospital system, and it is critical that we get it right. Finally, the current approach to keep the performance of our health system under lock and key must also change. The sharing of health data openly and transparently must occur. It empowers patients and gives clinicians choice, it has the potential to streamline care, it provides Queenslanders with a clear picture and it can drive reform.

I will continue fighting until Queenslanders in every community have the health service they deserve. That includes mine—the best electorate in Queensland. Once again, the residents of Mudgeeraba have been left behind by Labor and I am pretty cross about it. Again, there is nothing much for Mudgeeraba. Labor loathes the Gold Coast, despite all the glitz and glamour we offer for red

carpet appearances. This budget reveals what Labor really think of our community. We are nothing but a backdrop—a film set for their announcements. They do not care about the people who have chosen to live in the best place in Queensland.

I think it is important to place on the record some details of what I have been fighting for on behalf of my local community—projects that would help the hardworking people of Mudgeeraba who have again been let down by this out-of-touch, three-term government. It is lucky that we were not still holding our breath waiting for the train at Merrimac. There has been a station promised there since 2017, but there is still no timeline or details about the process. They talk a big game about public transport, but there is not much delivery. With better public transport, pressure would be eased on our roads.

Speaking of this, Labor has again ignored the infrastructure projects that my community needs to stay safe. I am glad the minister has just walked into the chamber. We need \$1.5 million to raise the Austinville causeway so that more drivers are not swept off the road in floods and communities remain connected in times of natural disasters. I have written to, talked to and met with ministers and their departments trying to explain just how important this project is, but all I get is a letter from the minister saying that it is not a priority. Tell that to the families who had to spend the night in their cars because they could not get home when the road flooded again this year.

Then there is the footpath at Springbrook. Finally, there is some funding to replace a dangerous roadside walkway but, in typical Labor fashion, it is a few metres short. The footpath reaches to either side of a vehicular causeway, so people now will be forced back onto the road to cross over the creek, which floods frequently. It literally is an accident waiting to happen. The accidents are already happening on Gooding Drive. I have been fighting to get this major intersection signalised for years, because only traffic lights can stop the accidents and help keep people safe.

Then there are the roads outside our schools. I have been fighting for the state to help council with the costs associated with providing safe drop-off zones for Mudgeeraba State School and Clover Hill State School. Again, I have written and explained, yet still we have families putting themselves at risk so they can get to school. The safety of our children should be our first priority.

Talking about safety, let's talk about the illegal hoons who are making life hell for communities in Mudgeeraba. Again let me put on the record how many times I have written, met with and talked with ministers for the past seven years. I have explained that installing CCTV cameras in Lower Beechmont, Springbrook and the Numinbah Valley will help our hardworking police hunt down and prosecute these low-lifes.

There is nothing, not one brass razoo, in this budget to help keep my community safe on the roads. This tired, third-term government has also let down the children of the future in Mudgeeraba. I am thrilled the Mudgeeraba Special School will get an additional \$6 million for new classrooms, but we need so much more. I have said it before and I will say it again: we need a new state high school west of the M1. Housing developments are proceeding, homes will be going up and families will be moving in. Our local primary schools are booming, local high schools are at capacity and there is no room or capacity for future development. Our families want to stay in the area from the first day of school to the last, but they cannot because this government will not fund the future.


Again we have heard Labor talking up tourism and the environment, but we still need more to be done. Tourists travelling to the magnificent hinterland need better signage at Springbrook, they need better facilities and parking so the visitor experience is what it should be. I welcome the spending on ecotourism at Gondwana and the construction of the adventure tourism cliff climbing system at Natural Bridge, but we also need to keep the environment around our urban communities in the best possible shape. Mudgeeraba Creek used to be a thriving ecosystem hosting platypus populations. For seven years I have been fighting for this beautiful waterway to be reinvigorated as a natural haven for the residents, but for seven years we have been ignored.

The My Community Legal service has been ignored. These are the people who provide free legal service to some of our most vulnerable residents, such as families fleeing sexual and domestic violence. There is nothing in this budget to help that important community support. I want to put on record my determination to keep fighting for Mudgeeraba so the residents can have the roads, schools and education they deserve. It has taken me years of campaigning to get Worongary Road resurfaced. Trust me when I say I will keep fighting so that the residents of Mudgeeraba have the infrastructure and facilities that they need. I will not be shying away from the fight.

Mr Bailey: Why did you cut it when you were in power?

Ms BATES: I take the interjection from the minister. It was the LNP who actually fixed the causeway on Worongary Road, thank you very much.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Before I call the next member, there were times during the member's contribution when the conversation was getting a little bit loud. I remind members to keep their conversations down or to take them outside.

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (3.11 pm): I rise proudly in this House to support the 2022-23 Palaszczuk government budget. Like everybody in here I am a proud Queenslander. I feel privileged to represent my community. We could do with a lot less talking down of Queensland from the opposition. Honestly, it is disappointing. We live in one of the most amazing places on the planet in every sense. We are part of the lucky country. We are the best state in the nation. We could do with hearing a lot more about what is great about our state.

This is the fifth budget that I have had the opportunity to be part of delivering. We have delivered fantastic services and projects out in the Redlands across that time. We are an absolute hive of activity from one end of the electorate to the other. I promised that I would always be a strong voice and that I would work hard and always fight. Every day is about working hard to make sure that you are continually securing the services and planning and being prepared and getting ready for the projects that you need. I have said in nearly every budget speech and I will say it again: a measure of success in this place is determined by the legacy ultimately left behind for our communities and the work we do today and tomorrow to secure the future for our communities and for future generations.

This budget means a lot for Redlanders and for future growth in our region. It continues to position us for the needs of today and for the needs of tomorrow. The Premier says very often that our brightest days are ahead of us. Our chamber of commerce says, and it is their hashtag, that the Redlands Coast has a bright future ahead. It most certainly does and this budget delivers on that.

I will go through some of the highlights. Health, wellbeing, community and caring for Queenslanders is central to this budget. For Redlanders that means \$25 million to fast track an extra 28 hospital beds. That is a 15 per cent increase on top of the \$62 million for the stage 1 expansion of Redlands Hospital that will see a new intensive care unit and 37 further beds. That is over 60 beds in total. That is fantastic news. On top of that there is a \$40 million satellite hospital. That will be ready to rock and roll in 2023. The steel is set to be on site in July. It is an absolutely fantastic project for our community. It will bring health services closer to my island communities. It will bring great health care to Redlanders when they need it most. In addition to that, towards the end of last year I secured an additional 11 QAS paramedics who will help service the Southern Moreton Bay Islands. There is a new ambulance ferry that is under construction that will be state of the art and will provide fantastic health care for the over 10,000 people who live across my island communities.

This budget is delivering for our neighbourhood centres. We all know how important those neighbourhood centres are to our communities. They provide an invaluable service. They are an intrinsic part of our community's fabric. That is great news. There is funding for the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. I do not think there is anybody in this place who would disagree that that makes an enormous contribution to so many groups across Queensland. That is absolutely the case in the Redlands.

As I said, I feel absolutely blessed to live in the Redlands. It is so nice to see that we will be celebrating our First Nations people with the Quandamooka Art Museum and Performance Institute on Minjerribah. That is worth noting. That will be fantastic for our community. There is continued investment in public housing. I have always said education changes everything. It is at the heart of our communities. As a regular attendee at our P&Cs and volunteer at school tuckshops on occasion I say to Minister Grace that our schools, our P&Cs, our volunteer conveners in the tuckshops and the kids are going to love what we are going to deliver in terms of upgrading those spaces. That is fantastic news. That builds on the air conditioning and the solar we have delivered ahead of time and on budget. There is not a teacher or a student who does not think that to be in a cooler school in South-East Queensland is the best thing since sliced bread. There is so much happening in the education space. The new kindergarten at Russell Island State School is transformative. It builds on the KindylinQ project. It changes lives, it changes destinies.

The Palaszczuk government is focused on how we deliver for today and deliver for a better future. There is fantastic work happening in the Redlands. I have a new Redland Bay school coming as part of the new schools program for 2024. Thornlands State School will receive a \$550,000 upgrade to the AM block. We have work happening on Cleveland-Redland Bay Road and we are about to look at the stage 2 planning and design works from Anita Street heading down towards Giles Road in my growing community. There is absolutely fantastic work happening there. We are also looking at the other arterial road into the city because a lot of our people work in town. There is a planning study for Mount

Cotton Road, Duncan Road to Double Jump Road and Redland Bay Road and Taylor Road. Then there is our \$44 million Southern Moreton Bay Island ferry terminals. The Russell Island ferry terminal is nearly completed and should be open by the end of the year. This is transformative for my community. There is so much happening right across the Redlands.

The regional jobs committee is doing amazing work in looking at our Redlands economy. The Skilling Queenslanders for Work program is absolutely fantastic. Our Redlands research facility run by DAF looking at hydrogen, looking at start-ups and the ecosystem around creating more jobs for Queenslanders is doing amazing things.

I will now talk about the Leader of the Opposition and his comments on planning. We have a bit of a problem in the Redlands. I know he is very good friends with our mayor. I would ask him to pick up the phone and ask her to do the housing strategy. We know that we have challenges in housing. If you do not plan for it, if you do not do the work for it then you do not plan well for the future. If you want to talk about planning and better housing, pick up the phone and ask the mayor to do that piece of work, as the Deputy Premier has asked her to do.

I have had the balance of my speech reviewed and approved by the Deputy Speaker for incorporation and as such I ask that the remainder of my speech is incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Following is a detailed outline of our Palaszczuk Government's and my track record in delivering for Redlands and the works we will continue to deliver on.

Education

A New State School Redland Bay in our southern Redland Bay to open in 2024

\$9.4M Victoria Point State High School new learning building

\$500K Victoria Point State High School Science Building Upgrade

\$550K Thornlands State School Block AM Upgrade

\$109K Redland Bay State School Entrance Upgrade

\$500K in maintenance and minor works 2022-2023

Free TAFE for Year 12 Graduates

Free Apprenticeship and Traineeship Costs across 139 trades

Completed

Air conditioning and Solar for all our Redlands Schools

\$15M Redlands TAFE Revitalisation—nursing and trades

Macleay and Russell Island KindyLinQ program

New Russell Island State School Kindergarten

\$500K OSHC Redland Bay State School + \$100k new shade structure

\$500K OSHC Victoria Point State School and refurbished music and general classrooms

\$125K Russell Island State School Playground

\$125K Macleay Island State School Playground

\$11M Redlands District Special School New Learning Precinct

\$500k Macleay Island State School Admin and Library Refurbishment

\$400K Russell Island State School Landscape works

\$1.2M Russell Island State School Classroom Refurbishments

\$1M Victoria Point State High School Library Upgrade

\$2M Victoria Point State High School Hall Expansion

\$1M Victoria Point State High School New School Fence

\$600K Thornlands State School Refurbished Administration Building

\$100k Thornlands State School Multipurpose Court Resurfacing

\$1.6M Redland Bay State School New Buildings

\$700k Bayview State School New Buildings

\$400k Redlands District Special School New Buildings

\$6M Cleveland District State High School new multipurpose hall

\$3M Cleveland District State High School new manual arts building

\$9M Cleveland District State High School new classrooms

\$2.4M YMCA new Vocational School and Youth Hub

\$3.9M Carmel College New Admin Building

New School Crossings—Bayview, Macleay Island, Russell Island, Carmel College, Victoria Pt, Faith Lutheran Redlands College
Transport and Roads

\$110M Stage 1 Cleveland Redland Bay Road Upgrade

\$44M SMBI Ferry Terminal Upgrades with Redland City Council

\$4M South Coast Road Safety Program

\$400K Redlands Transport Study

\$900K Mt Cotton Rd, Duncan Rd to Double Jump Road, Redland Bay Road and Taylor Road

\$30M Eastern Transitway

Free SMBI Inter-island Travel

Complete

\$5M Old Cleveland Road Gateway Onramp Upgrade

\$9M Victoria Point Bus Terminal

\$9M Redland Bay Marina

\$1M Moreton Cycleway Stage 1

Jobs

Skilling Queenslanders for Work

Small Business Grants

Redlands Regional Jobs Committee

Partnership with QUT and investors for a new Hydrogen Pilot Plant

Health

\$40M new Satellite Hospital

\$52M new 7 Level Hospital Car Park

\$62M Stage 1 Hospital Expansion that includes new ICU and 38 ward beds

\$25M new Ward—25 beds

\$6M Full Hospital Expansion—Detailed Business Case following on from Prelim + Master Plan

11 Additional QAS Paramedics to service the SMBI and new Ambulance Ferry

Complete

\$1.7M Redlands Hospital Emergency and Birthing Expansion

\$1.5M Hospital Expansion Preliminary Business Case

Hospital Expansion Master Plan

Redlands Hospital—Mental Health Living Edge Pilot

Redlands Hospital—SLAM Skin Cancer Facility

Community + Tourism

New Quandamooka Art Museum and Performance Institute

Increased Neighbourhood Centre funding

Gambling Community Benefit Fund—opportunities

Redlands Rugby League \$150K for new change rooms

Victoria Point Sharks Club \$150K for lighting upgrade

New Fire Station for Mt Cotton and serving communities in the west of my electorate

Complete

\$3M Social Housing ongoing

\$100K Donald Simpson Centre support

\$1.5M+ Community Benefit Fund Delivery—kayaks, ride-ons, storage sheds, club equipment, facility upgrades, sports lighting, turf and so much more.

\$1M+ New Maybanke Crisis Accommodation

Maybanke Additional Child Support Worker

\$2M IndigiScapes Upgrade

\$175k Macleay Island Bowls Upgrade

\$160k Victoria Point Sharks + VPSH Oval Upgrade

\$20K RedFest Sponsorship

2 x new Police Officers Russell Island

2 x new vessels—Police Barge and High Speed Jet Boat

New Stingray Police Vehicles

New Police QLITE Equipment

4 x Fisheries Patrol Officers

2 x New Fire Appliance—Russell Island and Lamb Island

Redlands Rapid Response Team—Homelessness

\$500k Centre for Women & Co. Domestic Violence Program Funding

Regional Arts Development Funding for local arts programs


War on Wreck Program 800+ vessels removed—significant number in Moreton Bay

New Maritime Enforcement Team—operating across Moreton Bay

Jet boats for tourism development

Coastal Erosion Funding to Redland City Council

Containers for Change Facilities

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (3.18 pm): As many on this side have said—and I note the shadow Treasurer is here in the chamber—this is quite simply a budget of broken promises. There was a promise of no new taxes. Those opposite have broken the debt promise, they have broken the service promise, they have broken the spending promise and they have failed on integrity and transparency.

They have truly broken the trust of Queenslanders. Let us start with the promise that there would be no new taxes. The Treasurer promised 26 times, at a minimum, that there would be no increased or new taxes. Instead, we have a payroll tax increase, a racing levy and a coal royalty increase. Incredibly, the Treasurer has tried to weasel his way out of it by saying that he did not make a promise to business; the promise was only to the people of Queensland. I think that the Treasurer may need a lesson in reality. I say to the Treasurer that a large percentage of 'the people of Queensland' actually are in business. They are businesspeople. They are business owners. You cannot separate them from 'the people of Queensland'. They have personal lives. They have families. They have children. They are a part of our communities. They are Queenslanders. That excuse is completely ridiculous.

I turn to integrity and transparency or, should I say, the complete lack of. Currently in Queensland we have 10 major commissions of inquiry or reviews into serious integrity issues. Today, CFMMEU union boss Michael Ravbar came out and savaged the Premier for failing to exorcise the creeping cancer of lobbyists from her government. That was quite an extraordinary step.

Of course, then there is the debt, which continues to grow relentlessly. It is now \$110 billion and will be \$129 billion by the end of the forwards. This is an increase of 80 per cent. Additionally, after a fake privatisation of the titles registry last year, specifically to lower net debt, net debt is set to triple in

the forwards. That will set alarm bells ringing for the ratings services. However, this government does not seem to care about that. They always forget about the people of Queensland. We know that reckless borrowing over the years is finally taking its toll. The government's chickens will come home to roost.

In relation to the Nanango electorate, I will start with the huge cost-of-living pressures. Currently in Queensland inflation is at six per cent, which is the highest rate in the nation. The new federal Treasurer has confirmed that we are in the grips of a full-blown cost-of-living crisis. However, all the government has elected to do to support struggling Queenslanders is offer one electricity rebate. Beyond that half-hearted rebate, the government has announced no new initiatives to counter the skyrocketing cost of living. Clearly, this government's priorities are all wrong.

There is also a housing crisis, which each and every member of this House will know about. It is having a heartbreaking effect on my community. When it comes to housing, there is nothing new in this budget. There is not another cent towards a new home to house a Queenslanders in need. This is at a time when, in the Nanango electorate, families are living in their tents or in their cars. When it comes to housing, the government's record is abysmal. We know that this government is tired and they are out of ideas having been in government for seven years. In the past five years, the number of social housing bedrooms has increased by less than one per cent but the waiting list has grown by 70 per cent. They have built 1,190 bedrooms for 50,000 Queenslanders. That is a national disgrace.

Let us have a chat about road funding or, should I say, the absence or lack of road funding. The Nanango electorate covers a large area, including the South Burnett, Somerset, Cherbourg, western parts of the Gympie region and northern parts of the Toowoomba Regional Council. I have done some calculations on figures from the QTRIP program for 2022-23 to 2025-26. It is good that the minister is in the chamber to hear this, because these figures are quite frightening. For the entire South Burnett regional area, which covers 8,382 square kilometres, just 5.7 per cent of the Wide Bay/Burnett TMR roads budget has been assigned to that region's roads. For the Somerset region it is even worse with just 2.6 per cent of the North Coast region's TMR roads budget allocated to Somerset roads. Let us put that into perspective: the Somerset region covers half of the entire North Coast district, but it gets just 2.6 per cent of the funding.

In fact, the whole of the Nanango electorate has been completely overlooked and, once again, our regional communities will continue to have to put up with a third-class road system. This state budget continues the Labor way of chronic neglect of regional road upgrades and maintenance. It is an unacceptable amount given the continued deterioration of the major connecting roads throughout the region. There is no new funding for our major highways such as the Burnett, Wide Bay and Bunya highways or, of course, the very important D'Aguilar and Brisbane Valley highways.

I am bitterly disappointed that, once again, there is no funding to upgrade the seriously dangerous Tanduringie Creek Bridge. I have spoken about this in the House time and time again as it is where the local school bus, which was full of schoolkids, nearly collided with a truck a few years ago. Still an upgrade of that bridge has not been funded. I call on the minister to get it into the QTRIP or any form of funding. We need that to be done. On the Brooweena-Woolooga Road, Running Creek Bridge, which burnt down after a car crash, still has no funding prospects. Over the past year I have continued to advocate for funding for key roads and I will list them because the minister is here: Mundubbera-Durong Road, Kingaroy-Barkers Creek Road, Kilkivan-Tansey Road, the single-lane Cooyar Bridge on the New England Highway, Memerambi-Gordonbrook Road and Byee Road. But still there is nothing.

Tragically, more people are dying on Queensland roads than ever before and the state government has failed to meet their targets for road fatalities and hospitalisations. As of last Sunday, 138 people have died on our roads—

Mr Power interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Can you believe the opportune time that the member for Logan chooses to interject? We are talking about people's lives. It never ceases to amaze me. That figure is 12 more than in 2021 and 29 people above the five-year average. However, they continue to patch our roads, which are full of potholes. If the roads are sealed they are barely a single lane in width or they are corrugated gravel roads that are completely unsafe. What about the GS Bond Bridge on the Chinchilla-Wondai Road? That project was listed for an overhaul—and I have spoken about it in this House before—but it has dropped off the radar.

Labor really needs to start considering and spending money in regional areas if they expect Queensland to prosper. Most of the projects listed in the budget for the Nanango electorate—those that I can find—are simply reannouncements. I had hoped to see funding for several projects that I would like to highlight again. Of course, I will continue to talk about decent investment in all infrastructure and not just roads; but we also need investment in staffing and specialist health clinics.

There is no doubt that the Kingaroy Hospital is understaffed. Everyone knows that, ultimately, it is the staff who deliver our health services, but there are too many short-staffed shifts resulting in stressed and overworked nurses and doctors. I will continue to advocate for a full-time paediatrician, a specialist cancer care nurse, tele-stroke support and a persistent pain clinic for the South Burnett. For the members of my community who travel into the Gympie region, I support the push by the member for Gympie for upgrades to the hospital in Gympie. I understand why he slams this budget for not funding any improvements to the Gympie Hospital.

In relation to mental health, I welcome the government's commitment to tackling mental health issues in our state. For the past 10 years I have advocated for improved mental health funding across the state. It will never be enough—no matter what we do—but we must continue to advocate for more and better funding, particularly in regional areas. Given that I represent an area that has the highest suicide rate in the state, I want to place on the record part of the LNP members' statement of reservation to the report of the Mental Health Select Committee, which was blunt. It states—

For the government to launch this Inquiry and turn the sensitive issue of mental illness into a trojan horse to raise revenue through a payroll tax is inexplicable.

The solution to tax Queenslanders in the middle of a cost of living crisis would exacerbate the very problem this Committee sought to solve.


We know that every community needs more mental health funding. There is no doubt. There are several other issues that have been overlooked. I talk again about the early warning system for the creeks around the Boobyjan area where, tragically, 14-year-old girl Krystal Cain lost her life. Tragically, she is still missing in the creek. We know that those communities living along the Boonara-Nangur creek system had no warning in relation to the rising floodwaters. Landholders in this area have suffered terribly including not just that loss of life but the loss of horses, cattle, sheep, equipment and crops. More needs to be done. That is why I continue to call for that early flood-warning system. It is vitally important for my community.

In the small amount of time I have left, I would like to talk about broken promises and what was missed in relation to my shadow portfolio. It is good to see the Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water in the House. He must be so mortally embarrassed that his voice cannot be heard across the cabinet table. It is so embarrassing that they have spent a couple of question times trying to talk about manufacturing, because they know there is nothing new in the budget for manufacturing in Queensland. It was embarrassing to hear the minister talk about regional development. What could the minister talk about? Nothing. A bit of dingo fencing. Yes, we do need more of that. It is good to see that the member for Gregory is in the chamber. That was all the minister could rattle off for regional development.

I say to the Minister for Regional Development: maybe get out of Gladstone once in a while, get around the state and look at what this state needs. We need more support for housing and for nurses in regional Queensland. We need better roads. We need more services in regional Queensland. We need better education services so we can encourage young people to move out to the bush. That is what regional development is about. Yes, we need to support the sheep and goat industry, without a doubt, but there is more to regional Queensland than just that. There is water that will grow these regional communities.

The only thing that this minister and the member for Bundaberg delivered was the tearing down of a wall just so they could rebuild it. What sort of plan is that? Goodness me, Minister! Go into the cabinet room and show some muscle, seriously. Support regional Queensland. Put some projects on the table that will actually grow regional Queensland. If the minister cannot find anything to do in the regional development department of his portfolio, he should build some water projects and support some regional Queensland areas. He should talk to the main roads minister and tell him to do something about the \$6 million backlog of road maintenance in regional Queensland. Those are the sort of things that will support regional Queensland. That is what regional development is about: growing the regions, getting people to live out there and making housing available. That is what you need to do. I feel for this minister, who cannot show what he contributes at cabinet.

(Time expired)

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads) (3.33 pm): I rise in support of the state budget. It sees the biggest injection of capital into our hospital and health system in Queensland's history. It is a budget that brings great credit to the government. In terms of my portfolio, it is the seventh record road and transport budget, nearly double the QTRIP of the last horror budget of the LNP, with \$29.7 billion in funding and more than 25,000 jobs as a result. Right across this booming and growing state we are investing in infrastructure, transport and roads. We are some \$600 million up

on last year in terms of roads alone. We are preparing for the population growth that comes with our being the most successful jurisdiction in dealing with the pandemic in the country—indeed, one of the best in the world. People are coming to Queensland because of this government's strong stewardship and real leadership, with real leaders who make real decisions that protect people's lives, jobs and the economy—something you cannot say for the other side of this chamber.

We are investing in the M1 upgrade from Varsity Lakes to Tugun. The Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway M1 upgrade will have a billion dollars for—

Mr Millar interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): The member for Gregory will cease his interjections.

Mr BAILEY: There is \$662 million for six lanes from Caboolture to Steve Irwin Way which is going very well. I know that it has big support from the member for Morayfield. The Coomera Connector, the second M1—blocked by those opposite, fast-tracked by us—is funded by us. It will be the biggest road project in Queensland.

Mr Millar interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. The member for Gregory is warned under the standing orders.

Mr Millar interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Gregory, I have just issued you a warning. You can now leave the chamber for an hour under standing order 253.

Whereupon the honourable member for Gregory withdrew from the chamber at 3.35 pm.

Mr BAILEY: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. The largest road project in Queensland will be the second M1. We can rely on Labor to get it done. We can rely on the LNP to cut, block, sack and sell. I refer to the Rockhampton Ring Road, the Gympie Bypass, Cairns Southern Access, Bruce Highway—nearly half a billion dollars—Mackay Port Access Road, Tairo Bypass, Townsville Ring Road stage 5—huge investments in regional Queensland. There is even money for Riverway Drive stage 2. I sense that in the year 2047 the member for Thuringowa will be advocating for stage 7 of Riverway Drive. He loves it.

There is \$280 million for the TIDS program, a fifty-fifty project with local councils cut by those opposite. We restored it. Councils love it. We work with them really well. There is \$266 million for Active Transport and, on top of that, another 150 kilometres-plus of Active Transport as part of our large road and rail upgrade projects that are going very strongly. I refer to the light rail on the Gold Coast, Broadbeach to Burleigh. We are building a cycleway with that. There is the O'Keefe Street Bridge at Buranda. There is the New England Highway Cycleway, Highfields to Toowoomba, stage 2. We are not forgetting about Toowoomba, of course. They are getting investment—not cuts.

What we see from this government is investment, whether it is in school transport assistance or the taxi subsidy scheme. These were all cut under the previous government. Cross River Rail, cut by those, is well and truly being built—awesome. If members go on site there, they will see the technology. We are preparing South-East Queensland for growth and the games. That project is a great credit to this government and to everybody who works on it.

We just repurchased the Rockhampton rail yards for supply chain jobs in the rail sector. We are not just building trains in Maryborough; we are getting the supply chain lined up there as well. We do not order them from overseas, as did the LNP whose trains were not disability compliant. We back manufacturing. The previous comments of those opposite were just ridiculous. They ordered trains from overseas that were not up to scratch. We are still fixing them. We will be fixing them for another two years because of the incompetence of those opposite when it comes to manufacturing and public transport.

I want to say a few words about my local electorate. It is a very good budget for the electorate of Miller. There is \$15.8 million for the Yeronga mixed-use precinct, the old TAFE college. We will see new housing go in there and community facilities, including the Yeronga community centre, having a permanent home. They have done a magnificent job during the recent floods supporting my local community. One hundred and thirty streets were flooded. I cannot say enough for Melinda, Billy and all the people there. They are doing a fantastic job and we want to support them.

We are seeing station upgrades on the south side. We already have done Yeronga, with a bit more to go. Fairfield is being done now and we will be doing Dutton Park, Moorooka, Yeerongpilly, Salisbury and Rocklea in the seat of Toohey. These are rolling over the next couple of years. I refer to full accessibility upgrades. These are great for people on the south side.

This budget is delivering 249 new beds at the PA Hospital on the south side and 112 new beds for the QEII a bit further down at Coopers Plains—great health initiatives. We are seeing \$4.2 million for Yeerongpilly Green, the old animal husbandry farm at Yeerongpilly near the train station. There is more housing and development there. It is much needed at the moment. Everyone knows the housing market is tight. We are actually building houses, not opposing housing developments as the Greens always do, and being consistent with our rhetoric.

There is funding of \$550,000 for Wests cricket and the Kenmore Bears for clubhouse redevelopments. They have some very spartan facilities, one might say. We are very happy to follow through on our election commitment and help them get their facilities up to modern standards. There is \$480,000 for the Yeronga child and community hub which will be developed on the old TAFE site. There are funds flowing for the Souths Graceville Hounds Rugby League Club's new clubhouse. There is also \$100,000 in the budget for the Souths Rugby Union Club's female change sheds. It is important that women in sport have their own facilities.

There is \$150,000 for the tennis court upgrades at Graceville State School. They do a great job. Thanks to all the staff at Graceville State School. Sherwood State School has been allocated \$1 million for new lifts to support equitable access. It is one of our older schools and it is not so good for those with a disability. That funding will help address that. There is also \$450,000 allocated for the OSHC. Wellers Hill State School has been allocated \$200,000 for planning for a new administration block and facilities. Thanks to all the staff at Wellers Hill State School for putting up with the basic layout for a while. Yeronga State School will get a new fence around its very long school perimeter and an upgrade of the tennis courts.

It is a very good local budget. It is a very good budget for our hospital and health system. The Leader of the Opposition has talked a big game on health for 12 months. He has come in here and banged on about health with a confected narrative. He has been trying to say it is a state based issue only. He has been ignoring the fact we have had a pandemic. He has been ignoring the fact that other jurisdictions across the country have had the same issue. He has been ignoring the fact that there is a GP crisis because of the failure of his friends who have now been voted out in Canberra. He has been ignoring the fact that he voted every time for horror budgets under the Newman government. We saw his true colours during the pandemic when he equated our response to the pandemic as tantamount to putting a doona over our head. That is how sophisticated and deep his thinking got. I know what he is on about. The Leader of the Opposition is a fake.

Let me outline to members why. Here we have a fully funded and fairly funded budget for mental health and for revamping our hospital and health system in a way that has never been done before. He either has to be consistent with his rhetoric and support us or he is not sincere in what he is saying. We saw from his speech today that he squibbed it. He totally squibbed it. We are funding these measures from one per cent of companies. That means 99 per cent of companies get a tax cut. We are funding these measures from those who have done well out of the pandemic. There will be a progressive royalty regime around the mega profits of coal companies. Those resources are owned by the people of Queensland and the people of Queensland deserve to have decent hospitals and health care.


We know that the Leader of the Opposition lacks the ticker to be a real leader. I remind him that Scott Morrison and Steven Marshall both paid the ultimate price for playing politics in a pandemic. They undermined the health response and they paid the price. If we look at the Leader of the Opposition's record we see that he deserted his home town for a safe seat on the Gold Coast. He did not stand and fight in his home town. He had help from LNP headquarters to get him into that seat. He undermined the young female member of this House. He took her out. He then went about undermining the member for Nanango as leader. While she was leading he was doing the numbers on her in the party room.

The Leader of the Opposition has voted against integrity reforms every single time in this House. Whether it was banning property developer political donations, the introduction of real-time political disclosures or bringing down the reportable level for political donations from \$12,400 to \$1,000, he and the LNP voted against integrity every single time.

If it is matter of trust between the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition, I know where my money is. The Premier is someone who stands up for Queensland. She does not rat on Queensland like the Leader of the Opposition has done. We have a strong Premier who is always consistent and makes the big calls. She is courageous whereas the Leader of the Opposition is ruthless. She supports social reform and he always votes against social reform. The Premier and this government vote for integrity reform every single time. The Leader of the Opposition and the LNP vote against it every single time.

When we look at the Leader of the Opposition's record we see that he is an underminer, he is a deserter, he never stands up for Queensland and he backstabs to get where he wants to go. The people of Queensland will see through that lack of integrity, that lack of ticker and that undermining approach. He is not the kind of person who is going to win an election in Queensland. I certainly hope that he makes it to the end of this term as leader without being rolled by his colleagues because I look forward to the next election when the people of Queensland get their say. I know the decision they will make. They will vote for a Premier with integrity, courage and guts—sorry about that last word; it is unparliamentary. They will vote for someone with the intestinal fortitude that the Premier has shown in all the key moments. That is why she is the Premier. It is why she will keep being the Premier.

This budget is a huge commitment to hospitals and health. It is fairly and fully funded. It deserves support. The Leader of the Opposition has shown he squibbed it here today.

 **Mr KRAUSE** (Scenic Rim—LNP) (3.45 pm): This year's budget is a budget of broken promises, and there is no greater broken promise than the promise of no new taxes on Queenslanders. The Treasurer's claims that he did not promise not to raise taxes on businesses is simply outrageous. The fact is, every tax on a Queensland business is passed on to Queenslanders in one way or another—that is how taxes work; that is how the economy works. Queenslanders know it, and so does the Treasurer.

Every year it seems there are these new taxes introduced on the edges to prop up a government that simply cannot control its spending. If it is a one-off, maybe we could say it is not too bad and the impact is limited. The fact is that this government has introduced new taxes and increased taxes consistently in the seven long years since it was elected. It all combines to a higher cost of living for Queenslanders and tougher business conditions. This government is mean, tricky and out of touch. Its propaganda machine cannot hide from the reality that it is failing Queenslanders at the most basic level—to provide adequate health services and to keep the community safe.

When it comes to health, every year is a record budget—that is how inflation and population growth work. But this government's health record is appalling. Ambulance ramping is out of control. The latest data shows that ramping is over 50 per cent in South-East Queensland. The impact on the Scenic Rim of ambulance ramping is huge. It means that when ambulances from local stations are ramped at major hospitals—whether it is ground zero for ramping at Ipswich Hospital, Logan Hospital or the Gold Coast University Hospital—they are away from their areas and they cannot quickly respond to people who need help locally. It also means other ambulances take longer to get out to places like Kooralbyn, Maroon, Mount Alford or Beechmont, which is in special danger owing to the closure of Beechmont Road.

We need ramping fixed before people, including the people I represent, die because of ramping and waiting for help from the Queensland Ambulance Service that we all pay for in our taxes. In the meantime, the Queensland Ambulance Service should urgently review the dynamic deployment system that sees ambulances from the Scenic Rim drawn into metropolitan centres and sometimes taken out of the area for hours or longer.

The government needs to commit to greater services too at the Beaudesert Hospital. I am proud—and so is the community—of the fact that the LNP government restored many services, including maternity services, to Beaudesert in 2013 and 2014. We now need to support the hospital and bring in new services. Much more could be done and should be done.

I call on the health minister to guarantee absolutely the jobs of all midwives at Beaudesert Hospital who wish to remain working there. They should not be pilfered away to work at Logan Hospital, as was reported to be the case late last year. Those reports indicated that midwives could be forced to move to Logan Hospital to keep their jobs. I have a message for the government: keep your hands off Beaudesert's maternity services! Maybe, just maybe, they have got the message. I hope so. I table a Facebook post from Metro South HHS celebrating the fact that Beaudesert's maternity team won a national award for outstanding organisation at the HESTA national health awards.

Tabled paper: Extract, dated 17 June, from the Facebook page of Metro South Health in relation to an award won by Beaudesert Hospital [\[918\]](#).

It is curious, however, that it took almost a month for this Facebook post to be put up. It was put up on 17 June, but the award itself was given on 19 May—almost a full month earlier. Why the delay? I posted about it on social media the next day and congratulated the great staff personally as well. Did Metro South need clearance from their masters above to congratulate the team? Were they worried that it would look bad to congratulate them and then cut midwives? That would be a tad embarrassing. Now they have nailed their colours to the mast there should be no question about this: Beaudesert's

maternity team must be guaranteed their jobs at Beaudesert Hospital. They need to grow the services too—support the over 700 people who signed a petition for dialysis services in Beaudesert, put better overnight doctor coverage in, put a CT scanner in and support the community in providing better on-the-ground services for mental health and drug and alcohol issues.

I will not stop the fight for better health services in the Beaudesert district. The government should get behind the hospital to support not only that district but also areas like Flagstone, Jimboomba and Yarrabilba—fast-growing areas that could easily be supported by that hospital.

I mention the budget for QFES. I support wholeheartedly our police and our fire services—the rural volunteers and the paid auxiliary and urban firefighters—as well as SES and other volunteers who work hard, especially in times of natural disasters like the floods we have seen this year. It seems that there has been a budget blowout for supplies and services this past year, but still there is no funding in the budget for a new auxiliary fire station at Boonah. I fought successfully for a new station at Rathdowney in recent years, but Boonah needs one too—and has done for some years. It is on the forward capital works schedule but needs funding. There are a lot of ways that \$200 million wasted on Wellcamp could have been spent, but just a fraction of it would bring this facility to Boonah. I will keep on taking up this issue with QFES and the government to see Boonah fires get their fair share.

I thank the Attorney-General for listening to my calls—and those of the community and local magistrate—to put a replacement Beaudesert courthouse in the budget. This courthouse has needed replacement for many years. In fact, I first mentioned it in this parliament as needing replacement in April 2013. It is unsafe, unfit for purpose and simply out of date. No doubt it should have been replaced when the police station was replaced—another thing that I fought for over a long time.

Mr Ryan: What a great new station!

Mr KRAUSE: I have previously recognised the Minister for Police in relation to this new police station. The courthouse should have been replaced with the police station. There could have been significant savings in doing both of them together, but late is better than never. These facilities are basic civic infrastructure. It should never have been allowed to go on for so long. The long-term nature of Labor government here in Queensland has meant that this neglect has gone on. I acknowledge and thank the Attorney-General for her recognition of this issue and funding a fix for it in the budget.

Roads funding is always a major issue in the Scenic Rim electorate. I cannot emphasise enough how much more needs to be done to fix roads in the region. Barely a day goes by when I am not writing to Main Roads with issues. Tamborine Mountain was recently voted as Top Tourist Town in the Queensland Tourism Industry Council awards. The Scenic Rim was this year put in the top 10 regions in the world to visit by Lonely Planet, yet visitors could be forgiven for thinking the Minister for Main Roads had forgotten about the area given the state of some roads.

We need to see a dedicated package to address the state of roads on Tamborine Mountain, especially the dire condition of Tamborine Mountain Road heading towards Tamborine. I acknowledge there is work underway in some parts, but the recent wet weather has highlighted the awful state of the roads. Roads in bad condition fail a lot worse than roads in good condition when the rains come. That is why the nearly \$6 billion backlog is such an indictment on the government.

It is good to see some funding to fix a section of Boonah Rathdowney Road west of Burnett Creek Road, and hopefully the approach to a one-way bridge there will be fixed too. This is a road for which I have lobbied for funding for a long time, and will continue to, especially the barely passable section west of Musgrave Bridge for about 4.5 kilometres. This section is outrageously bad, and I certainly hope that information Main Roads has told me about for planned works in 2023-24 will address this section. It is dangerous not just for visitors but for locals too.

New allocations for the Mount Lindesay Highway around the Palen Creek area, for safety works on the Cunningham Highway and at the Lake Moogerah Road intersection, and for safety works on Boonah Beaudesert Road are of course welcomed, but there are still so many issues that I have raised for so long that are not being addressed: Harpers Crossing on Mount Alford Road—still no funding; Kalbar Connection Road and Rosewood Warrill View Road—still no funding; planning to raise the Coulson Crossing—still no funding; Beaudesert Nerang Road at Biddaddaba and Wonglepong—something for which locals have been wanting funding for nearly 30 years—still no funding, although I understand plans are afoot to improve this stretch. I will keep up this 30-year fight. Boonah Ipswich Road and Boonah Beaudesert Road really need overtaking lanes as well—both of them. I have made commitments about these in the past during election campaigns and will continue to press Main Roads to improve these roads to enhance both safety and efficiency.

Development in our region is a big cause of road congestion and calls for more investment. Canungra is an area that has been let down badly by planning, not just because its water supply is inadequate for its population but because it is suffering hugely from residential growth in the Scenic Rim and Logan that sends huge volumes of traffic through Canungra to the Gold Coast, through a gorge road that will in the very near future require widening to improve safety because of increased traffic.

Main Roads simply refuses to acknowledge this problem, especially the congestion through Canungra, has done nothing about planning for the future and shunts responsibility to the council. Council, in turn, is impacted by state planning policies that, in some ways, force housing growth. There is plenty of blame to go around for what is happening with Canungra's state road network, but I call again on the government—through the planning minister and the main roads minister—to take urgent steps to fix the problems before it is too late, if it is not already.

Development along the Mount Lindesay Highway corridor is also a big pressure, especially those areas around Jimboomba, Flagstone and Yarrabilba. I thank the federal member for Wright, Scott Buchholz, for the nearly \$100 million he ensured was invested on the highway at Munruben, at North Maclean and at Jimboomba. As I have said before, the member for Logan is the luckiest state MP ever! He had Scotty Buchholz throw in millions for the highway to address issues that his colleagues, past and present, created along the corridor. Well done, Scott!

I am so glad to see allocations in this budget to further address the Jimboomba bottleneck, which I have been lobbying for extensively in the past, through planning funding for Jimboomba to Cedar Vale—this section should be widened—and from North Maclean to Jimboomba, where eventually a new bridge will be needed. I hope the member for Logan will extract as much or more from the new federal Treasurer as he did from Scott Buchholz and the federal government, including that new bridge.

It is easy to keep approving and allowing development in an area, but it takes hard yakka and solid representation from the grassroots to target funding to fix the roads. I have been doing my bit, taking it up to government—state and federal—and I urge the government to get on with new works on the Mount Lindesay Highway.

I cannot fail to mention the call-in that is underway of the Wanless dump at Willowbank, and the proposed so-called 'interim' upgrade of the Amberley interchange. I said before the last election that a re-elected Labor government would deliver dumps for Willowbank and no real improvement to the roads. Sadly, this may turn out to be true.

The Wanless call-in is tainted by the way in which Labor linked lobbyists have gone about overturning the will of the community, expressed by Ipswich City Council, to reject another dump in Ipswich. It is outrageous that the Deputy Premier acted to call in this proposal, while similar requests to do so by the council and other proponents in the past were rejected. The Deputy Premier should reject this application, not least because the CCC has belled the cat on the lobbying practices that led to the call-in. Council is still in court with three other proposals because the state refused to call them in. Perhaps council should have engaged Anacta Strategies to lobby on their behalf to get the Labor government to do what council requested!

Then we come to the Main Roads proposal to put a roundabout on a national highway. I concede it may fix some safety issues, but it will create others. It will generate additional noise for residents in Willowbank, as large vehicles hit the brakes to slow down for the roundabout. It will not fix congestion in the morning rush of traffic going to RAAF Base Amberley, as additional road lanes extend only so far as Warrill Creek and then go back to one lane. It cuts off Willowbank village, a retail area, from a lot of passing traffic and would seriously impact those businesses.


All in all, there is not much to show for four years since the government shelved the business plan for a full upgrade. There is not a great deal to show for another four-year delay. This is not to criticise Main Roads employees. It is their political masters, and the Labor MPs in Ipswich who take Ipswich for granted, who need to be condemned for the appalling situation of the Cunningham Highway proposed 'solutions' at Willowbank. In addition to that, Ipswich City Council assures me this is the second year in a row with no new transport infrastructure funded in Ipswich City. I ask: what are the Labor MPs doing for Ipswich City other than taking it for granted time after time after time? There is a lot more I could say about those issues.

Housing pressure in the Scenic Rim is an issue that is really starting to bite. It is a travesty that this government has failed so dismally to increase the stock of public housing all round. It has also failed in many cases to properly manage public housing. I cite an example from Boonah, where a public housing property has been vacant for many months now—possibly even more than 12 months—unmaintained with grass and weeds everywhere. There have been no tenants in sight for a long time and no sign of activity. This is a home that, for all intents and purposes, looks abandoned. It should be

the policy of the government to actively manage these types of situations, but that is not occurring in this case in any way, shape or form. They should actively manage this situation to ensure that housing is not going to waste. We cannot afford that situation to be maintained for months and months or more than a year.

Malcolm, with whom I spoke at an event last week in the electorate, is a local who is living in his camper trailer because he cannot find an appropriate rental and there is zero public housing available at this time in the Scenic Rim region. He cannot afford it either.

In closing, I would like to make it clear that the government should not renew the tenements of Arrow Energy in the Scenic Rim. Coal seam gas is not appropriate for the region, and in government I ensured that Arrow did not develop this area. Under the legislation in place the government has the opportunity to put to bed these tenements for the long term. I urge them to stand with the community, farmers and the tourism sector—the same tourism sector that has developed exponentially in the last 10 years and which has seen the Scenic Rim region now in the top 10 regions to visit as voted by *Lonely Planet*. The government needs to stand with all of these players and make the right decision to not renew those gas tenements in the Scenic Rim. CSG is not for the Scenic Rim.

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (4.00 pm): I rise to support the Palaszczuk government's record-breaking investments for Queenslanders in this year's budget. Queensland has led the nation in its health and economic response to COVID-19, and we are building on our recovery by delivering good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle. This certainly rings true for Stretton, which is a fantastic place to be. We have great schools, great people, great businesses and wonderful community organisations that tie together our multicultural area. Of course there is never a shortage of delicious food, but it is investment in health, education and infrastructure that help Stretton thrive.

There are a few important projects in this budget that will improve the day-to-day lives of people in my community. They include removing the Kuraby level crossing and building an overpass at the Beenleigh Road level crossing site; building a brand new satellite hospital at Eight Mile Plains and providing hundreds of extra hospital beds, including 112 at QEII, 112 at Logan Hospital and 249 at the PA Hospital; a new turnaround facility and bus stops at the Stretton Gardens Retirement Estate and Stretton State College in addition to new bus stops and extending the 130 bus route; upgrading the busy Beaudesert Road and Illaweenaa Street intersection; expanding the Stretton State College sports hall; additional funding for the Kyabra Community Centre in Runcorn; and continuing our commitment to first class education with all-important upgrades at Runcorn Heights State School, Runcorn State High School, Kuraby State School, Kuraby Special School and Calamvale Special School.

Importantly, the budget also provides \$6.8 billion in concessions for individuals and families to ease cost-of-living pressures and reduce costs for businesses. This includes a payroll tax cut for small and medium businesses, a saving of up to \$26,000 a year for eligible businesses. I am also pleased to see a record \$3 billion in the police budget.

Over the past few years the world has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we all know just how important it is to have a strong health system. That is why the 2022-23 budget is delivering the largest capital investment in health in Queensland's history. We are delivering more hospitals, more beds and more services than ever before. Our record \$23.6 billion health infrastructure will fund over 2,500 hospital beds; a new Queensland cancer centre; expand the QEII, Logan and PA hospitals; employ over 9,400 extra health staff in this term of government; and expand on our commitment to seven brand new satellite hospitals.

One of these satellite hospitals will be built right next to the RACQ building on Levington Road in Eight Mile Plains. It is a great block of land in a fantastic location halfway between the Logan and QEII hospitals. I recently inspected the site with the new Chief Health Officer, John Gerrard, and I am excited to see construction beginning later this year. It will create over 100 jobs. There will also be plenty of ongoing secure jobs for doctors, nurses and health professionals right in my local area.

Our community will have access to convenient care closer to home with reduced pressure on major hospitals. This program is a \$265 million Australian-first initiative that will provide community healthcare services, ambulatory and low-acuity day therapy services such as renal dialysis, chemotherapy, complex wound management, urgent care for minor injury and illness, as well as outpatient activities.

An important part of the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan is providing new beds. The QE II Hospital will be getting 112 new additional beds, part of a \$465 million expansion plan. The Logan Hospital will also be getting 112 additional beds, part of a \$530 million expansion plan. The PA Hospital will be getting 249 additional beds as part of a \$350 million expansion. That is over a billion dollars in funding for the south side.

Another key element of this budget is the Queensland Rail revolution. On top of our huge investment in Cross River Rail, the Palaszczuk government is delivering \$3.5 billion worth of rail projects that will transform our train network and support our growing state. Importantly for my local area, this includes the removal of the Kuraby level crossing on Beenleigh Road and an upgrade to Kuraby station as part of the \$1.2 billion Logan to Gold Coast Faster Rail Project. I know that residents are tired of being stuck in traffic at level crossings, and plenty have spoken to me about removing the Kuraby level crossing. The complete removal of this level crossing with grade separation is excellent news for people who use Beenleigh Road every day to get to work or drop off the kids to school.

As part of the project the track between Kuraby and Beenleigh will be duplicated to support faster and more frequent trains. With an extra 1.2 million people expected to live in South-East Queensland by 2036, these services are very important. Infrastructure Australia has listed improvements to this rail line on its priority list since 2018, and the Palaszczuk government is delivering. Thank you to the Kuraby community for your strong support of this project. The upgrades will reduce traffic congestion, improve road safety and create a more efficient local transport network.

Acting Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation, and as such I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Intersection Upgrades

Our rail network isn't the only thing being upgraded Mr Speaker. Construction is about to start on the Beaudesert Rd & Illaweena St Intersection as part of a \$30million upgrade. It was great to have Transport Minister Mark Bailey visit the Member for Algeester and I last week at the intersection to see first-hand just how much traffic goes through this area—highlighting the need for an upgrade.

Works on the intersection will provide 6 lanes to the motorway on-ramp, an extension of the right-hand turn lane from Beaudesert Rd onto Illaweena St, signalised left turn lanes, upgraded bus stops nearby, a dedicated bikeway, and safer pedestrian access. It is fantastic to see works commencing on important local road projects such as this. Busting congestion and making sure that people are able to get home to their families quicker and safer is part of the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to delivering for the Southside.

Stretton Bus Turnaround

Further down the road on Illaweena St, there have been even more transport network improvements! In fantastic news for residents of the Stretton Gardens Retirement Estate, a new bus stop is now operational right outside the Stretton Gardens village. This means that elderly residents no longer have to walk an extra 15 minutes up the hill to get to the bus. Instead, they can jump on the 130 bus every ten minutes right outside their door. I want to recognise the hard work of residents at Stretton Gardens, who campaigned for this bus stop for many years with our dear friend Duncan Pegg. There has been massive support for this project, and it is a huge win for our community. Thank you to Transport Minister Mark Bailey for listening to the concerns of Stretton Gardens residents. I am proud to have worked with the Minister, the community and Duncan to deliver this important service.

Students at Stretton State College will also soon have access to a bus stop right between their junior and senior campuses on Gowan Road, meaning they too can hop on a bus right outside their school. Works on the Stretton State College bus stop are due to be completed soon, along with the new bus turnaround facility along Gowan Road. The works will provide signalised pedestrian crossings on Illaweena St, safety improvements to the line marking, improved cycling facilities and a new signalised left turn onto Gowan Rd.

These bus works are a \$4.8 million investment that will make life easier for our fast-growing Stretton community with better access to public transport and improved connectivity.

Other Upgrades

I would also like to mention other works that will be occurring such as the \$2m upgrade to the Beaudesert Rd & Kameruka St intersection, as well as further Gateway Motorway upgrades northbound from Eight Mile Plains to Nudgee and southbound from Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill.

Education

The third major aspect of this year's budget is investment in Education, which is vital for our future. Societies with higher rates of education are generally healthier, more economically stable, and more equal. Last month I was very proud to read that Sunnybank Hills State School was the top performing primary school in Queensland for NAPLAN testing. This reflects the exceptional quality of teaching in our area and the hard work by parents, carers, and of course, the kids!

The Palaszczuk Government's 2022-23 budget is providing record investment in education. It includes \$16.1 billion for school education, \$361.5 million for early childhood education and \$108.9million for infrastructure projects at special schools. Several schools in the Stretton Electorate will be getting upgrades. Kuraby State School's F Block will be getting a \$450k makeover Runcorn Heights State School is receiving \$1.1million for the conversion of prep to administration, as well as \$300k to increase its Outside School Hours Care capacity.

Runcorn State High is getting a \$2.5million upgrade, including a brand-new science block, Kuraby Special School is receiving \$200k for renewal planning and Calamvale Special School will undergo a huge \$20 million transformation with new buildings and learning spaces.

Under the Palaszczuk Government, children with special needs will never be left behind. Every young student deserves to be afforded with the best education opportunities possible. That's what Labor is about Mr Speaker.

For our older students looking to get real world qualifications, TAFE is a great pathway. I am thrilled at the new Federal Labor Government's plan to provide fee-free TAFE to deliver a Future Made in Australia. The Acacia Ridge TAFE is a fantastic education facility that provides opportunities for apprentices and trainees to upskill, fill skills shortage gaps and create jobs of the future. The Acacia Ridge TAFE is receiving \$1.4 million of investment for training infrastructure in this budget so that it can continue to provide fantastic education services to our community.

Stretton State College Sports Hall

Stretton State College is one of the fastest growing schools in Queensland, with people coming from far and wide to enrol their kids at SSC. Because of the rapid growth of the school, upgrades to the Sports Hall have become necessary, and the \$200k budget commitment this year for renewal planning is the first step towards extending the Sports Hall. Design and consultation will soon begin so that we can be ready to go when the time comes to start building. I look forward to seeing the continued growth of Stretton State College, it is a fantastic local school.

Olympics—Go For Gold

Another big event to look forward to is the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games.

Hosting the Olympic Games is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Brisbane. It is a transformational event that will bring about enormous benefits, both social and economic. The Games will deliver tens of thousands of jobs and accelerate infrastructure projects that are needed for sustainable growth across Queensland. Living in Brisbane will be made even better, with the tourism industry set to boom as Brisbane becomes a global destination. There will be enhanced sporting outcomes for our young athletes, and so much opportunity for our next generation of stars to shine.

In my community of Stretton, I am especially looking forward to seeing the growth and emergence of the next wave of Badminton stars that will hopefully deliver a gold medal for Australia on the Olympic stage.

Going for Gold is also part of this year's budget. We want to make sure Queensland dominates the 2032 Games with home-grown talent. That's why we're investing \$31.4 million in the Queensland Academy of Sport to ensure Queensland athletes will be able to compete with the best in the world.


Social Services

Mr Speaker, it wouldn't be a Labor budget without investment into helping vulnerable Queenslanders. This budget includes record investment in neighbourhood and community centres across the state with the single greatest increase to operational funding the sector has ever seen.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to providing services and assistance for the most vulnerable members of our community, and this budget sees funding increase by \$115 million over the next four years. One of the many fantastic neighbourhood and community centres we have in QLD is the Kyabra Community Centre in Runcorn, who will be receiving increased funding of \$20,000 per annum, with total funding of over half a million each year. David O'Toole and the Kyabra team do such amazing work helping people with disabilities, those experiencing violence, homelessness, and social isolation, as well as those impacted by disasters and financial stress. The Kyabra Centre is undoubtedly one of the most important parts of our local community and it is great to see that their important work will continue.

Conclusion

Mr Speaker, the Palaszczuk Government's 2022-23 budget will deliver on the key areas of health, education, and transport for Queenslanders. Investment projects will create thousands and thousands of new jobs, which is so important. As we learned last week, 3 quarters of all jobs in Australia were created right here in Queensland. We only have 20% of the population, but we're delivering 75% of the jobs. It sure is great to be a Queenslander!

 **Mr KNUTH** (Hill—KAP) (4.05 pm): I rise to speak to the 2022-23 budget. I do not think this is much of an inspiring budget but there are some good points, particularly in relation to health infrastructure.

I want to highlight something that is very important. I acknowledge Minister Enoch, who provided extra funding for neighbourhood and community centres. These centres deal with disability, loneliness, family and domestic violence, financial stress and they support our seniors. I have five of these neighbourhood community centres in my electorate, and I contacted them all. They realised from the beginning that they were struggling. I want to express appreciation, because many of us lobbied the minister for this and their funding has now been almost doubled for each community centre.

I would like to name the ones in my electorate: Better Together Community Support Centre in Innisfail; ECHO Neighbourhood House at Malanda; Ravenshoe Community Centre—this is the community centre that really worked hard during the Ravenshoe blast years ago where a number of lives were lost and the community was affected; and the Tully Support Centre. Most of these community centres lobbied us and said they needed extra funding, and these are good dollars well spent.

In relation to Main Roads, I have to say that in my electorate there are a lot of roadworks. Probably the biggest complaint I receive is about delays and how long it takes. Up to \$50 million is going into my electorate this year. I acknowledge regional managers Sanjay Ram and Ross Hodgeman, their teams and the minister, because just communicating with them over the years we have seen a lot of roadwork taking place. Some of those are ongoing now, which is working with the community, including Boogan Road; Palmerston Highway; Atherton to Mareeba, Kennedy Highway; East Feluga intersection, where we saw a number of deaths including schoolchildren that devastated the community, Gillis Range Road; and the Bruce Highway at Cowley, which is about to start.

Some of the other funding that came in is for Atherton to Mareeba passing lanes—this is a really big issue for that region and a lot of people have been on our back to try and get these passing lanes—and funds for the Grove Street intersection. Something that has been lobbied for for years in relation to constant traffic congestion is at Atherton on the Kennedy Highway.

I will now mention a couple of things that need work, and one is the Innisfail Japoon Road and the Silkwood Japoon Road. We received a bit of funding for Innisfail to Wangan, and that is fair enough. There are a couple of patch-ups. This road has the most popular tourist attraction, which is Paronella Park, but the road is in a very bad condition and needs to be addressed.

It is also now time to seal the Herberton to Irvinebank road. It is a dirt road all the way through and there are a lot of complaints about that. There is a need for passing lanes from Malanda to Millaa Millaa. There are still none there. That has been pushed for for years but there are still none. We need to press this because of the increased traffic. There is also a need for the Ootann Road, which is the inland highway. I know that is a council road but there needs to be an injection of funds with a combination of state and federal government money. There are massive prime movers that go on that road. That relieves the pressure on the Tablelands, but they are actually diverting back onto the Tablelands because it is just too rough.

We received \$5 million for the Upper Barron Road about five years ago. The Minister for Transport and Main Roads visited and provided \$5 million because it was a dirt road. That is where we have the Bromfield Swamp, which is a well-known tourist attraction. We have been pushing for that. We are there, but there are about seven kilometres that need to be widened. It is a really dangerous section of road, considering it is a shortcut from Malanda to Ravenshoe and it has an iconic tourist attraction.

On education, there is \$14 million going to my electorate, and I am seeing funds going to some of the growth schools. There is \$11.5 million going to Malanda. That has started but it is ongoing funding because it is one of those growth schools. Tully State High School received \$2,356,000 for their additional classrooms. I have a bit of a soft spot for there because I was born in Tully. Babinda lost its mill, but Babinda State School is a great little school and it is getting \$850,000 to refurbish five learning spaces. Goondi State School received \$90,000 for electronic security. We raised this with the minister because the school has been broken into and trashed five or six times. It is good to see those funds going to that school and they are rapt about that.

With regards to health, the government has been trumpeting a record expenditure in health, yet we cannot see much that will stop the decline in basic health services in regional Queensland. We are losing doctors, nurses, medical surgeons and specialists, and we are seeing hospitals cancelling or delaying surgery continually. This is what is happening in our region. We see massive amounts of funding through coal royalties, but in regards to hospitals we still have funding of about \$12 million to finish the new hospital at Atherton. We are on stage 2, we are almost there, for that \$74 million project. This has brought a lot of jobs to our community and there is no doubt it will benefit our region.

It is great to see funds going to Moranbah for a new hospital because I was the member for that area. Even though that is 1,000 kilometres from where my electorate is right now, this is good news. I had a lot of communication with the late member for Mackay, Tim Mulherin, many years ago. It is good to see that a mining community that produces \$4 billion in gross revenue to that region is getting a bit back in return.

I want to highlight something else now. I want to talk about royalties. All we have heard from this government is mixed messages on coal—how good renewables are and that coal is being phased out and will be replaced. However, all of a sudden we see a record \$7.6 billion in coal royalties being trumpeted by the government which allowed them to announce a record spend to try to plug holes in our collapsing health system. Coal worldwide is in high demand and prices are soaring, but Queenslanders have been told constantly that coal is old technology and not needed anymore and that renewables will replace coal. Now nations are scrambling to get coal base load power stations back online, and our federal government had the hide to turn around and question why base load generators

are poorly maintained and broken down during the energy supply crisis. The \$7.6 billion raised from coal royalties is an example of the huge benefits to Queenslanders in the form of jobs and paying for essential services, which is something that renewables will never be able to replace.

In regards to this budget, we have to remember how much money comes in from coal and where it is spent. The Labor government sold the coal component of Queensland Rail. The Queensland government at the time was raking in \$1.8 billion of transport haulage per year. That money was going to hospitals and schools, but now that money is going to overseas companies and it is not going to hospitals and schools. That is why it is so important to invest in these infrastructure projects. That is the importance of coal and these nation-building projects. If we had our way, we would be building that railway track in the Galilee Basin because it is money and jobs returned to us. The state government would own it and get the royalties and the transport haulage, and then the funds would go back to hospitals. It makes sense.

There are some things we have missed out on or that are still ongoing. One is the Kurrimine Beach boat ramp. The plans are in place and locals have been lobbying for this for 20 years. We have got the drawings and the plans, and we just want to see this boat ramp completed. They hosted the Creek to Coast. It is congested and people have to wait in the water where there are sharks and crocodiles, and then at low tide they have to use tractors to fetch their boats. It is very important to get funding for the Kurrimine Beach boat ramp.


We have had representatives from the Atherton-Herberton Historic Railway here in parliament. They are working on that railway track to repair it to ensure that tourists can have a beautiful rail journey from Herberton to Atherton. It will provide massive support to the tourism industry on the Atherton Tablelands. We have been lobbying for that but we have not received any funds at the moment.

There is a need for the North Johnstone transfer project. This was an approved project going back to when the Tinaroo Dam was constructed. It was approved and it was also acknowledged that as farming activity increased there would not be enough water supply to sustain development in that region. This is a nation-building project. It is very important because we are running out of water.

We also need to fast-track the inland highway from the Tablelands to Cairns. This is another project that is very important to open up right up to the gulf and provide quicker access of 20 minutes rather than 1 hour and 30 minutes. There have been 44 closures on that highway for up to six hours at a time.

Mr Dametto: They need a tunnel.

Mr KNUTH: They need to tunnel it right through so it is quick. We saw what happened here when the Airportlink opened. It used to take 50 minutes to get to the airport and now it takes about 20 or 25 minutes. I wanted to bring that to the attention of the House.

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (4.19 pm): I rise to speak in favour of the Queensland state budget 2022-2023 and put on the record my support for the appropriation bills. This state budget supports numerous excellent initiatives in the areas of health, education, transport and community safety. All of these initiatives highlight the government's great work to support good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle. However, it is disappointing to hear that members of the opposition do not indicate support for the very reasonable and fair revenue measures which will underpin an historic and massive boost in mental health and health resourcing. Let's be very clear about this: if the LNP does not support the revenue measures, then the only way that the LNP could fund extra mental health and health resourcing is through cuts. We all know that the LNP love to cut. If they do not support the revenue measures, then they will, in the example of this budget, need to cut \$1.2 billion from the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan and \$400 million a year for mental health initiatives.

If the LNP had their way again, because they have done it before, then my community would not get the Morayfield ambulance station, it would not get the additional services planned for the Caboolture Hospital and it would not get the Caboolture satellite hospital health facility. If the LNP had their way again, they would have to sack hundreds and hundreds of nurses and midwives, just like they did last time.

There is a choice here to support the additional investment in health and mental health, and then there must also be support for the very fair and very reasonable revenue measures in the revenue bill before the House.

I would like to firstly touch on some of the initiatives which we will see in the Morayfield Caboolture area. It is very exciting, and I know that these initiatives will make a big difference in people's lives, enhance services and enhance opportunities. We will be seeing further work done on the Caboolture

Hospital expansion—a doubling of the hospital, a \$400 million project, which is a fantastic development for the Caboolture region and a fantastic investment in health services. We will also see construction continue on the Caboolture satellite hospital which will deliver some really key services. I am very excited to see that some of the services confirmed for that facility will be dental services as well as mental health support. They will be really good services for my community. As I mentioned in my opening remarks, we will also see a new ambulance station built for my community at Morayfield which is very exciting.

We will also see some new facilities built at Morayfield State High School and Caboolture State High School. They are getting some new learning spaces and skills and training facilities. A new playground for Minimbah State School will be exciting to try out. One of the highlights is a brand new school for the region, a brand new school at Caboolture West, planned to open in 2025. That is very exciting.

I would like to acknowledge the advocacy of my colleague, the member for Kurwongbah, Shane King, for advocating for an upgrade for Burpengary train station which sits on the border of our two electorates. That upgrade is also ticked off in this budget and we will see works start on that in the next financial year. There are also numerous major road upgrades and a contribution to the new PCYC to be built at Caboolture. We are in very exciting times.

It is no mean feat to set records, yet in the portfolio areas for which I have responsibility, the Palaszczuk government has struck the trifecta. Our Queensland community will be made safer, jobs will be secured and our way of life enhanced by record budgets for Police, Corrective Services and Fire and Emergency Services. This government realises that the hard work and dedication shown time after time by firefighters, emergency services volunteers and personnel, police and corrective services officers and all employed in those agencies must be backed up by quality resources which this government is funding in this budget.

The record budgets of more than \$3 billion for the Queensland Police Service, \$1.17 billion-plus for Corrective Services and more than \$900 million for Fire and Emergency Services reflect the Palaszczuk government's commitment to the health, safety and security of Queenslanders.

A careful reading of the budget, as unfortunately the Leader of the Opposition in his budget reply speech this morning showed he did not do very well, shows the outstanding management of staff numbers during very difficult times by the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and Queensland Corrective Services. The key here is that when making comparisons on a year-to-year basis, as the Leader of the Opposition has purportedly done, it is essential to compare apples with apples. To do otherwise is disingenuous or, worse still, deliberately misleading. Contrary to what the Leader of the Opposition has said, there has been significant growth in employment numbers in frontline agencies in recent times. We see that everywhere—the graduations in Police, for Fire and Emergency Services and Corrective Services. We have significant volumes of employment growth happening in those frontline agencies. It is not just me who says it. Right there in black and white on page 121 of Budget Paper No. 2, we see further employment growth numbers budgeted for all of these agencies once again. For example, the Queensland Police Service is expected to grow by over 600 positions in this next budget year.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my speech on the budget for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

We are committed to jobs and resources for the frontline of community safety.

And this budget supports the further rollout of community safety jobs, including:

- 2,025 police personnel jobs over five years commencing 1 July 2020, which the Police Commissioner has said will include a minimum of 150 police officers per police region;
- 900 construction jobs at its peak during construction for the expanded Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct at Gatton with 600 ongoing operational jobs at the new correctional centre;
- 357 extra firefighters over five years commencing 1 July 2020; and
- extra personnel for the State Emergency Service to support the outstanding work of SES volunteers.

What's more, this budget underpins a significant infrastructure investment in community safety facilities and resources, including

- new and upgraded police facilities at Aurukun, Burketown, Cairns, Cairns West, Caloundra South, Clermont, Cooroy, Cunnamulla, Dalby, Dayboro, Hervey Bay, Kirwan, Longreach, Mackay, Maryborough, Palm Island, Proserpine, Rainbow Beach, Ripley, Rosewood, Warwick, Winton and Woree, as well as new police accommodation at Mount Isa; and

- new and upgraded Queensland Fire and Emergency Services facilities servicing Airlie Beach, Caloundra South, Drayton, Greater Springfield, Gympie South, Hervey Bay, Loganlea, Lowood, Maryborough, Moreton Bay, Mount Cotton, and South Townsville.

And, of course, there is the Palaszczuk Government's huge commitment to the new corrective services facility at Gatton, for which additional funding has been allocated in this budget for an extra 500 beds on the original plan—taking it to over 1500 beds.

Speaker, the new jobs and the new and improved infrastructure, also emphasises this Government's commitment to the regions.

This is not a city-centric nor electorate-centric Government and the same statement applies to this budget.

Many of our new police personnel and our new firefighters will be in the regions.

Jobs created by the massive infrastructure build at Gatton will be in that region.

New and improved infrastructure builds will create jobs...in the regions.

This budget also highlights that the government is entirely committed to the health and safety of the personnel work on who in community safety agencies on behalf of the people of Queensland.

The security and safety of correctional centres and custodial officers will be improved with a collective investment of more than \$230 million over four years to improve electronic security systems and for maintenance and minor works.

This includes through the installation of safety hatches in older style cell doors and the purchase of additional body-worn cameras for staff.

The record budget also invests \$3 million to continue the installation of additional bunk beds in high-security centres across the state, \$6.6 million to complete the upgrade of the intercom system at the Woodford Correctional Centre and \$1.3 million to complete refurbishment of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Secure Unit.

The police budget includes funding for the further rollout of new body-worn cameras, QLITE tablet devices and integrated load bearing ballistic vests.

QFES' frontline—firefighters and fire and emergency services volunteers and staff—can continue to safely and effectively respond to a wide range of emergency incidents, which often require specialist training and equipment.

This budget allocates funding for additional specialised firefighting equipment, scientific analysis and detection, breathing apparatus, severe weather response and rescue equipment.

Speaker, the initiatives in this Budget, to ensure the lifestyle we have come to expect in Queensland, are many.

Further highlights of the Police, Corrective Services, Fire and Emergency Services budgets include:

In the Fire and Emergency Services Budget:

- The Palaszczuk Government is supporting Queensland's future single integrated marine rescue service with a vessel replacement program, that includes the delivery of the first new vessel in the program to Thursday Island.
- The government is continuing the nationally renowned If it's Flooded, Forget It campaign with further funding.
- To support our ability to respond to natural disasters, this budget funds a technology refresh and enhancement of the ICT and audio-visual equipment at the State Disaster Coordination Centre at Kedron.
- In addition, the Palaszczuk Government has committed to increased funding of \$20 million in the 2022-23 financial year for the SES to enhance operational capability and risk management. This includes 33 positions in addition to the extra seven positions we've already recently announced and a capital boost for new equipment, including new SES flood boats and upgraded facilities for the Lowood SES Group.
- An additional \$8 million has been committed to marine rescue services next financial year, to support operational capability and accelerate the replacement of rescue vessels.
- A further \$10 million has been committed next financial year for new RFS facilities, including funding for a new facility for Rural Fire Brigades in the Maryborough region.

In the Corrective Services Budget:

- Measures previously announced to better resource the Parole Board Queensland by increasing the number of parole board teams will be further extended, with \$18.3 million to continue the temporary fourth and fifth teams for a further two years and appoint a temporary sixth team for 12 months.
- The record budget also enhances the efforts of officers and staff with a more than \$66.9 million over 4 years commitment to upgrade the Integrated Offender Management System along with expanded end-to-end case management, increased cultural liaison support, front-end recruiting and training and additional psychological and disability support services.

In the Police services budget:


- \$2 million to support work on the business case for the relocation of the Oxley Police Academy to the Wacol police precinct, which currently already includes the world-class Bob Atkinson Counter Terrorism and Community Safety Training facility.
- Funding for an Australian first trial of anti-hoon camera trailers as part of a Road Safety Anti-Hooning Maximum Saturation Deterrence Strategy and complements Queensland's nation leading anti-hoon laws with tough penalties including vehicle confiscation, hefty fines and potentially jail-time for the worst hoon offenders.

- Additional resources to deliver better services by streamlining processes and digitising records at Weapons Licensing and to start the process for a new Weapons Licencing management system with work commencing this year.

Speaker, this is a budget for all Queenslanders.

A budget which supports good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle for Queenslanders.

I commend the State Budget to the House and I encourage all members to support it.

 **Ms LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (4.25 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the 2022-23 state budget. This is a typical Labor budget with new taxes—a racing tax, a payroll mental health levy, a coal royalty increase and confirmation of a land tax on land owners resident in other states. The Labor Treasurer promised 26 times there will be no new or increased taxes. This budget, from this Labor Treasurer, is a broken promise—a broken promise to Queenslanders. Despite these new and increased taxes and huge revenue windfalls, the roads out in the regions are falling apart, the health system is in crisis, ambulance ramping is up to 42 per cent, and the housing crisis is gripping the state with families living in tents and cars.

I wish to commend the opposition leader, David Crisafulli, and the shadow Treasurer, David Janetzki, on their budget reply speeches. They have pointed out how this budget is in disrepair and how this budget will increase the cost of living and inflationary pressures facing Queensland households. They have pointed out that at a time of increasing interest rates, there is no plan to retire debt. The era of low interest rates is over. As a result, debt continues to grow relentlessly. It is now \$110 billion and will be \$129 billion by the end of the forwards. This is up from \$72 billion in 2015, an increase of 80 per cent. Additionally, after the fake privatisation of the titles registry last year, specifically to lower net debt, net debt is set to triple over the forwards which will set off alarm bells at the rating agencies.

When a government has more debt, they pay more interest. Interest payments are forecast to almost double over the forwards, to reach \$2.9 billion per year. Reckless borrowing over years and years is finally taking its toll. The government's chickens have come home to roost.

The LNP leaders have pointed out that with this budget, there is a housing crisis and families are homeless, and I will come to the dire situation of Lynne Webb at Dalby later. If this budget is meeting expectations, why is the ambulance ramping 42 per cent in Queensland? I will come to the case of Nelson Neal from The Gums later. Why in this budget is there no plan to address the road maintenance backlog? Why do we have roads like the Roma-Condamine Road that are falling apart? They are narrower than the bike tracks in Brisbane and they are going from bitumen back to dirt. If this budget is about health, why are babies being born on the side of the Warrego Highway and regional hospitals go for weeks without doctors? I want to put a shout-out to Bryson Head, the new member for Callide, because I know he will fight for maternity services to be returned in Chinchilla.

Firstly, I want to make mention of Queensland's hardworking local governments and I acknowledge the tremendous efforts they have made throughout the pandemic and the summer of natural disaster events. During these events local governments did what they do best: they managed these disasters. On behalf of this parliament I would like to thank every mayor, every councillor and every council worker because I know they have had many sleepless nights throughout the 2021-22 disasters.

I do ask: if this budget and the economy are going so well, why are 60 per cent of councils rated as medium or high risk of becoming financially unsustainable? When we delve into the programs that support local governments we see the story. The sacred cow, Works for Queensland, has been cut back by 40 per cent. Councils will not be able to support 26,000 jobs given this funding cut. Over the forward estimates there is only \$190 million remaining in this program, which equates to only \$67 million per year over the three years of the remaining program.

The president of the LGAQ and the Sunshine Coast Council Mayor, Mark Jamieson, said he was disappointed that the budget misses the mark on the restoration of Works for Queensland funding to \$100 million a year. He said—

This program is critical to the liveability of Queensland's communities ... 60 per cent of the state's councils remain at medium or high risk of becoming financially unsustainable.

Last year \$30 million was allocated to the Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure Program. This has been reduced in this budget to \$22 million that is available to these Indigenous councils. These are councils whose mayors raise with me the struggles they have with housing, the overcrowding and the frustration they have with this government that is not delivering housing to their communities. This is not the way to close the gap for these Indigenous communities and they deserve better.

This budget does provide \$672 million in up-front advance waste levy payments over four years.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Order, members. I want to hear the member on her feet.

Ms LEAHY: We should, however, remember the fight that councils had with the state Labor government who last year ceased to provide a budget commitment to provide these payments to 39 local governments beyond 2022. Councils nearly ended up having to administer a rubbish tax on behalf of the state. The \$70 million towards the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme, commonly known as TIDS to local government, has not increased since 2015. With escalating construction costs, this allocation has decreased in real terms.

I was disappointed there was no recognition of volunteers, or the 2021-22 weather events, local government or councils in the Treasurer's budget speech. Of Queensland's 77 local government areas, 66 have been activated for various joint state-Commonwealth DRFA assistance in response to disasters. Some have had four successive flood events. I acknowledge the \$741 million Resilient Homes Fund, which is jointly funded by the Queensland and Australian governments. It is available to homeowners to bolster resilience across 37 council areas. However, the eligibility criteria for this fund is still not publicly known, meaning that those impacted cannot go to the bank or make informed decisions about the eligibility criteria.

With 60 per cent of the state's councils remaining at a medium or high risk of becoming financially unsustainable, it is disappointing that this government is pursuing a boundary review between the Rockhampton and Livingstone councils, which will negatively impact on the financial position of the Livingstone council. Should the boundary review be implemented, the Queensland Treasury financial assessment states that there will be a \$150 rate hike for more than 16,000 Livingstone families in the first year and that rates will increase to \$250 a year by 2030. Queensland does not need more councils in the financial unsustainable category and the Central Queensland region needs two strong councils, not one weak one and one strong one.

The amount of \$150 might not mean much to the Premier, but it means a hell of a lot to Queensland families in the Livingstone council area. A total of 417 people have signed the petition to save the Livingstone lifestyle, and I table the names of those who have signed the petition.

Tabled paper: Nonconforming petition regarding saving the Livingstone lifestyle [\[919\]](#).

The LNP will fight for these ratepayers and it is disappointing that the Labor government is not doing that.

As I said earlier, housing is in crisis and it is at a crisis point in my electorate. At any one time in the community—for instance, St George—there may be only two properties to rent and in some cases there is very little to purchase. I received this email last week from Lynne Webb, whose family in Dalby is soon to be homeless. It states—

Thank you for your return email, I have been proactive in trying to find a suitable home for our family with no success.

Despite asking prior to moving for long leases which have been verbally agreed to, the homes have either been sold shortly after moving in, or as with this current property 6mths in we have a notice to vacate as the owners wish to move back in, I just want a home we can settle in and relax. We are a large family, 3 adults + carer 24/7 and the 3 little people plus Alanna, who has a specialist bed and chair ... We have been approved for community housing which would be great if there was any available, I have sent several emails to—

the minister's—

office with no response. I am feeling very overwhelmed at the moment.

I, too, have sent letters to the minister's office in relation to Lynne's circumstances. I sincerely hope the government does find some housing that is appropriate for Lynne's family. However, there are families like Lynne's who are desperate for housing right across my electorate. If this budget is delivering housing, why can't Lynne and her family not find a rental or some sort of accommodation suitable to them in Dalby?

The Premier said yesterday that health is front and centre of this budget. Where are the doctors in our regional hospitals if health is front and centre of this budget? These hospitals across my electorate have had days and weeks without doctors. The Mungindi Hospital was without a doctor for 13 days in October 2021. The Augathella Hospital was without a doctor for five days in October 2021 and I was advised that Augathella was without a doctor during Easter 2022 when they had their rodeo. Cunnamulla was without a doctor for 12 days in December 2021 and January 2022. Quilpie was without a doctor for 15 days in January and February this year. Quilpie will not have had a doctor for 63 of the 210 days from January 2022 to 1 August 2022. They are a one-doctor shire and it is a two-hour drive to the nearest town to see a doctor. Surat was also without a doctor prior to Easter 2022.

Communities like Mungindi and Dirranbandi were isolated by floodwaters with no doctors at their hospitals. When these communities have no doctors, they rely on emergency retrievals like the RFDS and LifeFlight for transport to larger hospitals. However, just because regional patients arrive via an

emergency retrieval at a hospital does not mean they do not get ramped. Nelson Neal of The Gums fell from a horse breaking ribs and was transported from Chinchilla to Toowoomba by the RFDS. He spent an hour waiting for an ambulance at the Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport before being transported to the Toowoomba Base Hospital. If health is front and centre of this budget why is ambulance ramping at 42 per cent and people like Nelson waiting in planes at airports for hours before being transported to emergency health care?

If this budget was more about rolling out the bitumen than the red carpet we would see a plan to address the deferred road maintenance backlog. The estimated deferred road maintenance backlog for the Darling Downs-South-West region at 30 June 2021 rose to \$1.3 billion. The Darling Downs-South-West has the highest backlog of deferred maintenance of any region in the state. The Palaszczuk Labor government has been sitting on their hands when it comes to addressing the backlog in this region, and this budget does not fill me with hope that there is a plan to address that backlog.

Not only has the region got the highest backlog of deferred maintenance; we also have some of the highest numbers of road deaths. Warrego is rated by the RACQ in the top 10 for road fatalities and Callide tops the list. I know the new member for Callide, Bryson Head, who drives on these roads, will fight for better roads in the Callide electorate.


Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will come to order.

Ms LEAHY: There is a pattern here: a lack of road investment and high numbers of road fatalities. Rather than rolling out the red carpet to the federal Labor government, this state Labor government should be knocking on the door for the \$150 million of funding for the Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program.

Councils want to see \$8 million for the Warrie Gate Road, \$24 million for the Bollon Road and other strategic bitumen extensions in the Maranoa Regional Council. Some of these councils that were promised funding through this program will receive reductions in their FA grants. I cannot stress enough how important these road funds are to these Queensland councils.

The Treasurer has made a virtue of calling this a 'typical Labor budget'. It is typical, with new taxes and hikes and no plan for the delivery of better services. It ignores the needs of councils and those people who live in the regions.

 **Mr HEALY** (Cairns—ALP) (4.39 pm): There are times in this chamber when I am reminded of the unfortunate American president Abraham Lincoln's comments: 'Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt'.

Mr Watts: Time to sit down then!

Mr HEALY: I am pleased that somebody on the other side got it!

I rise to speak in support of the appropriation bills. What an absolutely outstanding budget this is. I acknowledge the hard work of our Treasurer, the member for Woodridge; the Assistant Treasurer, the member for Jordan; their staff; and those in the Treasury department. I congratulate each and every one of the people who have contributed to this. Not only is it a sound budget; it is a strong budget. It is a by-product of listening to the people of this great state. This budget sees record spending in health and education and some vitally important new initiatives, particularly in relation to mental health, which we all know has been tested as a result of COVID. This is very much needed.

In addition, we see ongoing significant financial commitments not just in the areas of police and environmental protection but also in the housing sector. We see the allocation of funds for a new manufacturing hub in Cairns. Something that is vitally important to regional councils is Works for Queensland, which was not proposed to be an LNP program if they were ever to get in government. It is vitally important that the strong relationship between us and councils continues. Our neighbourhood and community centres will receive \$115.8 million. This is absolutely essential. I have a number of those centres in my community, and I acknowledge the minister and tell her how important that funding is.

When we talk about alleviating the concerns over the cost of living, there is more than \$6 billion in concessions for Queenslanders. It is significant. There are many other important components which stimulate our economy and help our communities. It is with great pleasure that I see that a number of these priorities have been carried over to my electorate of Cairns.

Water security has been an issue in Cairns and surrounds for quite some time. As a matter of fact, the Cairns Regional Council identified this and prepared an action plan in 2015, yet it has taken a commitment from the Palaszczuk Labor government and the Albanese Labor government to alleviate

the concerns of the people of Cairns. In this budget, the Treasurer announced a commitment of \$107.5 million in support of proposed infrastructure development which will see water security well into the future, in the long term. This amount will allow stage 1 of the Cairns Water Security program to be completed. This is, as we have always said, subject to the delivery of a business case. I acknowledge Minister Butcher, who has been instrumental in securing this positive outcome. This should assist in reducing cost-of-living pressures on the people of Cairns. Over \$200 million has been provided by the state and federal governments. This is something the ratepayers of Cairns will no longer have to cover. I am proud to be a party to the delivery of that funding.

On the health front, Cairns will gain more than 100 extra hospital beds, as the Palaszczuk government embarks on the biggest expansion program ever seen in a state focused squarely on health. The massive \$9.78 billion Hospital and Health Infrastructure Plan will include \$250 million for the Cairns Hospital expansion to establish 96 new beds by 2026 and 45 extra beds through a leasing arrangement to expand subacute services in Cairns this year. This is in addition to the ongoing expansion and upgrade of the Cairns emergency department.

The Cairns Ambulance Station and Operations Centre has secured additional funds for redevelopment. This will support communities through the delivery of pre-hospital ambulance response services.

Construction is underway for a new \$70 million, 53-bed mental health unit at Cairns Hospital as part of the hospital's ongoing expansion. It will provide a more flexible response to acute medical health services in a therapeutic environment, providing improved services not just for the local patients but also for families. The three-storey building will also include a 10-bed mental health intensive care unit. The infrastructure project is boosting the Cairns economy, creating nearly 70 full-time jobs during the construction phase. The job is expected to be completed by the end of 2023, with the facility opening its doors in early 2024. The new mental health unit is part of the government's \$82.2 million health investment in Far North Queensland for 2022-23 which also includes the Atherton Hospital redevelopment and Cairns Hospital emergency department expansion.

On a broader but vitally important issue, the 2022-23 budget provides for an additional \$1.645 billion over five years and a capital investment of \$28.5 million to improve our mental health, alcohol and other drug services for a range of initiatives to support suicide prevention and deliver additional beds. This need has been recognised by this government. It has been requested by communities all throughout Queensland. This is another example of a government that listens to its constituents. This investment will also deliver Queensland's contribution of \$109.55 million to the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement with the Commonwealth as well as government's responses to the inquiry into the opportunity to improve mental health outcomes for Queenslanders. The total health funding for this budget is \$23.6 billion. As I said, this reflects the government's understanding of what is needed in our community.

The Cairns Marine Precinct is a vitally important area of growth, development and opportunity for our city and for our region. The Queensland government is investing an additional \$150 million in a major expansion to the Cairns Marine Precinct to establish Far North Queensland as a leading maritime maintenance, repair and overall hub. This measure is absolutely essential for ongoing growth in this area. The expansion will enable Cairns to secure larger defence and marine contracts, further supporting around 4,600 jobs in the region's marine sector. The construction of a new common user facility, including a 5,000-tonne ship lift, will allow ships of up to 120 metres in length to be repaired and maintained on a hardstand area. The expansion will open up significant opportunities for local service providers to pursue new opportunities, to increase capabilities and to create additional skills and jobs. We are seeing that occur through our marine college and the courses being developed through TAFE. The Queensland government will now seek a codesharing arrangement for the project with the Australian government. This \$150 million expansion is in addition to the \$32 million for the Cairns Marine Precinct early works to progress infrastructure upgrading, including the delivery of two new wharves at the Port of Cairns facility.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my speech on the budget for incorporation. As such, I ask to have the remainder of my speech incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Education

The Palaszczuk Government will invest a record \$16.5 billion in school and early childhood education in the upcoming state budget, with hundreds of infrastructure projects to improve schools from the Gold Coast to the Cape. Another five new schools would be opened in 2025 and 2026, while existing buildings would be expanded and improved thanks to more than \$1.9 billion in infrastructure investment supporting thousands of jobs.

And this adds to the on-going investment in our education sector in Cairns. Specifically for Cairns we are receiving \$12.8 million for much needed and essential infrastructure.

Trinity Bay State High School \$5.8 million in 2022-23 out of a \$11.5 million total spend to deliver a new performing arts facility.

Balaclava State School \$300,000 for the refurbishing of 2 learning spaces in block D in addition to funds for the Balaclava OSHC after hours school care.

Cairns State High School will receive over \$800,000 for additional specialists classrooms

Cairns West State School over \$600,000 amenities upgrade

Edge Hill State School will receive funds for both essential administration up grades and covered learning areas.

Parramatta State school will receive \$750,000 for the refurbishment of 4 learning spaces in A block and another \$267,000 funding towards OSHC capacity increase.

Trinity Bay State High School will receive funds for upgrade, reconfigure and refurbish library/resource centre and a new Hall Facility.

We know that the future of our State are in our classrooms now, and that is why we continue to invest in our school, which is an investment in our children's future, and this will always remain a priority for me, as I have promised my community.

Small business

- The Palaszczuk Labor Government will deliver payroll tax cuts to small-and-medium-sized business, as part of the 2022-23 Budget. The Treasurer also announced as part of today's budget that we will provide payroll tax relief to more than 12,000 small and medium-sized Queensland businesses. This will be achieved by increasing the payroll tax deductions to businesses with annual Australian taxable wages between \$1.3 million and \$10.4 million. I know this will be particularly welcomed by the thousands of small to medium sized tourism businesses who have been doing it tough over the last few years—through the global pandemic.

TOURISM

I am pleased to also share that within the 2022-23 Queensland State Budget, we have set aside \$66.4 million over three years for key initiatives aligned with the Action Plan's recommendations including:

- up to \$15 million over two years for the Tourism Experience Development Fund;
- up to \$4 million over two years towards a First Nations Tourism Program;
- up to \$27.4 million over two years for priority tourism projects as part of the Regional Tourism Recovery Program, which includes \$18 million towards the rebuilding of Binna Burra.
- And this is in addition to the Aviation Fund worth \$200 million, already committed by the Palaszczuk Government in conjunction with The Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine and Cairns Airports. This fund is a reflection of the Governments co-operative approach with the aviation sector to attract International flights into Queensland, which we know is an essential part of the Tourism Industries recovery.
- And we are also seeing ongoing investment into the Wangetti Trail. This budget will see \$9.4 million in 2022-23 for a 94 kilometre walking/ mountain biking trail from Palm Cove to Port Douglas, with public and eco-accommodation facilities. This project is without any doubt one of the most amazing projects with vast potential for not just the Tourism industry, but also career opportunities for our first Nations peoples.

Lyons Street Diversionary Centre Expansion \$3 million in 2022-23 out of a \$4.4 million total spend for the expansion of Lyons Street Diversionary Centre.

Cairns Advanced Manufacturing Hub \$3.3 million in 2022-23 out of a \$3.6 million total spend to build an advanced manufacturing centre at Cairns TAFE. Part of the Equipping TAFE for Our Future program.

Screen Queensland—Far North Queensland Film studio \$13.4 million in 2022-23 out of a \$20.6 million total spend for the construction and operation of a new film studio in Cairns. The on-going opportunities this new infrastructure will present in both jobs and careers is unprecedented and I acknowledge the hard work of the Member for Mulgrave in this important area.


And our investment in the Cairns Convention Centre continues, with \$46.2 million in 2022-23 out of a \$176 million total spend towards the refurbishment and expansion of the Cairns Convention Centre to capitalise on the national and international convention markets. Once completed, this important piece of essential infrastructure will generate an estimated \$130 million a year into the Cairns economy.

Works for Queensland will continue. \$46.7 million provided to regional councils to undertake 70 maintenance and minor infrastructure projects in Far North Queensland. (July 2021 to June 2024) has been enormously successful and hugely appreciated by many Councils. This is such an important work program and I know many will be so happy to see this continue.

More jobs in not just our traditional industries, but new and emerging industries are essential and The Queensland Government's economic strategy will help Queensland businesses to take advantage of the many opportunities that are out there and grow our economy.

A growing economy will allow the government to deliver better services across the state, including in education, justice and social services. High-quality services improve the lives of Queenslanders and help everyone to participate fully in our economy and our community.

Ensuring a better future for all Queenslanders is one of our goals, and this budget is ensuring that outcome.

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (4.47 pm): Labor's greenie mates will be happy with this budget. This is the best recycling budget in the history of Queensland. By 'recycling' I mean reannouncing projects from previous years' budgets. I rise to voice my absolute disgust at a budget bill deliberately designed to deceive and extort Queenslanders by an out-of-touch and incompetent Treasurer leading Queenslanders down a fiscal path laden with more debt, higher taxes and a grim future for our children and our children's children for many years to come. As the debt of \$26,000 on the head of every man, woman and child in Queensland is further pumped up by a Labor government not concerned with financial reality but totally consumed by increasing the membership of unions through the Public Service, Queensland's precarious debt position will become blatantly clear this financial year, with inflation skyrocketing and the necessary corollary of interest rates rising, which will impact severely on every Queenslanders and every Queensland business operator.

Who is the state Labor government going to blame now that their favourite excuse for failure—Scott Morrison—is no longer in Canberra? Increased taxes, fees and charges are the hallmarks of a Labor government scrounging every dollar they can out of everyday Queenslanders, when Queenslanders are facing their toughest time for many years through the cost-of-living pressures brought out by exorbitant fuel prices, soaring food prices and, worst of all, skyrocketing energy prices because of bad planning and policy by a Palaszczuk Labor government more interested in spin and a media headline than in putting in place reliable and cheap energy provision for Queenslanders to stay warm and keep the lights on.

All we get in the promotions of this budget by Premier Palaszczuk is, 'It's a record spend on health.' Any idiot would know that it is a record spend on health every year, including in the LNP's time in government, because of the growth in population and the increase in population growth health demands. That chant by the Premier tells everyone that she does not have anything to sell in this budget except bad news.

There is nothing in this budget as to how her government will address the ambulance ramping rife in all Queensland hospitals. People's lives have been lost due to the slowness of ambulance response times because ambulances are sitting in a queue in hospitals loaded with patients waiting for a bed. The queues are getting longer than the taxi ranks in Surfers Paradise on a Friday night. The same old COVID excuse is trotted out, along with lack of more federal government money when clearly the buck stops with the Palaszczuk state Labor government and their shemuzzle of organisation of hospitals, insisting union membership, bureaucrat, paper-shuffling, administration staff take priority over frontline doctors and nurses and more beds. Clearly these union Labor puppets on the other side of the House put a higher priority on signing up union memberships than they do on fixing the problems of ambulance ramping and blowouts in the waiting lists for elective surgery.

The big headline splash about fixing the health system with more hospitals and more beds is another Palaszczuk government red herring. When one analyses these so-called big spends one will notice they are all now estimated over six years. The forward estimates of spending have always only been over four years. Again we have a Labor government fudging and manipulating the budgetary figures to give the impression they are addressing the health crisis in Queensland under their watch. It will not be too long now and we will again get the Anna Bligh catchcry that the Queensland Health system is a basket case and we need to split it in two. More spin, deceit, manipulation and downright dishonesty on the people of Queensland and yet the ambulance ramping, long elective surgery waiting lists and physical pain endured by Queenslanders tells the real story of the health crisis in Queensland.

To hear the transport minister crowing about the brand new projects of Cross River Rail and Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3 tells everyone he does not have anything new to fix skyrocketing traffic congestion, in particular on the Gold Coast to Brisbane commute. These are projects announced years ago and to try to spin the media that these are brand new commitments is an insult to the media's intelligence and certainly will not wash with their viewers and readership audience. The Premier needs to sack her 19 media advisers if that is the best they can come up with to try to spin the fourth estate. They have lifted the cap on employing more public servants—aka more union members—and no doubt Queensland's recurrent employment expenditure will balloon over the year ahead as they try to keep the unemployment figure down by employing more public servants. Eight thousand new public servants next year, with another \$2 billion whacked on the government's annual wage bill tells you this government does not care about efficiency and fiscal responsibility, only more union members.

Again funding for the alternative M1 from Brisbane to the Gold Coast has been put on a drip-feed with the Coomera Connector now reduced from six lanes, as a highway should have, to four lanes which is a suburban regional road capacity. This government has no interest in the thousands of M1 commuters caught up in everyday traffic jams, four-hour delays because of accidents on an already overcapacity road or just plain fixing a problem—

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Miller, your interjections are not being taken.

Mr STEVENS:—that is as obvious as the nose on your face for commuters between Australia's third largest city and Australia's sixth largest city. With the Olympic Games just 10 years away this drip-feed approach of funding small sections of cosmetic solutions for the M1 is a total sham and an embarrassment for a government out of innovative ideas, as their former leader Peter Beattie said, and, even worse, out of Queensland taxpayers money to fund proper solutions to fix Queensland's road suffocating problems.

Only a week ago Queenslanders were advised to minimise their power use to avoid citywide blackouts—this from a state government that exports most of Australia's power generating coal to China and other overseas countries returning royalties of around \$6 billion to this year's budget bottom line. Bad policy, media spin renewable commitments and a ridiculous gouging of wholesale generation prices to prop up their floundering, debt-ridden budget are the hallmarks of this government's inability to operate fiscally responsibly.

When I look at the budget papers and see the fraudulent large letter writing of a pretend government commitment of \$1.2 billion for light rail stage 3 through my electorate—I notice the minister will be listening to this—I note the small print writing that the government commitment this year is only \$270 million with the rest coming from the private sector, the federal government and the Gold Coast City Council. We, the public, are not privy to the real Queensland taxpayer expenditure because of cabinet confidentiality to hide the true position of this government on the matter, but I am reliably told the extra \$270 million is to cover union demanded best practice wage blowouts that the contractors, Hollands, were not prepared to cop. Again, the union puppets on the other side of this House are dancing to their union factional masters' string pulling to the great detriment of Queensland taxpayers and the financial efficiency of building infrastructure in Queensland.

Guess what, Mr Deputy Speaker, the Treasurer's promise that there will be no new taxes in this budget we now know to be as hollow and as fraudulent as his hollow promise that he has no interest in being Premier when the current red-carpet-addicted Premier finally checks out of her gig on her massive defined benefits superannuation, letting her retire from politics on a \$300,000-a-year pension.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Pause the clock. Members, the level of interjections is too high.

Mr STEVENS: Plus there will probably be a nice soft landing for her as well with a cushy job as trade commissioner in London or LA to put some greenback icing on top of her pension and to continue her frolicking with movie stars and glitterati in Hollywood on the real red carpet.

This budget contains three new taxes hitting up three vital employers in this state that will create more unemployment, rising cost-of-living pressures and put more pressure on our vital small business sector, which is obviously the biggest employment sector in Queensland. The Treasurer proudly boasts that he is the son of a small business operator. He should know that any increased costs through taxes will be passed onto the consumer through the retail price that the consumer will pay. No businessperson in the world is going to suck up an attack on their bottom line profit to appease a profligate and incompetent Queensland Labor state government milking them dry.

The resource industry is currently riding an economic boom wave on the back of high international commodity prices, but there is no guarantee that position will continue, particularly with China's growth progress sustaining a much heralded hiccup at the moment. The royalties they provide have allowed this government to continue on its spendthrift ways and yet this government is going back to the well again—probably to drain it dry, this time forever.

The resource companies will cop a double whammy through the increased payroll tax levy so expect your fly-in fly-out workers around Queensland to have to learn to 'reskill', as a former Labor treasurer famously decreed. The Treasurer is always keen to quote American people, such as when referring to the valuation and the dodgy aspects of Treasury shifting the responsibilities of the titles office. Just ask JP Morgan and the Royal Bank of Canada for confirmation that payroll tax is a job-destroying tax.


Payroll tax is the most insidious and employment inhibiting tax possible. This government has determined to increase it when small business has just come through one of the toughest times ever because of the COVID-19 pandemic and now it is being coward punched again.

Mr Bailey: Don't let the facts get in the way of a good story.

Mr STEVENS: It is a good story; I take the interjection from the minister. Small business is being coward punched by a Labor government that is ignorant of the pain that it has endured. In fact, if it were not for the Morrison federal government's bailout of small business through JobKeeper and JobSeeker, the unemployment figures for Queensland would be astronomically higher. But don't worry: with this government's rampant attack on small business, inflation rates rocketing through the roof and interest rates on a rapidly rising exponential curve, this Labor government is signing the death warrant for small business in Queensland through their increased taxes and mortifying level of debt. Currently we are paying around \$3 billion in interest, only on repayments, and that figure will rise. \$3 billion would buy two new Gold Coast university hospitals or an alternative M1. Instead, we are squandering tax money on government inflicted debt.

The worst news is yet to come. With Queensland's inflation rate now at six per cent, the undeniable fact is that it will rise several percentage points before the end of the year and interest rates will necessarily follow, probably to the tune of four or five per cent. That will ring the death knell for the construction industry, particularly in our patch on the Gold Coast. The resultant real estate crash will add to the woes that this government will have to deal with through stamp duty collections because of their profligate spending and horrendous debt building over their many years in government.

From Beattie and his massive water infrastructure blowout, with the white elephant on the Gold Coast and the pipeline that has not been used since he left, to Bligh and now Palaszczuk, debt was the crutch that they relied on to prop up their bad financial management. Now they have maxed out their credit card when all around the world there are serious storm clouds on the financial horizon. There is not one economic forecaster, including Dr Philip Lowe, who is not advising everyone to knuckle down and put on their flak jackets and helmets for a very rough financial ride ahead. Unfortunately, this government has put itself in such a place that they will not be able to deal with any bad financial aspects that come around the corner. Without a doubt the new taxes will bring higher unemployment. The new high-interest payments on borrowings will compromise their budgetary spend. In 2024 the Queensland public will be begging for a new fiscally responsible government and 'Premier Crisafulli' will deliver.

 **Mr HARPER** (Thuringowa—ALP) (5.02 pm): Obviously the member for Mermaid Beach is losing the plot. We will check on his health in a minute. I think he is the new self-elected president of the whinge, moan and bemoan club that has started because the consistently poor contributions from the opposition clearly show that the LNP is planning more cuts. We know this because they have not said one word to support the revenue measures in this budget. That means that they do not support making coal companies pay their fair share. If they do not support the coal royalty change, they would cut \$1.2 billion from the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan. They do not support the mental health levy so they would cut \$400 million a year out of the health budget, which would equate to cutting the Townsville University Hospital's 143 beds. I bet the member for Mundingburra would not want to see that under an LNP government. We do not want to see cuts to health. They need to come clean and tell us where the cuts would be under the LNP. It probably means that they would sack more nurses, just like they did last time.

I rise to support the appropriation bills. From the onset I say that this is an historic budget in terms of the funding that the Treasurer has allocated to health, in particular, right across the state. I am the chair of the Health and Environment Committee and recently we identified the causes of the pressures placed on our health system from an ageing and growing population, a population that has difficulties accessing primary and allied health care and that finds it difficult to access a bulk-billing GP, and a large portion of a population that cannot afford the ever increasing cost of private health cover.

It is clear that our Labor government's plan is to increase the capacity in our health system by funding over 2,500 beds across the state. The Townsville University Hospital, the largest retrieval hospital in northern Australia, will be boosted by over \$500 million—half a billion dollars—that will deliver an additional 143 beds. Those beds will be welcomed by our hardworking health staff and also by our Townsville community. Our emergency department sees 250 people a day and sometimes more, with a large percentage walking in to seek care because of the issues I have just raised. To increase bed capacity is a very important measure to tackle the impacts of the pressures on our emergency departments. We will see more nurses, more doctors and more paramedics employed. The QAS's budget will be increased by 11 per cent to meet the increasing demands for its services.

In my electorate of Thuringowa, one particular project that I have long advocated for is the Kirwan health precinct, which delivers community care, aged care, adolescent care, dental care and rehabilitation services, just to name a few. That ageing facility started as the Kirwan women's hospital, where thousands of babies were born and cared for over many years, and included our original neonatal

unit. Those services were absorbed into the new Townsville University Hospital at Douglas, which is perfectly situated beside the James Cook University. However, the Kirwan health precinct continues to deliver vital and important health services to the good people of Thuringowa and we have a plan to deliver a state-of-the-art facility to replace that ageing facility.

We need to provide modern health facilities to ensure that all of those services can continue to be delivered by our dedicated and professional health staff at Kirwan. In 2020 I made a commitment to the people of Thuringowa that we would deliver a \$40 million Kirwan health precinct site and redevelop it completely. In the last budget we received some planning money. That planning is underway and this year I am very pleased to see \$5.4 million allocated to the redevelopment of the Kirwan health precinct.

I have a lot more to contribute on what the budget delivers for my electorate in terms of our schools, the Kirwan police facility, the Townsville Ring Road and, of course, my very favourite topic—wait for it; and I am so pleased that the best minister for transport that this government has ever seen is in the House because he knows how hard I have lobbied for this—Riverway Drive stage 2. We allocated \$20 million to that project and this budget allocates more money to it. I cannot wait to see it start. We know that we need to work with the council to progress the new water pipeline, which has stalled the project a little. In their recent budget council allocated \$34 million to that, so we can get on with the job. This project will reduce congestion and make our roads safer because we have a state Labor government that delivers road funding.

I have heard all the moaning and whingeing from the other side. I say to members opposite: come to North Queensland and we will show you what new road projects are like. The Townsville Ring Road stage 5 at \$230 million and the Haughton connecting road and new bridge at \$500 million are being delivered under a Labor government. That is what we do in North Queensland. We are proud to continue to deliver and work with the minister.

Mr Mander: It's time to incorporate.

Mr HARPER: I will. It is too much for the member for Everton. He does not want to hear the good news. I could go on, but I know that everyone else wants a turn. Members can read all about the projects in my incorporated speech. I have sought leave to incorporate the remainder of my speech and I have the Deputy Speaker's approval. I thank the Treasurer for an outstanding budget that puts people first.

The speech read as follows—

Speaker, this budget delivers for my local schools, and I have long advocated for improving our aging school buildings in Kelso, Rasmussen, Kirwan, Thuringowa and Heatley.

I am pleased to see my local Kelso State School receive \$810,000 to refurbish Blocks 1 and 2 and repaint identified buildings.

Just down the road is Rasmussen State School receive \$440,000 to refurbish 4 learning spaces in Block E.

And Kirwan State School receives \$1.4M for a new administration building and hall renewal.

Up the road Kirwan State High School, and I recently met with new executive Principal Heather Murray, where we have already delivered a state-of-the-art hall, (that is air-conditioned and has a commercial kitchen) delivered by our Labor government to the tune of \$10M for its 2000 students. They will this year receive \$500,000 to refurbish the science learning space and upgrade amenities centre.

One of my election commitments in 2020 was to deliver a new hall for Thuringowa State High School, and I am very pleased to see \$3M out of almost \$6M we committed to build and deliver this new hall for Thuringowa and I want to give them a quick shout-out as recently both I and my wife, Amanda, enjoyed the annual Theatre restaurant to watch the show "SNAP", it was a delightful evening watching these hard working students perform this in an aging and tiny space, and I know the new hall will deliver a far larger space to continue this proud tradition at Thuringowa State High School.

My former school, Heatley Secondary College of which I have already delivered \$12M for school upgrades in the previous term of government and I made an election commitment to deliver a catering Hall with a commercial kitchen, and I am very pleased to see over \$660,000 delivered for that project at Heatley.

Another of my 2020 election commitments was to build a new Kirwan Police facility. I thank the Premier and Police Minister who came to Thuringowa recently to announce the \$30M for the new facility would be located at the former 1300 Smiles Stadium site, the original home of the mighty North Queensland Cowboys.

I am very pleased to see \$14.3M allocated to the demolition of the project site to make way for the new for the new facility, of which \$1M has been allocated. Our hard-working police deserve the very best facilities, I have seen some initial concept pictures of the new facility and was very impressed, as they pay a nod to the history of this site, I am looking forward to being involved in this project, and to ensure that link of the Cowboys is recognized in the new buildings, which I believe should be named in some of the former players who have contributed so much to our community.

In my time in previous terms of government I have proudly already delivered another police facility in the Upper Ross, and a new Ambulance station in Kirwan, so I am proud to deliver this state-of-the-art facility for the hardworking staff of the Queensland Police Service at the Willows site.

Speaker, I wish to update my electorate on roads infrastructure. This budget will deliver safety upgrades to Thuringowa Drive (Tavern St) roundabout and Charles Street improvements to the tune of.

Currently the Townsville Ring Road Stage 5 which runs through the very heart of Thuringowa is underway. This budget allocated \$83.5M towards this co-funded highway upgrade. It has and is delivering over 400 direct jobs and I was recently provided a tour of the work site and commend the professionalism of project manager in delivering this major works, both on time and on budget.

One of my favourite road projects is Riverway Drive Stage 2. After delivering Stage 1 to the cost of \$43M, we have seen over \$40M in private investment in the Upper Ross area.

I lobbied the Main Roads Minister and gave another election commitment in the lead up to the 2020 to deliver Stage 2 of the duplication of Riverway Drive.

By working with the federal government, we have secured a total of \$95M to duplicate Riverway Drive Stage 2.

Our State contribution is \$20M, and I am pleased to see \$5M go towards this project, which we hopefully see start construction soon, however this important project cannot begin until the Townsville City Council completes the duplication of the water main which is situated under Riverway Drive.

One of the biggest job-generating projects in Townsville in the Lansdown Industrial precinct, which will deliver thousands of jobs in battery manufacturing. This budget will deliver \$26M to construct a 13Klm raw water pipeline and pumping station connecting the Lansdown industrial precinct to the Haughton pipeline, which is another proudly delivered Labor project.


We know how important energy production and transmission is in north Queensland, we have seen millions invested in renewable energy and we need to make sure we have the infrastructure in place and upgraded to continue to deliver power to North Queenslanders.

In Thuringowa, we have the mighty Ross Sub Station, located near the Upper Ross Solar Farm. This substation is undergoing a \$28M upgrade and I am proud to see almost \$5M allocated in this budget to ensure we continue to deliver reliable power to the people of Thuringowa.

Speaker, this is another good job generating Labor government budget that focuses on delivering for all Queenslanders and one we should all be proud of for our constituents in our own electorates.

As the State member for Thuringowa, I am pleased to see over \$185M allocated to the people of Thuringowa in this state budget for roads, health, police, schools and so much more, all delivered for the people of Thuringowa.

I commend the Bill to the House.

 **Ms CAMM** (Whitsunday—LNP) (5.09 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to assure you that I do not plan to incorporate my response to the appropriation bills because I truly believe, and I think that this is very important, that the people we represent in this House—our constituents and the taxpayers of Queensland—expect us to stand up and speak for the allocated time.

I look forward to making my contribution in regard to not only my shadow portfolio, which I think is very important—women's economic security, the prevention of domestic, family and sexual violence and child protection—but also the good people of the Whitsundays. Today I speak in support of the Leader of the Opposition, David Crisafulli, and in particular his comments that 'too often these statements: to be safe, to be respected, to be equal' are taken for granted. Women are crying out for genuine reform, genuine policy and, in fact, action. It was disappointing to read through the budget and look at the detail in terms of the women's economic security statement. In fact, if we total the amount spent on specific projects for women's economic security, it barely cracks \$1 million. How uninspiring for the women of Queensland. The women's participation rate still lags at 63.7 per cent compared to men's at 70.9 per cent. This government continues to pay lip-service. In fact, we need to shift the paradigm in relation to women's economic security in this state. That is certainly what the Leader of the Opposition did today in his budget reply speech. It is about inspiration, not victimisation. It is about new ideas, innovation, entrepreneurship and empowering women. It is in fact about empowering men. It is about equality and accessibility.

I am afraid to say that what the Treasurer delivered in his budget statement was short on inspiration. That is for sure. I will demonstrate that by way of comparison between New South Wales—which presented its budget this week—and Queensland. Queensland has a general housing fund. In New South Wales there is almost \$500 million specifically for women and children fleeing their homes. In Queensland we are helping women return to work with the Back to Work program, but there is no budget line item. For New South Wales there is \$32 million and \$5,000 grants to help women as they return to work, including covering costs around technology, training and wardrobes. This is an actual, real, tangible, practical investment for women in New South Wales, but not here in Queensland.

In relation to innovation, entrepreneurial start-up and support, in Queensland there is \$890,000 in the Female Founders program for which we are grateful. There is \$39.1 million over four years to fund the small business grants and the Mentoring for Growth program. Again, this is not specific to females but goes to all small businesses, which we also recognise. I point out that in New South Wales

there is \$12 million towards the Carla Zampatti venture capital fund for start-ups led by women for women. There is \$11.5 million towards tailored support to help women build and grow their businesses—recognition of the contribution of women.

There is support for women in the construction industry. I thought those opposite would actually embrace such a policy; in fact not. In New South Wales there is \$20.2 million towards achieving 15 per cent of construction workers being women by 2030. There are no targets from those opposite in Queensland. In terms of child care and kindergarten, there is a shameful \$263 million over four years to support universal access to kindergarten. In New South Wales there is \$1.7 billion for introducing universal kindergarten.

Mr O'Connor: A billion.

Ms CAMM: I take that interjection. It is a real recognition.

Mr O'Connor: Sterlo went and did it.

Ms CAMM: I take that interjection. Do we know why? Because the New South Wales Liberal government recognise that child care is actually an investment in productivity not just to women but also to men. Where is the funding? There is zero from this government.

Mr Stevens: Crime is out of control.

Ms CAMM: I will take that interjection: crime is certainly out of control. I look forward to getting to that in my speech on the budget. I just heard the member for Thuringowa talk about payroll tax and the mental health levy. I will report to this House how privileged I was to hear of the bipartisan and committed approach of members of both sides—and I pay respect to Joe Kelly, the member for Greenslopes, as chair, and also our deputy chair, Rob Molhoek, the member for Southport—during a very tough and very serious mental health committee in Queensland. It was so disappointing to hear the Treasurer politicise mental health in this state. As raised by the mental health committee—not by those opposite—this committee was almost set up to ensure that the Treasurer could make the revenue needed to cover the shortfall in investment over the last seven years in the mental health system in this state. When there are zero adolescent teenage beds in this state north of—

Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Miller, I believe that that was unparliamentary language. I invite you to withdraw.

Mr BAILEY: I withdraw.

Ms CAMM: There are zero adolescent mental health beds in this state north of Noosa. There are zero beds for teenagers with eating disorders north of Noosa. For the last seven years there were zero beds for mental health across regional and rural Queensland. The Treasurer undoing all 57 important recommendations of this committee by politicising a serious issue in this state was absolutely appalling.

I also highlight in the budget papers that it does not matter how many millions of dollars this state government throws at the child protection system. We still have over 11,000 children living in care and over 5,700 carers in this state caring for children in this state, and 53 children died at the hands of this state last year. With all the resources of government, with all the millions of dollars, we still have a child protection system that is failing. Where are the interjections now from those opposite? There is silence. Why is that?

I will speak to my own electorate, the electorate of Whitsunday. I am very proud to represent its fastest growing suburb, the Northern Beaches, where I reside with my family. I draw to the transport minister's attention that there is one access road in and out. I am sure my community welcomed the same \$700,000 or \$600,000 allocated—sorry \$375,000 this year and \$375,000 next year. There is zero capital funding for the fastest growing community in the Mackay region. I see the member for Mackay in the chamber. I welcome any advocacy that she might like to provide for those Northern Beaches communities of Rural View, Blacks Beach, Bucasia and Shoal Point. We will see growth of 53.6 per cent, 10,000 residents, by 2036. There are no upgrades to the roundabouts, no upgrades to bottlenecks and no funding.

While I am raising the 'efforts' of TMR, I highlight to the minister that, out of every government department that I or my office engages with, TMR is not willing to engage, consult or attend community meetings—not in the Northern Beaches of Mackay nor Shute Harbour. I recommend that the minister go and speak to his regional office about the fact they are not willing to engage with the local member.

Mr O'Connor: Get him on Twitter.

Ms CAMM: I should maybe tweet the minister. There are countless examples of their lack of engagement. We have good people who work in that department who are forbidden to speak to their local member. It is incredible.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Whitsunday, please resume your seat. I am not in the business of prohibiting interjections, but the level of interjections is too high from both sides. I generally warn members and ask that the member be allowed to be heard.

Ms CAMM: I would like to speak very frankly about the Shute Harbour boat ramp and the Midge Point boat ramp and the lack of consultation with council and the lack of engagement with those in the community and our fishing community. It is appalling. I see 12 year olds at the boat ramp in waist deep water where we have Irukandji jellyfish, sharks and crocodiles. I beg the minister to come to Shute Harbour and have a look at that. It is on this government's head if I have a death in the Shute Harbour marina. It is a serious issue.

Government members interjected.

Ms CAMM: City MPs can laugh all they want, but they are out of touch.

Government members interjected.

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I have just reminded members about my tolerance level for interjections. There are too many. I am struggling to hear the member on her feet.

Ms CAMM: I should take personal offence to the interjection 'gutter politics' given the deaths we have had from jellyfish in my electorate more recently, but I am actually above that—unlike some of those opposite. I would love the member for Pine Rivers to come and visit my local surf club where we have had a death from a jellyfish. I would welcome any member opposite who wanted to come and meet my local volunteers who have tried to save the lives of people who have lost their lives due to jellyfish. How appalling! That just shows how out of touch those opposite are with regional and rural Queensland.

I would like to highlight the enormous efforts of my local tourism bodies—Tourism Whitsunday and Mackay Isaac Tourism. I congratulate chair of Tourism Whitsunday Julie Telford and CEO Rick Hamilton and chair of Mackay Isaac Tourism Justin Englert and interim CEO Tash Wheeler on the collaborative approach they have taken to advocacy and bringing together the very successful Mackay Beach Horse Races. I know this will be a signature event for our region. I certainly hope the minister can attend next time. It was branded 'Definitely not the Melbourne Cup'. I congratulate Sound Australia on its work. It is one of the best events our region has seen in many years.

It was a collaborative effort between both our RTOs. I urge the minister to listen. Do not reduce their funding. Do not merge them because I can assure the minister that the kangaroos on the beach that Qantas uses in advertising and the heart of the reef that the Premier likes to tout are very different brands and they need very different leadership styles. Please do not merge those two RTOs because the community does not want that and neither do those body.


I congratulate the tourism operators that have come through the enormous challenge of COVID-19. I am very proud of my local retails and my local chambers of commerce—Whitsunday Coast Chamber of Commerce and Mackay Region Chamber of Commerce—that have pulled together. Now we are on the other side of COVID, visitors are returning to our region, including those with German accents. We finally have backpackers in our retail shops and working in our local community. We are proud of the Whitsunday music festival and the Whitsundays Arts Festival. We are proud of our amazing global tourism brand. That is an asset to Queensland.

I also mention the Resources Centre of Excellence. The vision is that we are globally recognised as the hub of high-level thinking for all things related to the resources sector, therefore creating significant regional economic value and demonstrating exceptional social value in our communities. Our community certainly welcomes the funding of \$5.7 million over three years for that vision. I thank the government for that recognition. I acknowledge Steve Boxall the CEO and the board, many of whom I had the pleasure of working with when the RCOE was only a concept and I was the director of the Resource Industry Network. This funding will support the expansion of what is already a showcase facility across our community.

Mrs Gilbert: Great Labor government.

Ms CAMM: I will take that interjection. I will remind the member that it was the Mackay Regional Council that committed \$7 million to that. I was deputy mayor and we contributed to the land. I will not give the government credit for what was a signature project of council, but I will give credit to the government now for continuing that project. The member for Mackay had nothing to do with that project.

I will continue to support the mining sector even though this government has decided to increase royalties. I certainly hope that the increase in royalties does not impact the supply chain, the small businesses, the METS sector and those businesses in Paget that employ my locals from the Northern Beaches, Airlie Beach and Cannonvale. If they are impacted by the rise in royalties and those royalties are not returned to the region—not returned to Proserpine Hospital, Mackay Hospital or Moranbah Hospital—I will be holding this government to account and so will the voters of Mackay and the Whitsundays.

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities) (5.24 pm): Before I make my contribution on the appropriation bills, I table a response to petition 3724-22.

Tabled paper: Response from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner), to an ePetition (3724-22) sponsored by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, from 617 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the current allocation of commercial and recreational Spanish mackerel quotas remain unchanged [\[920\]](#).

The 2022 budget delivered by the Treasurer this week stands alone among Queensland state budgets. This budget is one for the ages—one that will stand out, as when we pushed through the difficult times presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and grasped the incredible opportunities that Queensland has. Of course, the first and greatest investment is in health because that underpins so much of what we want to deliver for this state. With a nation-leading health system we can build the future that Queenslanders want—an ambitious future, a successful future and a future that Queenslanders will be proud of.

Of course, our industry partners in the agricultural sector know only too well how hard the Palaszczuk government is working to ensure that good health outcomes support our world renowned farmers. Throughout the height of the COVID-19 pandemic we worked shoulder to shoulder, helping to implement the life-saving measures supported by the health advice while ensuring that the agricultural industry could get on with what it does best—feeding the nation and the world with the best produce.

We safely supported more than 5,000 Pacific workers to quarantine on Queensland farms to provide the labour that was so desperately needed through the darkest days of the pandemic. We have been side by side with our farmers through the pandemic, through drought, through the monsoon trough in the Far North and through the flooding events that have hit so hard in several regions—some of them more than once.

We know that the trials and tribulations of farming life can take a toll, and not just a physical one. That is why I am so proud of this budget's investment in a \$1.6 billion package over five years to focus on mental health, addiction, substance abuse and suicide across Queensland. This is an essential commitment to support communities in agricultural regions and right across Queensland.

Of course, the Palaszczuk Labor government has once again delivered in spades for the agriculture sector in Queensland, with a \$608 million investment to support this essential industry. Our farmers are the best in the world—we know that in the Palaszczuk government—but without good health we cannot be our best. That is why when it comes to health we are delivering better services for every Queenslander with the record investment in new hospitals, in hospital upgrades, in more health staff and in the health services that will make sure that the right health services are there when Queenslanders need them.

I know it might be a little hard to hear for those opposite, but the 2022 state budget clearly shows the Palaszczuk Labor government is the best friend Queensland farmers have ever had. We have had the courage to take on once-in-a-generation reforms to our drought support programs, and this budget backs those reforms by ensuring the money is there to make those reforms a reality. We have \$79.6 million in drought assistance programs allocated over the next four years. Importantly, we have also set aside \$150 million in drought preparedness and assistance loans over the next three years.

These reforms and this funding fundamentally shift the balance towards preparedness for drought rather than only offering support once a drought crisis is declared in a region. As promised under this reform process, primary producers accessing the previous assistance can continue to do so while their region remains drought-declared. The new preparedness funding is critical to ensuring primary producers can upgrade water infrastructure and be ready for the next drought long before their area has been drought-declared. For the first time, this support is available to the horticulture industry—

in your area, as you would know, Mr Deputy Speaker Lister—making a groundbreaking difference to those farmers. This approach has been supported by industry because we worked side by side with industry to develop and then implement it.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic members have heard Palaszczuk government ministers talking time and again about the health advice we received and followed to keep Queenslanders safe. The science, and our commitment to following it, saved lives across this state. Like many Queenslanders, I am extremely grateful to our Premier for having the courage to make the tough decisions.

In agriculture we, too, follow the science to make sure our farmers can be their absolute best and stand on the world stage. Our Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has a great reputation for its work in agricultural research. My thanks go to all of the researchers and support staff who apply their knowledge and insight for the benefit of Queensland farmers every single day.

Including external contributions, next financial year we will oversee \$140 million in research and extension work—\$140 million. That is a massive ongoing investment in the future of agriculture in this state. We should be incredibly proud of what we achieve through this work. This is everything from researching new varieties of strawberries on the Sunshine Coast to tackling tropical plant pests and diseases in Far North Queensland. This is another way we are providing better services to our agricultural sector to the benefit of all Queenslanders.

This budget takes important steps to protect our agricultural industry through investing \$1 million in round 7 of the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative and strengthening our biosecurity network through prevention, preparedness, and response and recovery measures. We are protecting the great lifestyle Queenslanders enjoy by investing \$37.1 million to open a new front in the war on fire ants.

This year's budget will deliver in spades for the electorate of Ferny Grove. It delivers for health. It delivers for our schools. It delivers for transport. It delivers for our roads. The record \$9.78 billion increase in health spending includes a massive expansion of the Prince Charles Hospital and a nation-first Queensland Cancer Centre.

Since 2015, Ferny Grove electorate schools have benefited from a record investment of over \$50 million. This budget puts that figure well over the \$60 million mark. It delivers on my election commitments and provides the education infrastructure we need to meet the future head on. Ferny Hills State School, which turned 52 this year, will get a \$1.2 million investment to replace its ageing amenities block. This is a great budget, a true Labor budget, a Labor budget for the times.

In conclusion, I will respond to the member for Gympie's comments in his contribution. In my portfolio, I listened carefully to the contribution of the member for Gympie. I cannot let that nonsense pass without comment. The numbers speak for themselves—\$408 million in the agriculture budget under the LNP when they were last in government compared to \$608 million in the agriculture budget under Labor. That is a 49 per cent increase since the last LNP budget. In respect of the devastating performance of the LNP in government, they slashed 600 jobs in my department, including 26 per cent from biosecurity and 28 per cent from fisheries.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Ferny Hills State School will also receive an extra \$545 thousand to complete the much-needed renovations to D Block—which are currently underway as we speak.

Likewise, Oakleigh State School, nestled in the heart of Ashgrove, has been experiencing a flowering of student numbers in recent years as young families return to the suburb. The Palaszczuk Government has been building new classrooms at the school to keep up with that increased demand.

At the 2020 election, I made a commitment to the students and parents of Oakleigh State School that a re-elected Palaszczuk Government would build a new hall for the school in this term. This year's budget provides the down payment on that promise with work expected to begin later this year. When I make a promise, I deliver.

Likewise, this budget delivers the final payment for the expansion of parking at the Ferny Grove Transit Oriented Development. Ferny Grove Central, as the project is now called, will deliver a 42% expansion in parking and is providing much needed local jobs now during construction and into the future once the entire complex is completed.

This budget also delivers the funding for the Glenholm Street/Samford Road intersection project—which I am told has exploratory works beginning next week. I committed to that project in 2018 and this budget delivers on that commitment.

Speaker, the school commitments made in my electorate of Ferny Grove have been delivered by the Palaszczuk Labor Government. Just like the promise I made to Patricks Road State School in 2019 to deliver funding for an extension to their existing hall. This budget delivers \$500,000 to that project—with construction due to commence in the second half of this year.

Cross River Rail and the Rail Revolution investments announced in the budget will see the gaps in the Ferny Grove Line timetable closed and improvements to rail safety and comfort rolled out over the next few years.

And our local roads have not missed out either. The Palaszczuk Government is working with the Moreton Bay Regional Council to fix the Hutton Road, Plucks Road, Caesar Road black spot intersection.

Community Centres have been the cornerstone for our communities for people experiencing homelessness, domestic violence, and social isolation—especially since the start of 2020. This year's budget provides a massive funding boost to our community centres with our local Picabeen Community Centre receiving more than double its regular funding for the next four years!

This is what Labor Governments do. We make promises and we deliver on them, and this budget certainly delivers for the Ferny Grove Electorate.

Back on matters related to my portfolio, as I mentioned this Budget opens a significant new front in the war on Red Imported Fire Ants.

This is a pest that is a threat to the outdoor lifestyle that we know and love in Queensland, so this is a critical investment in the steps we are taking towards eradication.

The Budget includes \$37.1 million over five years, starting in the current financial year, to open a new front in the war on fire ants in South East Queensland.

This new effort will be focussed on the areas of heaviest infestation to reduce Fire Ant numbers until the eradication effort reaches those areas.

This is another measure to protect the great lifestyle that we have in Queensland. It's worth fighting for, and we are investing in that fight.

Speaker, the Palaszczuk Government has been committed to supporting communities in the fight against feral pests that impact on our agricultural areas.

I am pleased, as I mentioned, to see the further \$1 million committed in the Budget for a seventh round of the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative, which has been so important to our local governments.

It is never too soon to remind Queenslanders that biosecurity is everybody's responsibility and I am glad we can provide this funding to fight feral pests.

Speaker, many stakeholders have spoken to me about the need for a consistent supply of agricultural labour. Just last week it was great to meet with Nathan Baronio from the Granite Belt Growers Association, such a passionate advocate for the industry.

He talked about the demand for workers in his region and expressed his association's desire to be at the cutting edge of solutions.

It is important in all parts of the state and we continue to work with industry on workable solutions in both the short and long term.

That's why I am so pleased that the Palaszczuk Government's Budget includes \$2.6 million to support the Commonwealth's Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme helping our farmers get the workers they need.

We know it is not the whole solution but it is an important part of the puzzle and we will continue to work side by side with our farmers and food production industries to support them.

Speaker, Tuesday's State Budget included funding to support a wide range of initiatives including:


- a network of smart farms, an agtech roadmap and better biosecurity preparedness;
- support to tackle Panama TR4 disease in banana crops;
- ongoing Sustainable Fisheries reforms;
- and \$1 million over two years to help the Queensland Country Womens Association to upgrade their facilities.

Speaker, overall we are talking about a \$608 million budget for Agriculture and Fisheries, a massive investment in the future of primary industry in this state.

Since the Palaszczuk Government came to office in 2015 we have delivered a 49 per cent increase in the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Budget—49 per cent.

Speaker, I am proud to be standing here as the Farmer's Friend, delivering once again for Queensland's agriculture sector. The Palaszczuk Labor Government has always stood by our farmers, and we will always stand by our farmers because that is who we are.

We are delivering good jobs in the agriculture sector, we are delivering better services to regional Queenslanders and we are protecting a great lifestyle that Queenslanders love and deserve.

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (5.32 pm): I rise to address the appropriation bills for 2022-23 and other associated legislation. At its core, this 2022 Palaszczuk state Labor budget is one that is based on a broken promise. Queenslanders simply can no longer trust the Palaszczuk state Labor government. Twenty-six times the Labor Treasurer promised Queenslanders that there would be no new or increased taxes. It is a fact that on 9 October 2020, in the middle of the then 2020 state election campaign, the Treasurer was specifically asked if he was ruling out new or increased business taxes. The Treasurer responded by saying, 'There will not be any increased taxes, we have said that very clearly from the start, no new taxes from the Labor Government if we are re-elected.'

The Labor Treasurer's integrity is in tatters, and no amount of spin or Orwellian language can hide the reality that the Treasurer was being deliberately misleading, tricky and, indeed, sneaky with his language. The point is that the Labor state government is having to introduce new and increased revenue streams because of Labor's inability to manage Queensland's finances.

Labor's reckless waste and significant blowouts on key infrastructure projects in Queensland have resulted in the state government having to introduce new taxes. This state budget also has to be seen in the context of what the Palaszczuk state Labor government has implemented via previous state budgets in relation to dubious economic strategies such as loading \$5 billion of debt onto government owned corporations, raiding \$4 billion of the superannuation scheme of public servants, and revaluing the state's Titles Registry at \$8 billion, which was twice what it was worth previously, as an offset mechanism to reduce net debt.

Therefore, it has to be said that, if over the entire tenure of the Palaszczuk state Labor government there had been proper fiscal and budgetary management processes undertaken by the state Labor government, the Treasurer would not have had to introduce new or increased taxes in Queensland. It has to be remembered that, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Palaszczuk state Labor government was careless with its management of Queensland's finances and, consequently, total debt is forecast now over the forward estimates in this state budget to remain at \$128.5 billion.

Having said that, as a parliamentary member of the Mental Health Select Committee, I am extremely proud of the collaborative work undertaken by all members of the committee including the direct personal, parliamentary and professional contribution made in my capacity as the state member for Moggill and the resultant important recommendations that were made in the Mental Health Select Committee's final report to the Queensland parliament. I acknowledge the work of the chair, the member for Greenslopes; the deputy chair, the member for Southport; and other members of the committee.

A strong financial investment is needed in our mental health system across our state to assist the many Queenslanders with either mental health conditions and/or alcohol and drug dependency disorders. However, had the state Labor government undertaken responsible fiscal and budgetary management over the past eight state budgets, such an investment in mental health services could have been made from current revenue streams rather than new taxes. In essence, new taxes have become necessary in Queensland because of the Palaszczuk state Labor government's financial and economic mismanagement and total ineptitude over successive years.

As a former president of the Australian Medical Association of Queensland and the Rural Doctors Association of Queensland, investing in health infrastructure, including additional beds and new hospitals, is incredibly important. However, it is unclear whether the state government has a comprehensive health workforce strategy to, in fact, be able to open and operate such new hospital and health services in accordance with the government's own published Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan.

I would encourage the state Labor government to carefully consider the specific comments and recommendations related to the health workforce contained both in report No. 18 of the Health and Environment Committee and report No. 1 of the Mental Health Select Committee of the 57th Queensland Parliament.

As the current president of the Australian Medical Association of Queensland, Dr Maria Boulton, has said, the 'record' spend the government is touting is only keeping up with inflation and that additional hospital beds needed to be available yesterday. This budget also delivers nothing to comprehensively ease cost-of-living pressures or improve housing affordability, let alone provide a sustainable long-term investment in social housing.

As the state member for Moggill, I have worked consistently and collaboratively with local residents and various community organisations to fight for the vital infrastructure and services that local constituents of the electorate of Moggill absolutely deserve. Over the past seven years, significant and detailed correspondence has been sent to various Labor ministers of the Palaszczuk state Labor government and, along with my dedicated and detailed advocacy in the Queensland parliament and in other various meetings with departments and agencies, I have made it abundantly clear to all that the Palaszczuk state Labor government must fund and, in turn, deliver for residents in the electorate of Moggill.

I am pleased that, following my strong advocacy over many years as the local state member for Moggill, a \$6.5 million commitment has been secured for new classrooms at Kenmore State High School, with \$3.1 million to be allocated in the 2022-23 financial year. Further, I am also pleased to

confirm that Kenmore State High School has been included in the Queensland government's school halls planning program, meaning funding of \$200,000 for initial planning has been allocated for concept planning, design and consultation, with such planning work to take place over the coming 12 months.

I also welcome the \$25.5 million investment in the construction of additional classrooms for Kenmore South State School. This is a terrific outcome for local families and the Kenmore South State School community and resulted from diligent and dedicated work over a long period of time. I would like to thank all parents, teachers and staff who joined with me in advocating to ensure that this vital educational infrastructure funding could be delivered.

This funding builds upon my advocacy and what has been previously secured and delivered for local schools in the electorate of Moggill, including more recently for Chapel Hill State School, Moggill State School and Brookfield State School.

Following the announcement made last week of the government's \$40 million in new funding for the Queensland School Transport Infrastructure Program, I immediately wrote to all of my local school principals in the electorate of Moggill offering my support to school communities so that student safety and school travel can be further enhanced according to each school's specific set of circumstances.

This state budget also allocates \$23.6 million of investment into the Mount Crosby Flood Resilience Program. I note that the budget confirms that the construction of the new \$29.5 million Mount Crosby Bridge will commence in late 2022, with \$14.7 million allocated for the 2022-23 financial year. It is crucially important that these works are progressed as an absolute priority. Our community cannot afford any further delays, particularly following the events earlier this year in relation to the severe weather and flood event.

There are many other critical infrastructure and related matters that remain unaddressed by the Queensland state government. An integrated road and public transport plan for the western suburbs of Brisbane with comprehensively funded solutions to ease traffic congestion and improve public and active transport services with cyclist and pedestrian safety must be prioritised, and it has still not been delivered by this state Labor government.

I have also repeatedly called for the extension of the 444 bus service to the Moggill District Sports Park and the Moggill ferry and for the state Labor government to increase public transport service timetables, including additional 443 services, and extend other public transport routes.

Further, enhanced footpath and pedestrian infrastructure along Moggill Road and Mount Crosby Road, including key pedestrian travel points through Pullenvale, Pinjarra Hills, Mount Crosby and a dedicated footpath to the Moggill District Sports Park must be delivered.

I have also called on the Palaszczuk state Labor government to fully fund a new high school to service families in the electorate of Moggill. The state Labor government should also fully fund school infrastructure for every local state school in accordance with their various school strategic infrastructure plans.

An allocation of funding to support the important work being undertaken by the Brisbane City Council in designing, developing and delivering a new community and neighbourhood facility at 98 Brookfield Road to better support the vital work of local community and not-for-profit organisations has still not been prioritised by the state Labor government. Mr Speaker, \$1.5 million in allocated funding has already been provided by the former federal LNP government.

Openness and transparency on the \$25 million Kenmore roundabout upgrade project, along with additional funding to fix the intersection of the Almay-Kenmore-Moggill Road through to Kilkivan Avenue, should have been delivered. In relation to the Centenary Highway bridge project, construction should have commenced a year ago, with \$33.5 million now removed in the 2022-23 financial year. This is something that has not been prioritised. It needs to be prioritised. Local residents also want definitive progress on the vital safety upgrade to the Mount Crosby-Warrego interchange.

I also take this opportunity to call on the Queensland state government to allocate specific additional and dedicated funding for local environment and creek catchment groups in the electorate of Moggill to support the ongoing and vitally important efforts to preserve, maintain and rehabilitate our local environment and creek catchments and also ensure the provision of clean, reliable and affordable energy and electricity to local residents and Queenslanders.

I wish to again reiterate my calls for enhanced police, ambulance, fire and emergency service resourcing for all residents in the electorate of Moggill. In particular, the Queensland state Labor government must construct and deliver an ambulance station in Karana Downs.

The severe weather and flooding events earlier this year revealed the significant need for all levels of government to cooperate and deliver local infrastructure solutions. There are also a number of matters with respect to disaster management agency coordination that local residents rightfully expect, especially during times of natural disaster. Communities and suburbs in the electorate of Moggill were isolated. This was only further exacerbated by floodwater inundation, dam water releases and associated impacts in relation to the Mount Crosby Weir Bridge, Colleges Crossing, the Ugly Gully Bridge and Bell's Crossing. Local residents have also continued to question whether a full traffic bridge at Bellbowrie could have alleviated local suburb isolation and ensured vital emergency service access could continue to be maintained during these recent flood events.

Whilst acknowledging that the Inspector-General Emergency Management's flood review report and associated recommendations have not yet been delivered, it is disappointing that the Queensland state Labor government has chosen not to be proactive and outline dedicated funding in this year's state budget for an infrastructure solution to the continued and repeated impacts at Colleges Crossing, the Ugly Gully Bridge and Bells Crossing or progressing work with other levels of government to investigate the suitability of a full traffic bridge at a suitable location in Bellbowrie.

The genuine infrastructure needs of the electorate of Moggill are not about politics: it is about people. It is about the families who are spending longer in traffic congestion because the Palaszczuk state Labor government refuses to prioritise the western suburbs of Brisbane. The Labor government's priorities should be about the pedestrians and cyclists who risk their lives each and every day along state controlled Moggill Road and Mount Crosby Road because safe footpath and cyclist infrastructure has not been, and will not be, delivered by this state Labor government in a timely manner. It is about the residents and workers who want to use public transport and leave their car at home, but cannot because this state Labor government refuses to provide additional public transport services and extend routes to communities including: Bellbowrie, Moggill, Anstead, Karana Downs and Mount Crosby.

As the Liberal National Party's shadow minister for education, I now wish to turn to the \$16.5 billion in funding that has been allocated in the 2022-23 Queensland state budget for education in Queensland. I note there will be new measures, including \$20 million over two years, to improve playground and tuckshop facilities as well over \$13 million to expand the Share the Dignity program in Queensland schools and a new disability resourcing model. It is important that these programs are delivered both efficiently and effectively.

The state government has also announced an additional five new primary schools to be built; however, it must be noted that all of these new schools will not be delivered until after the next state election. In relation to early childhood education, we have seen the leadership provided in New South Wales and Victoria with multibillion dollar investments. The government here in Queensland certainly needs to look at that and consider implementing that into the future.


Queenslanders also know there is a growing workplace health and safety crisis in our schools, and they know that it is getting worse. We know that our hardworking and dedicated teachers and school staff are suffering increasing verbal and physical assaults. The health and safety of every teacher, staff member and student in Queensland must come first. In May of this year it was revealed in an answer to a question on notice that more than \$322 million has been paid out to teachers and staff in WorkCover claims since 2015 when the Labor government was first elected. No amount of spin by the Palaszczuk state Labor government can cover for the fact that Queenslanders are paying more for Labor's inability to keep our teachers and staff safe in our schools. Queenslanders are also having to pay more for educational infrastructure budget blowouts because the Palaszczuk state Labor government has absolutely failed to properly plan, manage and deliver its own expenditure on key projects.

Last month the Auditor-General released a damning report which delivered a scathing assessment of the mismanagement of key projects and contracts under Labor's Department of Education. When the Auditor-General examined the delivery of Labor's Brisbane South State Secondary College and the Fortitude Valley State Secondary College, the Auditor-General found blowouts totalling over \$23 million.

As the Liberal National Party's shadow minister for the arts, I welcome the announcement of funding to further support the development and promotion of arts and cultural works by First Nations Queenslanders. I have been a strong supporter of all initiatives to ensure that Queenslanders, no matter where they live, are able to experience the full range of local, national and international cultural and artistic programs.

I also welcome the allocation of \$7.6 million for Brisbane's Old Museum, with \$1.6 million of this funding to go towards the development of a business case and master planning. This is an iconic building and a very important part of Queensland's heritage.

Finally, as I have always done in my elected representative role as the state member for Moggill, I will continue to work with other elected representatives across various levels of government to ensure that local residents in the western suburbs of Brisbane and the electorate of Moggill get the infrastructure and government services they deserve.

 **Mrs GILBERT** (Mackay—ALP) (5.46 pm): I would like to start by thanking Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, Treasurer Cameron Dick and the combined cabinet team who assisted in the development of a budget that will continue to keep Queensland in the strong fiscal position this government has been leading since 2015. It has been Labor governments that consistently deliver on a balance of needs and wants for the whole state by delivering good jobs, better services and supporting our great Queensland lifestyle.

The budget has delivered on our state's present needs and put in place the infrastructure and strategic goals for industry-building projects that will build the growth of tomorrow, most importantly in my region of Mackay. This budget is an historic health budget. Our health facilities are being rebuilt, expanded and refurbished, delivering quality health care to regional Queensland. Our schools are also getting extensive renewals with maintenance and upgrades. We have a massive roads program that is continuing to provide modern, safe roads and a pipeline of jobs for local families.

One thing the pandemic has taught us is that we all need to be prepared for uncertain times. With this budget, Queenslanders will be confident that Queensland will continue to be agile when thrown curveballs by the universe.

The resources sector and associated services industries will be leading economic growth in my region for many years to come. There is still a strong reliance on metallurgical coal for the production of steel. The Bowen Basin, west of my electorate, produces some of the highest grade coal in the world and will continue to export to the world.

The Resources Centre of Excellence, a state government 2017 election commitment, has become the leading underground mine facility for training and research in the Southern Hemisphere. The research facility is used by companies like Vayeron, East West Lighting and CSIRO to test prototypes in real-life mining conditions. Strip lighting, conveyor sensors and drones are just a few of the products that have been tested and enabled on their path to commercial manufacture and export.

Stage 2 of the centre of excellence is to be called the Future Industries Hub. It will deliver jobs of the future to meet the change in demands for the resource sector and beyond. The hub will also provide environmental, social and governance education. Activities proposed for the Resources Centre of Excellence stage 2 Future Industries Hub include: critical mineral testing and commercialisation; advanced mineral processing research and development; rapid prototyping and advanced manufacturing; establishment of an advanced robotics collaboration facility; space manufacturing research and development; circular economy mapping, evaluation and implementation; and a biofutures startup hub.

New critical minerals are being detected in the overburden piles of some of the coalmine pits in the Bowen Basin. There may be a remaining of dormant mines for critical minerals needed for new technologies and energy. I am looking forward to my region potentially being a leader in the development of lifelong batteries and the emerging electric car industry.

The engineering and resource sector is not the only economic show in my region. We have a very well established agricultural industry with many opportunities to diversify into high-value food commodities. The Future Foods BioHub business case is funded in this budget. The hub has the potential to contribute to food security, deliver higher dividends to our food producers and create new manufacturing industries for Queensland.

Export transport is vital to our traditional, new and emerging industries. The Mackay port and the Dalrymple Bay coal port are both state owned ports and are part of the NQBP group of ports. They have both had major upgrades in recent years. The Mackay port had more hard set-down sites, a biosecurity wash-down station and the introduction of roll-on roll-off freight facilities by changing the edge of some wharves. The largest cargo ships in the world now use the Mackay port, delivering a range of oversized mining and engineering equipment, vehicles and break-bulk cargo. There was \$7.6 million for maintenance and upgrade and to support studies for hydrogen trade for the ports.

The health and wellbeing of Queenslanders is front and centre of the budget. The budget delivers an historic program of infrastructure, with a \$9.785 billion spend over six years across Queensland. Mackay and region, covered by the Mackay HHS, has a bonanza of new builds, upgrades and extensions of our hospitals. The shovels are already in the ground at the site of the brand new \$30 million Sarina Hospital and accommodation in Brewers Road. This is a purpose-built, state-of-the-art facility, bringing health care closer to locals.

The first patients have already used the new CT scanner at the Bowen Hospital. Locals from Bowen and Collinsville will no longer need to be transported long distances for scans. The Proserpine Hospital will have upgraded clinical assimilation training area, clinical assessment rooms and an acute primary care centre. The Moranbah Hospital will also undergo a rebuild and renewal under the Building Rural and Remote Healthcare Program. The hospital is a vital facility in the heart of our many local mines. Every project and upgrade within the footprint of the Mackay HHS takes pressure off the largest hospital, the Mackay Base Hospital.

When the new Mackay Hospital was officially opened in 2015 by the Palaszczuk government, extension plans in place were for 25 to 30 years in the future. The region has grown so quickly that the planned future wing of 128 additional beds has been bought forward to cover unprecedented demand. There is \$250 million front and centre in the budget to bring this project forward by decades. The Premier and her health ministers Yvette D'Ath and Steven Miles and chief health officers kept Queenslanders safe during COVID. Our commitment to health is backed up in this budget.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Deputy Speaker education opens doors for our young people giving them choices and opportunities post school. Students deserve to have learning spaces that allow them to learn in well maintained environments with the necessary modern equipment that will be conducive for students to reach their full potential.

The students at Mackay North State High School under the guidance of Cathy George and her music and performance faculty, consistently win local, state and national awards for their efforts. Their programs are so well regarded, they have grown out of their current facilities due to demand. \$200,000 will enable the school to start designing and consulting for future upgrades and rebuild of the performing arts centre and hall used by the performance students to create our future stars.

Pioneer State High School have had recent upgrades to science and robotics teaching areas. Now the Home economics kitchen and dining areas are set to get a \$1.7 million upgrade to bring their kitchens up to commercial standard. Modern teaching and learning space built to certification standard readies students for the workforce and further study in their chosen field of employment.

Mackay SHS school offers course of excellence in a range of areas including sport academy, Creative Arts Academy, Academic Excellence, and Marine studies also our only Clontarf Academy. Marine students will have a dedicated learning space with funding to go towards a specialist space. Living on the edge of the Great Barrier Reef, marine studies opportunities gives student the ability to pursue many of the marine career choices on our door step.

There are many school maintenance projects to be undertaken under in this budget, upgrades to tuckshops, playgrounds, classroom renewal to keep local schools in good repair. Our schools are inclusive places, having a disability should not be an impediment for any student or teacher accessing classrooms. I am pleased to report of our schools are upgrading to equitable access devices, lifts or ramps which ever the most appropriate.

Roads


Speaker all roads lead to Mackay or it seems that way with the continuation of multi million dollar road projects continually being rolled out across the region. The final access upgrades for the Mackay Ring Road are being finalised. The planning is underway for the \$350 million Mackay Port Access Road previously know as stage 2 of Mackay Ring Road. The long awaited Walkerston Bypass has begun, jointly funded with the federal government. This road will make the township of Walkerston a much safer place with road cargo for the Bowen Basin diverted away from business, homes, and schools. A business case and planning for upgrades to the Mackay Bucasia Road will investigate the best solution to ease pinch points at the busy traffic times of the day.

We have a great outdoor lifestyle in Mackay. Our already extensive network of cycle and shared paths are well used by locals of all ages, for transport, exercise and relaxation. This budget allocates funds for networks to be extended and improved across our region. The busy intersection of River and Sydney Streets is a popular crossing for cyclists and pedestrians, this budget is delivering a safe crossing upgrade.

There has been a lot of discussion by local bus uses about the Caneland bus stop, a new bus stop will be constructed on Mangrove Road improving the accessibility for the bus drivers and passengers with expansion of vehicle lanes for everyone's improving the efficiency of the services.

When state government grants funds to local council to carry out small projects, locals are employed, and pressure is taken off councils bottom line for their budget in delivering infrastructure to our community. Works for Queensland (W4Q) \$4 million commitment is funded in this budget. I am looking forward to seeing the projects put forward by Mackay Regional Council.

Speaker this budget delivers for my region and it delivers for every region across Queensland, I support the bill.

 **Dr MacMAHON** (South Brisbane—Grn) (5.53 pm): Queensland is an immensely wealthy state, but for us to all benefit from this wealth we need to make mining billionaires pay their fair share. I have lost count of the amount of times I have stood here in this chamber and said exactly that. Do you know what? I am pretty pleased to see that the Treasurer has finally listened to what the Greens have been saying for years. This morning we heard the Treasurer talk about the immense wealth of mining corporations, their high share prices and their capacity to pay more in royalties. I thought this sounded awfully familiar. Don't worry, Mr Treasurer, you are welcome to borrow our homework any time. Not only has the Treasurer finally listened to me and the member for Maiwar, but he has finally listened to the people of Queensland.

We wrote to the Treasurer ahead of the budget and we urged him to implement a bold royalty rate for the resources sector. It is not just us calling for it. The federal election results show that across Brisbane there was a massive surge of support for the Greens' bold platform—a platform pushing to finally make the mining billionaires like Gina Rinehart and Clive Palmer pay their fair share. It does not surprise me that, off the back of these huge swings towards the Greens, the Treasurer has finally got some guts to make the mining billionaires put a bit more of their immense wealth towards public health, education and infrastructure.

This budget shows Queenslanders what we could do if we properly taxed mining billionaires—how we could use more of this immense wealth to improve all of our lives—but if the Treasurer had genuinely listened, he would have gone much further than the pathetic royalty scheme he announced yesterday. Even under the royalties freeze enacted by this Treasurer and his predecessor, Queensland has made three times the amount of royalties that we expected to. It jumped from \$2.6 billion last year to \$9.1 billion last financial year. What this tells us is that mining corporations are making an absolute killing. What this tells us is what a massive missed opportunity this budget really was.

The Greens have been pushing for a 35 per cent flat royalty rate on coal and gas—similar to what Norway have levied on their petroleum. This small rise in royalties shows that Labor have finally taken notice of the Greens' recent successes, but they need to have a lot more ambition if we are to make these royalties work for Queenslanders. This modest rise in royalties will not capture the once-in-a-generation windfall we will see in the dying years of the coal industry and it will not capture the money that we need to find a transition for workers, schools and hospitals.

The new royalty rates the Treasurer announced yesterday will only make a difference when coal prices are above \$175 a tonne, and that is something that happens very rarely. As he said this morning, there is no greater supporter of the coal industry than the Queensland Treasury, and the budget says as much. These new rates will capture a little bit of extra money over the next financial year as coal prices are predicted to remain high, but once we head into the 2023-24 financial year and coal prices drop back to below \$175 a tonne these new royalty rates will have next to no impact. That is what the government's own figures say and that is what the mining industry is saying. Instead of tinkering around the edges, we need a 35 per cent base rate for coal and gas and 20 per cent for minerals. If the government implemented this now, we would have an additional \$53 billion over the next four years, which is 44 per cent more than the government planned.

Instead, multinational mining corporations will continue to make extraordinary profit off the back of geopolitical disruption, war and despair and will invest next to nothing back into the Queensland community. We will squander this latest boom and we will squander the final years of coal. If we want the money we need to fund a transition, to support workers and to fund hospitals, education and housing, this government has a responsibility to be ratcheting up royalties in the final decade of coal.

Against this backdrop, the Queensland housing crisis worsens every day. A few weeks ago, the ABC reported about a young mother who was 18 weeks pregnant—she has three children, including an 18-month-old—whose rental property was being sold. She was moving into a tent with her partner and their children. There are thousands of stories like this—working families being forced to live in cars and tents. There is no new money for building social housing in this budget. In fact \$61 million has been cut from the social housing construction budget. Every single housing announcement relates to last year's housing figures.

To this government, I want to be really clear: what you are doing is not working and it is never going to work. Despite what Labor has called record investment in social housing last year, the state's social housing stock has only grown by 337 homes in the 16 months to May this year. Meanwhile, 50,000 people are waiting for a home on the social housing register, thousands of families are sleeping in tents and in cars, and thousands more are wondering how they will pay their rent or their mortgage next month.

It is true that supply chain issues and a shortage of tradespeople are making things harder, but you can just look across to Queen's Wharf, the mega casino, where there are tradespeople and materials to build luxury apartments on public land right across the road. I just do not buy these excuses. Queenslanders do not need more shiny announcements, false promises or dodgy accounting. Stop searching for a magic bullet that does not exist; just invest money in actually building tens of thousands of social homes.

The \$53 billion I talked about earlier, the \$53 billion that the government could generate if they properly raised mining royalties, is \$53 billion the government could be spending on building tens of thousands of public homes. We have the money. What we need is the political will. It is not just the housing crisis. Queenslanders are struggling under the weight of rising electricity prices and skyrocketing costs of living. Pensioners are having to choose between sitting in cold homes and skipping a meal. Families will have to cut down on kids' sports or outings on the weekend to keep the lights on. The government's cost-of-living rebate will offer a small reprieve for households now, but what about the next bill or the next quarter or the quarter after that? There is nothing in this budget to bring down electricity prices over the long term.

In the ACT, Labor and the Greens together have switched to 100 per cent renewable energy and electricity bills are set to fall this year. Instead, Queensland has been left with an expensive and unreliable electricity system. Queensland has some of the lowest rates of electricity coming from renewables out of any state in Australia at only 20 per cent. The meagre \$280 million a year in this budget for renewables will do next to nothing to fix this. What we need is billions of dollars of investment to build the scale of publicly owned renewables that we need to have cheap, reliable and clean electricity. If we want the money that we need for a rapid climate transition, where workers and communities are not left behind, the government has a responsibility to be ratcheting up royalties in the final decade of coal. The \$53 billion that the government could generate if they properly raised mining royalties is \$53 billion we could be using to establish the new industries and manufacturing that we need to transform Queensland's economy. It is \$53 billion we could be using to ensure Queenslanders have cheap and reliable electricity for decades to come. That, not just a one-off electricity rebate, is what is going to help keep future electricity costs down.

New hospitals and hospital expansions are welcomed and well overdue, given the crisis facing our public healthcare system. In South Brisbane, we will get a much needed expansion to the PA Hospital, one of our biggest and busiest hospitals, and the hospital from which I have heard dozens of stories from staff and patients about unacceptable wait times, staff overload and stress. However, overall, in terms of new hospitals and health infrastructure, what Queenslanders have gotten is a budget that is just a taste of what is possible if we made multinational mining corporations pay their fair share—just a taste of what is possible. Imagine what we could achieve here in Queensland if we actually increased mining royalties.

In terms of support for staff in hospitals, the unions' response tells you everything you need to know. They have said that the health funding in this budget is meaningless without a wages policy that attracts essential workers and keeps pace with the cost-of-living increases. The Greens are calling for an immediate 10 per cent increase to wages for nurses and midwives and 5.1 per cent in the years after that. As the Queensland Nurses and Midwives' Union pointed out, infrastructure and services must be complemented by a real plan to increase the number of skilled nurses and midwives working in Queensland. Metro South, where I am, will see a drop in the number of FTE staff from this year, not something you would expect from the budget that is meant to be delivering record health funding.

It is a similar story in education. Five new schools will open and billions will go towards infrastructure. The government has finally conceded that there is indeed a teacher shortage in Queensland, something that teachers and the union have been raising the alarm on. This is just a taste of what Queenslanders could have if we properly taxed the mining industry. This budget keeps our existing schools underfunded. There is no assurance that teachers will get the pay increase that they deserve, no funding to assure the future of East Brisbane State School that the state government seems set to close for the Olympic Games. There is no additional funding for Narbethong State Special School for crucial infrastructure, and no plans to bring the school's state funding up to the minimum 80 per cent.

Teachers have been on the front lines over the pandemic and I have heard dozens of stories from teachers about how stressed and underfunded our education system remains: a chronic teacher shortage; schools fundraising for basic resources; and teachers paying for lunches and schoolbooks out of their own, already stretched incomes. What is the government's response? This government froze their wages during the COVID pandemic. Teachers are in negotiations for their latest EB right


now. The Greens are calling for an immediate 10 per cent increase to wages for teachers and 5.1 per cent in the years after that. That is the bare minimum that we would need to help attract, retain and properly value our frontline workers.

I was lucky enough to join the Mental Health Select Committee and hear from people right across our state about our failing mental healthcare sector and the barriers facing Queenslanders with mental illnesses. Ultimately the government has pledged about half to a third of what the sector has been calling for. We will still lag behind other states in terms of our per capita funding. The absolute lowest annual figure put forward by any submitter about what new funding it would take to start to fix things was about \$700 million. The government has halved that and committed to \$350 million per year over the forward estimates. While we underfund our mental health system in pursuit of a surplus and pursuit of big shiny events like the Olympics, people will continue to fall through the cracks.

Queenslanders are facing some of the toughest times in a decade: pensioners cannot afford to heat their homes; basic things like meat and vegetables are becoming unaffordable; and tonight thousands of families will be forced to sleep in tents and cars. The future feels more uncertain than ever. Queensland families with mortgages are looking to find an extra \$650 per month for their mortgages, bills, electricity and fuel. That is \$650 more than many Queensland families have.

There are a few good things in this budget, however I cannot help but feel that this budget is still so deeply out of touch with what Queenslanders are going through. This is not a budget that addresses the scale of the crisis that we are facing. What felt remarkably out of touch was this government celebrating a \$1.9 billion surplus. Queenslanders are struggling just to get by at the moment. They do not have the luxury of being able to save. Why should this government get to save when everyday people are struggling to afford vegetables? This is not a budget that reassures Queenslanders that this government will step in when times are tough to make sure they do not freeze or starve, that they do not get kicked out of their homes, that reassures Queenslanders that their kids will have a bright future.

This budget has only tinkered with the edges of what Queensland actually needs while multinational mining companies have gotten off lightly. \$53 billion is what Queenslanders are missing out on when we need it the most, \$53 billion that will go into the pockets of mining billionaires instead of Queenslanders. The Treasurer said himself this morning that mining companies were riding a massive boom with their share prices going up. Over the last year, mining billionaires exported a record \$77 billion worth of resources from Queensland alone. Mining corporations are rolling in massive profits; they can absolutely afford to pay a bit more. This budget is just a taste of what we could do if we put some of this immense mining wealth to good use. The additional investment in schools, in hospitals, in electricity rebates, in building additional renewable energy storage—these are things we could do, but imagine what more we could do for Queenslanders. Treasurer, do it properly and give Queenslanders what they deserve.

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (6.08 pm): That was an extraordinary speech where we saw the combination of somewhere between Venezuela and Sri Lanka, a plan for hyperinflation and for destruction. Of course, they can comfortably put out those wish lists because they know their well-heeled suburbs can vote for them comfortably knowing that their plans would never be enacted. We have more difficult challenges in front of us. We do not get to do these type of indulgences. I did think it was interesting that even their fantasy plan appeared to be run completely on massive taxes on coalmining and a Queensland economy entirely dependent on coalmining, it would seem. Also on that, there was strangely a massive increase on the new energy economy minerals that we need to do a transition to a renewable energy target. These are the sort of short-sighted and frankly delusional policies that would not only hurt the economy of Queensland but also hurt the transition to renewable energy. We need to examine that for what it was.

I rise to address the Appropriation Bill 2022. This budget keeps our economy strong. It continues the strong jobs growth and job creation. Importantly, it delivers for growing areas of Queensland and it especially invests in the health of Queenslanders. I want to draw the attention of the House to particular graphs—

Mr Watts: Rivers of black gold.

Mr POWER:—and the member for Toowoomba North should note this. On page 37 of Budget Paper No. 2 there is a very important graph that I think is illustrative of what we are going through. The Treasurer said it best when he led with this comment—

Queensland's nation-leading response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to underpin an economic recovery that is recharging our state.

It is not just the words he said; the facts on page 37, graph 2.2, bear them out. This chart 2.2 on page 37 of this government document shows that when COVID came along we dipped less than other states. Victoria dipped longest; New South Wales dipped lowest. We recovered the quickest. By September 2020 we were the very first state to recover our economy to larger than it was before the COVID pandemic. That is something that New South Wales did not do until 13 months later. That is how bad New South Wales's management of COVID was. We had that springboard to continue to power on.

On one side we saw a policy of the premature opening of the economy to COVID—the LNP policy. They called for it 64 times. They put up billboards for infection to be flown in. We know that secretly they conspired with the Premier of New South Wales and the Prime Minister to attack Queensland's health response. They wrongly thought that we could have either health or a strong economy. They chose big business over people. They chose to sacrifice a generation of older Australians. We, led by our Premier and the Treasurer, knew that this was a false choice the LNP were making. We knew that we could not have a strong economy unless we had a healthy state. If we did not look after people first—Queenslanders first—then our economy could not be strong; it could not deliver for ordinary working Queenslanders.

That brings me back to that graph. We dipped less and we recovered first. We were growing for 13 months while New South Wales had not even recovered to the point they were at prior to COVID. That is a tremendous difference. We know that Liberal policies in Queensland would have put our growth 13 months behind. Each of those dips is really important because they represent small business people, hardworking people, who would be uncertain about how they would pay for their house and how they would keep themselves healthy. It would have been the LNP that forced them out of work and increased unemployment as they did in New South Wales.

The member for Broadwater shifts and slides. However, he 100 per cent backed the economy-wrecking health risks the LNP opposition tried to put in place. The member for Broadwater 100 per cent backed the calls—64 times—to open the borders, opening them prematurely, exposing Queenslanders to risk before vaccination was available.

Mr Watts: With the Premier; the Premier opened the border. You should check your history.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr POWER: The member for Toowoomba North and the rest of the opposition bray and pretend. They rewrite history and pretend their policy was the same as the Premier's, but it was not. I want to remind the member of a TV conversation where this was revealed. Karl Stefanovic was talking to Gladys Berejiklian. He said to Gladys—

The state election is this Saturday, have you spoken to the Opposition leader ... Mrs Frecklington about the possibility of her becoming Premier and those borders coming down?

Gladys Berejiklian: Oh look, Deb and I have a great working relationship, we are in touch with each other all the time, in fact I was in touch with her yesterday and she feels very strongly about keeping jobs in her state and getting tourism back up and running, so I know that if she was elected Premier she would definitely open the border and—

this is the important bit—

she would have done it months ago because that's the way Deb and the LNP are up there.

The member for Toowoomba North needs to know 'that is the way the LNP and the member for Broadwater are up there'. If he was a serious leader, the member for Broadwater would admit he got this seriously wrong, tragically wrong, and that our Premier took the correct path, but he will not. He will continue to mislead Queenslanders.

These strong policies have led to strong dividends of economic activity, of strong exports and strong jobs growth. It is the reason we see such strong economic results and the reason the budget has a surplus, a \$1.9 billion surplus. This is in strong contrast to New South Wales where LNP-style policies have resulted in not the \$3.6 billion deficit they budgeted for last year but an \$11.3 billion deficit they are running this year. We all know of the trillion dollar debt of the federal LNP. Truly, Australians know that the LNP are the party of debt, the party of deficit and the party of short-sighted policies and weak economic growth.

Mr Weir interjected.

Mr POWER: I know that Pat agrees with me. The greatest dividend of economic growth is the ability to invest in the future health of Queenslanders. The Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan is a comprehensive plan to deliver for a healthier Queensland. We know there is pressure. We know that

health workers are working hard. We know there is record demand. We listened and we are investing. We know that before vaccinations were delivered perhaps people did not look after their own small issues of health as they were keeping others safe and they were keeping themselves safe. Now Queenslanders are returning to our hospital services in droves and some of those small issues—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Pause the clock. Member for Toowoomba North and member for Theodore, you have been given a bit of latitude. You have been interjecting enthusiastically throughout the entire contribution of the member for Logan. I would ask that you cease. If there are continued interjections you will be warned under the standing orders.

Mr POWER: They are now returning in droves and some of those small issues have become complex and large health issues requiring complex care. We on this side of the House work with the community; we listen to the community. That is why the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan is the largest investment in Queensland hospitals in Queensland's history.

We see a new cancer centre to back up the great services of the PA. We see satellite hospitals to deliver that care closer to people. We see a massive investment in mental health because we know that this is something the government needs to act on. Recently I have been speaking to the wife of a veteran who has deeply moved me with their experiences with our health system that were far from perfect. They made a great contribution to our country and they are suffering as a result. We owe it to them to deliver.

We have a record investment in ambulances and police, such as the Chambers Flat ambulance station and the new one at Yarrabilba.


An opposition member: You're going to give them all to them. That's a good idea!

Mr POWER: If I could have a moment, I want to respect our first responders. There was a terrible incident yesterday at Stockleigh Road involving four young people. Two of them died. My heart goes out to them and the family, but it also goes out to the Rural Fire Brigade and the ambulance and police officers who were first onsite. This is something that will stay with them. We back them and respect the work they do.

I want to also recognise that we are investing in education. I come from a growing area where there are new houses springing up everywhere and there are enthusiastic families who want the best for their children. That means we need Everleigh State School and Yarrabilba State School. I have spoken previously about the second Yarrabilba state school that is in the shadow of the south rock shelter, a really special place. I have spoken previously about how the LNP put cuts in place which meant that the growing areas paid the biggest price. The cuts hurt when you do not have a school in your area whatsoever and the LNP would never deliver it.

I want to talk about the roads, especially the Mount Lindesay Highway where we are doing the section from Stoney Camp Road to Chambers Flat Road and are going on to do the Jimboomba section from Johanna Street to South Street. These are vital projects. We know there was not one metre of four-laning under the LNP whereas now we are providing significant, safe, divided four-laning.

I want to talk about public transport and the investments we are making in the areas of police and safety. This is a budget that is working with community and listening to community, knowing that we are in a partnership with the people of Queensland. It is delivering for the Logan community. I endorse the budget.

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (6.19 pm): Many in my community were eagerly looking forward to this week's state budget. I know that sounds strange, but thousands of locals were hoping it would deliver some relief from congestion and improve safety on one of our busiest and most dangerous stretch of roads. Sadly, as a community, we are all disappointed when the government broke yet another promise by failing to commit to new funding for a long-awaited duplication of the Sunshine Motorway and the associated upgrades to the interchange at Coolum. This is another broken promise from a government that has continually failed to deliver for the Sunshine Coast.

Last night I tabled a petition on behalf of my community, calling on the government to deliver on a commitment that was made 14 years ago—a commitment to duplicate the motorway and to address congestion and safety concerns that have resulted in the loss of 25 innocent lives over that time. As I said last night, any life lost on our roads is one too many. It is no wonder that community leaders like the president of Coolum Business and Tourism and our local school P&C president stood beside me to call on the government to act on this notorious stretch of road.

This is a road that for years has not been able to cope with the exponential population growth of our area. The Beattie and Bligh governments acknowledged that the motorway was past its use-by date back in 2006 and was no longer able to cope with the population at that time. In 2008 it released plans to replace it. In 2020, at the last election, the government renewed its promise to duplicate it, but here we are again. I am standing up in this chamber talking about essential road upgrades that have been promised for more than a decade—upgrades that will reduce congestion and save lives.

While talking about transport infrastructure, it is disappointing that the Sunshine Coast has been overlooked again for investment in game-changing transport infrastructure in our rapidly growing region—a region that outgrew its current infrastructure a long time ago. Heavy rail to Maroochydore is another long overdue broken promise. I welcome the commitment to fund our fair share of this critical infrastructure project.

Coolum State High School in my electorate continues to go from strength to strength, boasting a number of excellent programs. It has an outstanding record of academic, cultural, sporting and educational achievements. I acknowledge the \$9 million allocated in the budget for additional classrooms to accommodate its recent growth, but the school still lacks a purpose-built performance hall that can meet the needs of the expanding school curriculum and accommodate the entire school community.

Another fantastic school in my electorate which has unfortunately again missed out on long overdue funding is Coolum State School, which currently caters for over 1,000 local students and is predicted to grow to around 1,200 kids in the next few years. Around 50 per cent of these students are schooled in asbestos ridden demountables with an average size of 50 square metres—some less. This is well below the current recommendation of around 70 square metres. I understand that a number of these demountables are some of the oldest demountables still being used in the state—if not the oldest. Some, known as 'mod A', were commissioned in 1970—even before I was born, and I am no spring chicken. Twelve of them often flood—not just during one-in-100-year rain events but often. It is not uncommon for preppies to be wading through water and mud just to get to or out of their classrooms after a decent summer downpour. This is hardly appropriate in 2022, and I praise our teachers, who do a lot with little to ensure our local kids receive inclusive and contemporary teaching practices in trying, unsafe and archaic conditions. I thank the education minister for recently supporting an application for a new school master plan at Coolum State School, but urgent funding needs to be fast-tracked to bring the school facilities into the 21st century.

On the subject of health, we all hope that we will never need to call triple 0. Often when we do, it is for a loved one or someone close to us. When we do have to make that call, we all expect that the urgent medical attention we require will be available. Unfortunately, that is becoming an all-too-rare occurrence in Queensland at the moment. The most basic and essential role of any state government is to provide urgent medical service when it is needed. Unfortunately, this government is failing in that most important and rudimentary responsibility.

This budget has been lauded by the Premier and the Treasurer as a record budget on health but, as Queenslanders know, it is not about the record spend on health; it is about the government's record on health. Action speaks louder than words, and the desperate cries of Queenslanders who cannot access medical help when they need it are resonating loud and clear, but only if you choose to listen. If we are to believe the words of our Premier and Treasurer, every budget that this state Labor government has delivered past eight years has been a record of some sort, but the only records we have seen in that time are the broken records of a health system in crisis: record ramping, record wait times for surgery and a record failure to deliver essential health services to everyday Queenslanders. Simply throwing money at a problem does not make it go away or absolve you of all responsibility. Even the United Workers Union has branded this record health budget as inadequate and is already seeking meetings with the health minister to discuss the timeline for the delivery of new staff.

From cost blowouts on major infrastructure projects to multi-million dollar quarantine facilities sitting empty, the extent of this Labor government's inability to manage the economy and govern in the best interests of Queenslanders has been highlighted once again in this budget.

As I alluded to earlier, this is a budget of records but not the type of records that Queenslanders were hoping for. It is these records that will become the hallmark of this third-term, tired, lazy and compromised Labor government—record debt, record taxation, record ambulance ramping rates, record hospital waiting times, record levels of crime, record cost-of-living increases, record numbers of bankruptcies, record waste, record broken promises, a record number of integrity crises and, most concerning, a record failure in delivering for hardworking Queenslanders and their families.

This budget is further evidence of a third-term government that has clocked off. Every time this government is forced to announce a new inquiry we learn more about the backroom deals, the dodgy accounting practices, the cover-ups and the waste that has become synonymous with Labor. There are no fewer than 10 integrity reviews happening right now into the workings of this Labor government. This week, the trust of Queenslanders was eroded even further when the Treasurer handed down this budget containing more broken promises, more deception and more tricky accounting.

The pain does not end there. Car registration fees will increase from 1 July, adding to the already crippling cost-of-living pressures that Queenslanders are facing. With the new federal Treasurer only recently confirming we are in the grips of a full-blown cost-of-living crisis, Queenslanders rightly expected that this budget would deliver some relief. Unfortunately, despite reaping dividends of \$825 million from our state owned energy corporations, the Treasurer has reluctantly handed out less than half of that in the form of a one-off electricity rebate. Meanwhile, inflation in Queensland is currently sitting at six per cent—the highest in the country. For a government that likes to remind Queenslanders that they own their power assets, why are more of these dividends not being returned to the taxpayers, who are already struggling with the increasing cost of food, fuel and electricity?

Over 50,000 Queenslanders are on the social housing waiting list, yet there is not one single dollar in this budget to address this crisis. This government's track record on housing is dismal. In the past five years the number of social housing bedrooms has increased by less than one per cent but the waiting list has grown by 70 per cent. In five years they have built just over 1,000 beds for 50,000 Queenslanders. It is not good enough.


As the state remains gripped by a youth crime crisis, it comes as absolutely no relief to learn that in the past 12 months the number of police in Queensland has increased by only five. On the Sunshine Coast, stations like Nambour are operating at 50 per cent strength. Every day they are struggling to man shifts and put police cars on the road. At Caloundra, the police minister recently made a big fanfare about the six extra officers but failed to mention that this is less than half the number required to just backfill the officers at Caloundra who are currently off on long-term sick or stress leave.

To add further pain, our police are being hamstrung by this soft-on-crime Labor government with laws that do not work—laws which put the rights of criminals ahead of the rights of victims, while police chase their tails night after night. By chasing the same recidivist juvenile offenders, they are chewing up valuable resources that should be protecting victims of domestic and family violence. It is not surprising to see that crime rates are at an all-time high. Assaults are up 62 per cent, unlawful entry is up 18 per cent, unlawful use is up 16 per cent and theft is up nine per cent.

In conclusion, most Queenslanders have learned by now that this third-term Labor government has its priorities wrong. The one thing we can believe from the Treasurer's budget speech is that this is a traditional Labor budget. This budget is not just an emblem of the current government; it is covered in ALP DNA. We have had more than a century of Labor Party administrations addicted to debt and taxes. No matter what you say about this government, they are following lock step in that tradition.

Queenslanders do not care about red carpets and movie deals. They care about accessing health care when they need it. They care about how they are going to pay for the increasing cost of electricity and food. They care about the quality of their children's education and their future. They care about their homes and their safety. They expect governments to act in their best interests and to be open, accountable and honest. Unfortunately, the things that mean the most to everyday Queenslanders are the same things this Queensland Labor government has given up on—just like this record budget, which shows no vision and no ambition, only a dire record of debt, waste, arrogance and deceit.

Sitting suspended from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

 **Hon. DE FARMER** (Bulimba—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (7.30 pm): The Palaszczuk government is committed to ensuring Queenslanders have good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle. This budget has delivered for Queenslanders in a major way, in a Labor way, with record spending on health and massive commitment to education, transport and other infrastructure, among so many things—and we have done it from a surplus of \$1.9 billion.

I want to talk about the way this year's state budget supports small business to thrive and ensures Queenslanders in every corner of the state have the skills they need, not only to grow the economy but also to invest in their careers and strengthen their communities, because we recognise that small business is the backbone of the community. When we were confronted with COVID, we knew that if we wanted to make the economic recovery we needed then small business had to be central to our plan. In fact, our COVID economic recovery plan identified both small business and skills and training as two of the six key priorities for economic recovery.

The LNP? The opposition leader told us again this morning, in his budget reply speech, what he thought about small business, and that is absolutely nothing. He actually did not even mention it. He did not mention it in last year's budget reply speech and it barely rated a mention in their election commitments. I say to the LNP that next time they think they have a platform from which they can have a go at this government about small business, I advise them to take a bit of time out to remember that not only did the Leader of the Opposition fail to peg small business as a priority in his budget reply speech; he did not talk about it at all. He does not care about small business at all.

Skills and training? They are recognised by just about everyone in the entire country as being critical to shoring up economic prosperity and our ability to provide the human services every person deserves and to addressing workforce shortages, yet his one contribution to addressing workforce issues seemed to be a quite bizarre story, which I still cannot quite work out, about plumbers being late to work because of traffic congestion. Perhaps he was suggesting that we could address the entire statewide shortage of plumbers if we addressed traffic congestion on every road. If so, he is even more of a worry than I thought he was. I digress.

Before I talk about my portfolio in more detail, I really want to talk about what this budget means for my beloved local community. On Tuesday night I keyed into the Teams meeting being held by the Seven Hills State School P&C. Thank you so much to President Quentin Jackson and the whole crew for having me. We were all so excited because I was able to give them the news that \$8 million had been allocated over two years for their new school hall, with work to begin by the end of this year. This is the most beautiful school and they have been growing so fast. I cannot quite remember how many years ago we first started talking about needing a hall, but from that point I lobbied and lobbied. When I got the nod before the last election that I could definitely promise it, that the case stacked up, I just could not wait to ring Principal Michelle Morrissey and then P&C president Hamish Sinclair-Ross to tell them. The difference a hall makes to the life of a school cannot be quantified, and I want to thank our education minister so much for her commitment to providing these valuable facilities for Queensland kids—not only halls but also the other facilities she is funding in her \$19.6 billion education budget.

Only last week I was at Balmoral State High School looking at the work that is going on there in their new classroom block and admin block. There is \$6 million allocated towards the admin block in this budget which will take to over \$26 million the amount that is being spent on new facilities at that school since we were re-elected. What a great school this is. I am so proud of what Principal Linda Galloway, P&C President Raelene James and the whole school community have done to lift it up to be the much loved and highly regarded place that it is.

I also have to give a big thankyou to our Minister for Transport. I feel like I am the rail queen in our local community, having delivered since we were re-elected major car park upgrades at Murarrie and Cannon Hill stations, a major accessibility upgrade at Cannon Hill and one now on the way at Morningside station. There is \$3.5 million allocated to that in the next financial year. This is a massive project, and I thank local residents ahead of time for their patience while we transform this incredibly busy station. In an inner-city community like ours, access to good quality public transport is such a priority and a real option to address traffic congestion. The Queensland Rail Station Accessibility Upgrade program is a game changer for so many.

We also care deeply in our area about looking after the most vulnerable in the community. We have shown time and time again that when the chips are down we are there for each other. That was so evident yet again in the February floods. Therefore, hearing that neighbourhood centres across the state would receive an injection of \$120 million was amazing, and I thank the minister for that. It meant that the Y Cannon Hill, run by the fantastic Wendy Blackman, would receive literally double its current budget, taking it up to \$250,000 annually. That was another one of the best calls I have been able to make this week. It is a privilege to work alongside Wendy to support our local community, and I know she will cast a 'loaves and fishes' eye over this money and make it seem even more than it has now become.

There is so much else for my electorate, but the only other thing I will specifically talk about today is the \$12.8 million in the coming financial year, out of \$16 million in total, to Visy industries to upgrade their recycling facilities at Gibson Island.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my speech on the budget for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

And what do locals think of the Budget in general Speaker?

The record Health budget, including a \$1.64 billion allocation for Mental Health.

The education budget, which not only improves physical learning environments across QLD. It covers playground and tuckshop upgrades, a new resourcing model for students with disability, a boost to the new Respectful Relationships course, and \$100 million health and wellbeing plan that's bringing GPs, psychologists, and other mental health and wellbeing professionals into our schools.

We have a Womens Budget, including \$363 million to respond to the recommendations of the QLD Womens Safety and Justice Taskforce on Domestic Violence.

These are all things my local community cares about.

Speaker, going to my portfolio:

Small and medium businesses have welcomed the 2022/23 Budget and the cut to payroll taxes that will save the sector about \$210 million over the next four years.

These tax cuts mean that more than 12,000 businesses with payrolls under \$10.4 million will end up saving up to \$26,000 per year back.

In the next four years we will also invest another \$39 million to support the small business sector by making our Grants program permanent and ongoing—ensuring that businesses have the BASICS covered, the opportunity to BOOST their potential and GROW to new levels.

The State Budget investment helps make it easy to do business in Queensland.

There are more than 448,000 small businesses in Queensland, which account for 97 per cent of the business sector, contributing around \$120 billion to the state's economy.

The Palaszczuk Government has delivered record support to small businesses during the pandemic.

Since 2020, nearly 60,000 grants have been provided to Queensland businesses totalling almost \$530 million. Part of the total of around \$2.5 billion in support we have delivered to our mighty QLD small businesses through COVID.

This State Budget investment guarantees ongoing funding for vital small business grants and means we can continue to support the sector to not just recover from recent challenges, but also to reach for opportunities that will drive our economy forward.

The budget will also fund the continuation of the successful Mentoring for Growth program, which this year is celebrating 20 years of supporting small business.

The Mentoring for Growth program has been a great resource for businesses throughout the pandemic, matching volunteer business experts to business owners to help them tap into new opportunities.

In the last 6 years the program has hosted more than 3000 sessions. 320 experienced and highly skilled mentors are ready to volunteer their time to provide valuable support to small business owners across Queensland.

In the past financial year, the majority of small business owners who have had a mentor session said their business reported a projected increase in either employment, turnover or profitability—The Palaszczuk Government is committed to keep that going.

We know that running a small business is rewarding—but it can also be hard work—so the Queensland Government is investing \$6.75 million into a Small Business Wellness and Support package to engage wellbeing coaches to help the businesses hit hardest by both, the pandemic and floods earlier this year.

This package will be delivered in partnership with the Queensland Mental Health Commission, CCIQ, the Queensland Small Business Commissioner and the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Tourism, Innovation and Sport.

The package will help business owners experiencing psychological and financial pressures. It will provide a vital support service—and one previously not available for small businesses.

And it is a reflection of the significant broader commitment the Palaszczuk Government has made to addressing mental health, in this Budget.

This budget's support for the business community is matched by a record investment into the skills and training sector that helps build a strong and diverse workforce.

With more than \$1.2 billion in the 2022-23 State Budget we know that every dollar we invest in skills and training for Queenslanders pays dual dividends—it enriches the lives and employment prospects of students, and it fuels the state's economy through a highly trained workforce.

Investing in skills and training means we are equipping all Queenslanders for good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle.

This years' budget allocation is on top of the \$1 billion invested in training and skills in 2021-22 as part of Queensland's economic recovery.

Our investment last year saw more than 53,000 Queenslanders start an apprenticeship or traineeship, an incredible 64.6 per cent increase from the previous financial year.

And it was last year that we announced permanent funding for our iconic Skilling Queenslanders for Work and Back to Work programs, with the latter achieving a 76.3% success rate after 12 months.

Jobs change lives and with the growth of Queensland's emerging industries comes life changing opportunities.

We are skilling our future workforce so they're ready to drive exciting new sectors—like renewable energy and meet demand for critical industries like health.

As the Palaszczuk Government delivers the largest investment in health with three new hospitals, a cancer centre, thousands of beds, and funding for the Ambulance Service.

Our \$1.2 billion dollar investment in skills will help train the 63,000 workers needed for our health care by 2024-25.

This is around 20 per cent of the 280,000 additional workers we will need across our economy in just a few years.

These jobs need skilled and committed people to deliver the high standard of service that Queenslanders deserve.

Each year we work closely with TAFE Queensland and other training industry providers to ensure their programs are tailored to emerging workforce that industries need. We are building a sector that makes sure students graduate ready to help drive the success of their workplace, their industry, their community and their own career.

It's important that quality training is available across the state so all Queenslanders can enter the workforce with confidence.

Our Vocational Education and Training sector continues to prosper and grow, and the number of students supported through government subsidised training continues to increase.

Importantly, 83.9 per cent of TAFE graduates are employed or go on to further study after completing their training.


Queensland has huge opportunities on the horizon and a skilled workforce and thriving small business sector will be critical to our success.

We will soon deliver a strategy which that reimagines the workforce, it will attract, connect and educate workers and employers to set Queensland up for success now and into the Olympic decade.

Across the state employers will be supported to tap into workers they have not traditionally accessed and at the same time Queenslanders young, new, or old will be supported to take on jobs they have only ever dreamed of.

The strategy follows on from consultation with industry leaders, regional stakeholders and thought leaders through the Queensland Government's Workforce Summit in March.

The Palaszczuk Government's new workforce strategy will encourage Queenslanders to embrace fresh opportunities and work towards an even brighter future.

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (7.36 pm): Finally there is some good news—some great news in fact—for the northern Gold Coast in relation to buses. We have been fighting for this for a long time with petitions and writing to the minister, calling for additional buses. We basically have four bus services on the northern Gold Coast in my electorate, each going in and out of the Ormeau train station. Last year, division 1 councillor Mark Hamill and division 3 councillor and deputy mayor Donna Gates of the Council of the City of Gold Coast were instrumental in the making of a 50 per cent commitment towards upgrading the bus services to deliver up to 700 additional bus services. It did not get the support of the government last year, but the good news is that it is now being supported. I thank the Minister for Transport and Main Roads for providing this funding, essentially to provide an uplift in bus services for highest priority areas such as the northern Gold Coast. It also benefits from an \$8.2 million commitment from the Gold Coast city council, as I have just mentioned. That is some wonderful news in relation to bus services on the northern Gold Coast. I would like to look at some of the detail in relation to that as to when we can hope to see those services being delivered and what is their scope.

Finally, in more good news, the northern Gold Coast health and hospital precinct is now a reality. This is the third budget since the Labor promise before the election—and I will talk about that in a moment—but it is now a line item in the budget and it is showing \$20 million for a \$1.3 billion spend, but \$20 million is a lot more than we saw in the budget before.

Going back to the election, I remember very vividly that on 19 October, the day that the pre-polling booths opened, there was the Premier, the then health minister and the local Labor candidate down at Gold Coast University Hospital with all of the pictures showing, 'We are going to build a hospital on the northern Gold Coast.' Not only that, but also there was a big splash—'\$160 million' was the headline. Interestingly, in going through what the \$160 million was all about, it turned out to be more than \$100 million for Gold Coast University Hospital, \$40 million for the so-called satellite hospital down the southern end of the Gold Coast, a few million dollars for Robina and, in the end, \$3 million for the northern Gold Coast hospital. It was not \$160 million for the hospital; it was \$3 million. But it was enough to fool those people handing out for Labor because their mantra was, 'We're going to build a hospital in Coomera.' That happened to be the day the polling booths opened. Voters had no clue as to what was really going on. It is now a line item in the budget. It is coming to fruition. We are told that it might be delivered in the next six years or so.

When it comes to roads, the electorate is sadly littered with broken promises and inaction. For example, there is absolutely no funding in this budget for exit 38. There was no funding in the previous budget, the one before that, the one before that or the one before that. Indeed, there has been a business case on the minister's desk since November 2018 and there is not one dollar for exit 38. I thank the Leader of the Opposition for mentioning that particular project because of the economic

impact on the businesses on the northern Gold Coast, let alone the people who are commuting in and out of exit 38 from the canelands. Business owners are stuck for anything up to an hour getting in and out of their businesses because of the congestion at that exit.

Federal funding got other projects up and down the northern corridor going. In May 2019 the first money was committed by the federal government, announced by Bert van Manen, the member for Forde. After the budget was tabled that year the minister was dragged kicking and screaming to announce some money. That \$93 million was such a surprise to the minister that it did not have a line item. It is sad to look at the latest QTRIP compared to the previous QTRIP. The Pacific Motorway exit 41 upgrade interchange is now, for some reason or other, blowing out to the 2024-25 financial year. We have \$42 million spent to date, another \$22 million spent in 2022-23—it should be finished by the end of 2023, by the way—another \$8.5 million in 2023-24 and then another \$9.2 million in 2024-25. It beggars belief that we are going to drag the completion of that project out that far. I cannot believe how it can happen.

There is sad news for the people on the northern Gold Coast in relation to the full upgrade of exit 45, the Ormeau exit. QTRIP suggests it will be \$1.5 million to do the business case. It is projected to be \$960,000 in 2025-26 and \$540,000 beyond 2025-26. That is just the business case to determine whether or not we are going to build a full upgrade of exit 45. The current upgrade, the \$20 million upgrade, is being stretched out over four periods as well. Apparently we have spent \$5.4 million to now, \$5.6 million next financial year, \$4 million the following year and \$5 million the year following that. I do not know how one can possibly drag things out any longer than that. We are talking about a \$20 million project taking four years to deliver. It beggars belief.

The saddest project is the exit 49 interchange upgrade. It is so sad because it is the busiest interchange on the northern Gold Coast. It feeds into Pimpama at the centre of the fastest growing region in Queensland. In fact, Pimpama as a suburb is the fastest growing suburb in Australia outside a capital city. Even though in February this year I was promised that exit 49 would be completed by around May 2024, we now see that only two-thirds of the funding is committed in that period and the other \$38.3 million will not be spent until the 2024-25 financial year—in other words, there is still a significant amount of work being done after I was promised by the regional director that it was going to be completed before 30 June 2024. It is now not going to be completed before that date. We cannot say that \$38 million is just tidying up a bit of gardening and a bit of this and that. That is a significant additional spend beyond the 2023-24 promised time line.

I will not mention the second M1 because enough has been said about that. Stage 1 of stage 1 has not started. Before the election the minister said they were going to spend \$1.53 billion on the Coomera Connector. He said they are not going to muck around with a short stretch, they are going to do a 16-kilometre stretch at a cost of \$1.53 billion. It turns out that they are not doing that, that they will spend \$2.1 billion and we are going to get four lanes instead of six lanes. The project has not even started. To explain, stage 1 is the 16 kilometres; stage 1 of stage 1 is the northern part of that 16 kilometres. That is the first stage that is going to be started. Then there is the middle stage and then there is the southern stage. Neither of those are even on the drawing board, as far as I can tell at this stage of the game. There are no signed contracts.

Coming back to exit 49, there are no signed contracts. They were meant to be signed earlier this year. To this day we have not signed the contracts to commence construction of exit 49. That is how far behind we are. The minister blames everybody else. I see in the latest media that he is now blaming COVID and a whole range of other things. In relation to exit 49, the difference between what it should have been and what it is is \$14 million in the first year, \$55 million in the second year and \$42 million in the 2023-24 year to finish it all off, but that has been blown out to four years.


Let us talk about why these issues are important. The northern Gold Coast, based on the Coomera electorate, is the fastest growing region in Queensland. I have 33.2 per cent over quota on the number of voters in the electorate. I have the largest electorate in a whole range of areas. I have the largest electorate by population—87,000 is the estimate for June 2021 according to Treasury figures. I have over 50,000 voters. The average is 38,000. Compare that with Gaven. There are 34,000 voters in Gaven. I have 16,000 more voters in my electorate than the electorate of Gaven. I have 12,000 more than the average in the state. It is a huge growth number.

In fact, making the comparison between when the figures were done back in 2016 for the redistribution, the Coomera electorate allegedly had 30,722 voters and it was projected to have, by the enrolment date of 29 August 2023—in other words, in 15 months time—40,367. It was meant to go up by about 10,000 and I would be about 9.5 per cent over. What I have, 15 months earlier than that date,

is 50,000. By the time we get to that date it is going to be around 55,000. Did they get it wrong? Absolutely they did, because when you compare the other electorates in the state, the proportion of figures of none of the other electorates are anywhere near being blown out like that. In fact, talking about Gaven again, Gaven is projected in 15 months time to have 34,600 voters. Right now Gaven has 34,009. Gaven is on track to have around about what they estimated back when they were doing these figures. By then, of course, I will have 55,000. It is a moot point, but it is the point that I have been making all the way along: the government does not understand what we are up against. We are up against massive growth.

I have the largest population of young people and I have the largest population going to school. On day 8 figures in February this year, I had 19,777 kids going to school in the electorate. In 2009 I started with nine schools and now there are 23 schools. There are 19,777 kids going to schools in the electorate and another 2,500 kids going to five schools just outside of the electorate. I have 22,000 kids. They will all grow up, start to drive and buy cars. We are getting busier and busier. By the next election in 2024, I project the figure for the state seat of Coomera to be 57,000.

There are key projects that I need funding for. We have to do a fifty-fifty deal with the federal government and get exit 38 sorted out. It will cost approximately \$110 million now; it was \$87 million in 2018. We have to bring exit 45 forward. It has to be built far quicker. We have to build the slip lane at exit 41. Another project that I have written to a couple of ministers about, but have received no response from either of them, is the Police Citizens Youth Club at Pimpama. The federal government was on board before the election. The Gold Coast city council and Mark Hammel, the division 1 councillor, are on board. However, I cannot get the minister to write to me. I mentioned it to him the other day and he said that it cannot be far away. I am hoping that I am going to hear from the minister in the next little while and that he will give me some sort of an indication. All I am looking for is \$7 million to do a deal with the federal government.

 **Mr SAUNDERS** (Maryborough—ALP) (7.51 pm): I rise in support of the appropriation bills for 2022-23. This is a great Labor budget that is delivering for health, roads, schools and neighbourhood centres in my electorate and right across the board. This is a traditional Labor budget.

I want to talk about what is happening in the great electorate of Maryborough. There is money in the budget for the train manufacturing facility at Torbanlea. There is money in the budget for the first lot of trains for Cross River Rail. I know those across the chamber do not like Cross River Rail but no-one can tell the people of my city that they do not like Cross River Rail because in my area it means jobs—it means a lot of jobs. While people down here talk about how they do not want Cross River Rail, I am a big supporter of it because it means employment for my people. In my area it means apprenticeships for young men and women who will have a career path with a great train manufacturing facility at Torbanlea, about 25 kilometres north of Maryborough City.

I want to talk about what is happening in my electorate in the area of health. The Hervey Bay Hospital will be getting an upgrade. There are a lot of people who live on the coastal strip of the Maryborough electorate. There will be upgrades at the Maryborough Hospital. We are getting 19 new paramedics across the Fraser Coast.

Mr Harper: Hear, hear!

Mr SAUNDERS: I take that interjection from the member for Thuringowa. Who would think that he was a paramedic? Who would know? This is the first time that I have found out that he is a paramedic! This budget will deliver right across Queensland. It is delivering in spades for health. We hear so much from those opposite. You can imagine them at the Queensland Club, smoking cigars with the mining barons. The Bentleys would be parked out the front. You can just see it. They would be saying, 'Don't worry about health care in Moranbah, boys; it's all right.'

Honestly, this is one of the best budgets I have ever seen delivered and I have been around politics a long time. I have been around since the Goss era and this is probably one of the best budgets that I have seen for people right across Queensland. No matter where you live, from the cape to Coolangatta, everyone is getting a share. Do you know the funny thing, Mr Deputy Speaker? I listen to those on the other side of the chamber moan and whine, but the resources belong to the Queensland people. They belong to Queenslanders. I am talking about the average Queenslanders, which is what I am. Why should we not be part of that? Why should not resources help fund our health care, our neighbourhood centres, our schools, our roads and more paramedics right across Queensland? Why shouldn't that happen?

As I said, you can picture the Leader of the Opposition down at the Queensland Club tonight. They will all be panicking about \$1 billion. That will make absolutely no difference to them given the price of coal, but I can tell the House what it will do. It will make a big difference to the lives of people in this state. It will make a huge difference to the people of Moranbah, Maryborough, Hervey Bay, Bundaberg and Gympie.

Mr Harper: A budget for the people.

Mr SAUNDERS: I take that interjection; it is a budget for the people. As a Labor government we should be very proud to bring in a budget that is for all Queenslanders. Not matter where you live and for whom you vote, everyone is a winner in this budget. Just like at the sideshows, everybody is a winner. That is what I say about this budget. Everyone will be dancing around at the next show.


Mr Harper: There is a sideshow over there, member for Maryborough.

Mr SAUNDERS: I take that interjection; there is a sideshow going on. I want to refer to some of the things that are happening in my electorate. For a long time I have been lobbying for upgrades to my special school. I thank the minister for that. My special school has great people and a good cohort of teachers. The school will be upgraded. We have Tinana State School and St Helens State School. Finally, St Helens is getting sewerage because of the investment of a Labor government.

The other day on ABC radio I said that a lot of people will be upset because there will be so much roadworks going on in the electorate. If I were to stand here and tell people about all of the roadworks then we would be here until midnight and I do not want to hold up everyone. There are a lot of roadworks happening in my electorate and I am grateful to the minister for that. I see that the health minister is here and I thank her for those 19 paramedics and for the other upgrade to the Maryborough Hospital that we will announce very shortly. It will be a game changer for my electorate. The 35 beds at Hervey Bay will make a huge difference on the Fraser Coast.

The Maryborough Neighbourhood Centre was tremendous during the floods. They were at the forefront of our flood response. I am pleased to see them being recognised with extra funding to put more services on for migrants coming in to my community and to put on classes for people in my community. This is what a good Labor government does.

This budget is one of the best budgets I have ever seen. I cannot get my head around the opposition criticising it all the time. They have plenty of things to say. We heard the member for Coomera talking about the hospital that is coming. We have heard about the roadworks that are coming and the train stations that are being upgraded in their electorates. It goes on and on. This Palaszczuk Labor government has spread the money right across Queensland, no matter where you live. No matter what electorate you live in or the colour of your shirt—blue, red or orange—this government has spent the money wisely and this government has looked after all Queenslanders. This budget will always be remembered as a budget for all Queenslanders. I thank the Premier, the Deputy Premier and the Treasurer for making sure that not one Queenslanders has been left behind in this budget. I commend the bills to the House.

 **Mr MINNIKIN** (Chatsworth—LNP) (7.57 pm): This evening I am pleased to rise to respond to the Palaszczuk government's 2022-23 budget. The budget is the government's financial blueprint going forward. The other takeout message is that, going forward, the Treasurer's credibility is gone and it does not matter how he tries to justify it or frame it when looking at the mirror on the wall. In the lead-up to the last state campaign, at Kuranda he was asked by a journalist, 'Are you ruling out new or increased business taxes?' The former defeated member for Greenslopes and now member for Woodridge replied, 'There won't be any increased taxes.' Money can buy you lots of things in life but not your credibility.

I have previously commented that throwing ever-increasing record budget amounts of money into key government areas such as transport and main roads, health and education is not in itself a real measure of success. Labor seems to be simplistically equating the notion that success is defined by how much money you throw at an area. However, what matters is what you actually do with resources, rather than continually throwing borrowed money at an issue. This budget is as bereft of visionary reform as the Treasurer is of showing occasional nonpartisanship and humility. Given our total state debt level will now blow out to \$129 billion over the forward estimates, this is another budget that continues to fail future generations by avoiding the tough decisions required to be made by this generation. Very sadly, yet again, unfair intergenerational debt will continue under Labor.

I will now comment on specific areas of the budget in my capacity as the shadow minister for customer service and shadow minister for transport and main roads. I reiterate that the *raison d'être* of the transport and main roads portfolio is all about delivering an efficient and responsive statewide

transport system that will connect people right across our vast state both now and into the future. Yet again, Labor's incompetent approach to the 2022-23 budget, particularly for this key portfolio, means that this worthy goal is still a long way off.

The Minister for Transport and Main Roads may have been a fine high school drama teacher, but he is clueless when it comes to basic project management 101. Is it any wonder under his watch that we have the hashtags #budgetblowouts and #railfail? I urge the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, who was well known for the infamous mangocube saga and for the budget blowouts—and I will outline these in further detail shortly—to look up the term PMBOK. I will save the tyro Minister for Transport and Main Roads the time and effort. It is an acronym for Project Management Book of Knowledge. Essentially, it is the bible when it comes to sound project management best practice principles. This quality assurance best project management approach is used around the world. Now, the struggling transport minister should not get all excited, confusing this with his union mates' best practice industry principles, which appear to have actually contributed to his own budget blowouts as evidenced with the Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3 contract negotiations.

The Minister for Transport and Main Roads wants to talk up the transport and roads budget, tell us it is a record and say that everything is awesome. In effect, like previous years, it is more a smoke and mirrors exercise than a credible financial document for the future. I will now begin a deep dive into the transport and main roads portfolio and comment on Minister Bailey's budget blowouts. Sadly, I only have a few minutes left.

In terms of Labor's record, the minister will talk about a record \$29.7 billion QTRIP investment but, in reality, it was about recycling and reannouncements. Indeed, his \$3.5 billion rail package announcement was pretty much recycling old announcements with few new projects. Talk about a 'rail revolution'! It was more like a mangocube salad. It was strange that his announcements did not include the rail level crossing projects. Could it be because they demonstrate that the Minister for Transport and Main Roads is rarely able to deliver a project on time or on budget?

What really is Labor's track record? It is one of project delays and cost blowouts. Of course, the obvious starting point is the Palaszczuk Labor government's signature infrastructure project, Cross River Rail. Let us start with that one. In last year's budget, Cross River Rail was listed as a \$6.888 billion project fully funded by the Queensland government. It is interesting to note that this year the description has been changed to say it will be 'funded via a capital contribution of \$5.389 billion along with financing of \$1.499 billion secured through a public-private partnership'.

Minister Bailey continues to perpetuate this myth that the project will only cost the taxpayer \$5.4 billion. I come from the private sector. Does the minister seriously think that the private sector is providing \$1.5 billion for fun or for kicks? They will want a return. To date, this government has refused to release these details as it always falls back to the protection of it being commercial-in-confidence. Remember, this is a project which was not supported by Infrastructure Australia based on the BCA, so Labor said they would go it alone. There is not even an operational plan, so stay tuned on this development.

We know that there are extra project costs being hidden in other parts of the budget, so the actual cost of Cross River Rail is likely to be around \$7.4 billion. I challenge the Minister for Transport and Main Roads to dispute this figure by providing the following extra cost breakdown areas of the budget which are inextricably part of the overall Cross River Rail project.

For example, if you add the Breakfast Creek Bridge, realign track at \$34.7million; Clapham Yard Stabling at Moorooka, construct stabling yard at \$301 million; Fairfield train station to Salisbury train station upgrades, various locations, upgrade stations at \$52.5 million; Mayne Yard, relocate facility at \$22.4 million; Mayne Yard, upgrade vehicle and pedestrian access at \$96.8 million; Moolabin Power, upgrade power supply at \$18 million; and Roma Street to Exhibition Station, Normanby, construct third track at \$7.1 million, these extras total a further \$533 million. Added to the initial \$5.389 billion plus the \$1.499 billion PPP, one arrives at a total cost of Cross River Rail—kerching!—of \$7.421 billion.

Is it on time for that amount of money? The actual completion date for the project was raised at estimates last year and we now know that the project is well over a year late. As I previously stated, Labor has been caught out trying to rewrite history to cover up a project delay. I know the amateur thespian minister likes to wax lyrical about things being 'awesome' but maybe he should concentrate on actually getting things done!

But wait, we have more. There are new Minister Bailey budget blowouts in this budget: Boundary Road rail crossing was in last year's budget at \$146 million, but that has now increased to \$206 million; and Beams Road rail crossing has gone up from \$163 million to \$209 million, a 28 per cent increase.

There's so many Minister Bailey budget blowouts that we will need sub-categories. Here we go with the bonus Minister Bailey budget blowouts. This is where a project has costs blown out but the initial blowout has blown out yet again.

Examples include Gold Coast Light Rail stage 3. It started at \$709.9 million. Then the project went to \$1.04 billion and now it is \$1.219 billion—a 72 per cent cost blowout. The European Train Control System original budget was \$634.3 million. There was a new project introduced in 2020-21, the New Generation Rollingstock European train control system fitment, to install new signalling. This line item was to hide a \$255 million blowout. We were advised that this new project supported platform screen doors on CRR. Whilst examining the budget papers, we now have a new project, New Generation Rollingstock automatic train operation and platform screen doors fitment, valued at \$275.7 million. Therefore, the total project cost has blown out from the original budget of \$634.3 million to \$1.367 billion, a 116 per cent cost blowout.

I have another category which is the 'bit less' Minister Bailey budget blowout. This is where the project scope is reduced. I will give some examples. The Coomera Connector has been reduced from six lanes to four, but the project has increased in cost from \$1.5 billion to \$2.1 billion, so taxpayers are paying more for less. The Cairns Ring Road was meant to go from the CBD to Smithfield, but we now know that it will only upgrade a five-kilometre section from James Street to Barron River Bridge.

Please stay with me, because we have another category of 'blocked' Minister Bailey budget blowouts. This is where projects are delayed. Some examples in this category include: the Centenary Bridge upgrade, which was promised to start construction in 2021 but still has not started; and Beams Road rail crossing, which was promised to start construction in 2021 but still has not started.

Now we move on to a rather special category: the 'blacked out' Minister Bailey budget blowout. This is where a project has been cancelled or blacked out from the budget to pay for other projects that have gone over budget. Examples in this category include the Central rail station redevelopment. With much fanfare, it was supposed to get a \$67 million makeover. Alas, it disappeared from the budget last year. The Mount Isa to Rockhampton corridor upgrade was a \$237 million project in last year's budget, but I cannot find it—zip, gone—and it is not in the budget documents. I sincerely hope it has not disappeared as well.

Just to recap these budget blowout categories we have: the bonus Minister Bailey budget blowouts; the bit less Minister Bailey budget blowouts; the blocked Minister Bailey budget blowouts; and the blacked out Minister Bailey budget blowouts. The winner of the Gold Logie for Best Budget Blowouts is the member for Miller, the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. Come on down, spinner! Come and collect your prize!

What about the much vaunted inland freight route? The creation of an inland freight route was a key commitment of the Labor government prior to the last state election. I acknowledge that \$4 million of the \$1 billion budget has been bought forward to 2023-24, but over \$800 million will not be spent until after 2025-26 over the forwards. It is more smoke and mirrors. When the government committed to this project before the last election, it did not tell people it would be delivered only after the next election.

Truck drivers and other users of this corridor will be disappointed with this result. I share with them their frustration and take this opportunity to thank the truck and freighting industry for the herculean job its members have undertaken with supply chain management logistics over the last couple of years.

For the last two terms under Labor, the Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program, QTRIP, which outlines the current transport and roads projects, resembles a lay-by agreement—outlaying a dollar today, a few more next year and the rest in the never-never. It is all well and good for the minister to get up and talk a big game with key transport infrastructure announcements, but when one analyses the QTRIP document overlaid with the years and then seeing what was promised and what is actually funded, there is often a huge gap.

What about backlog maintenance? It has been well documented and broadcast that Labor has allowed just under \$6 billion in backlog maintenance to build up. To be more precise, the maintenance backlog as of 1 July 2021 was \$5.753 billion. The government states that the backlog amount decreased by \$99 million in the previous year. At this rate, and taking into account this budget's increase in maintenance funding of just \$69 million per year, this effectively means that the maintenance backlog will be removed in another 30 years.


Auditor-General report No. 4 says that Labor's road maintenance backlog risks the sustainability of the transport network. Thanks to Labor, our roads are more congested than ever and less safe. The Minister for Transport and Main Roads has been in the role for several years now and, rather than deflect on the previous LNP government, he needs to understand that there is a vast chasm between his media rhetoric and his track record with addressing backlog maintenance.

I have always said that the role of opposition is to hold the government to account but not to criticise merely for the sake of it. In this spirit, I would like to congratulate the department of main roads in relation to the department's Service Delivery Statement on page 8 which outlines their customer experience standards and effectiveness measures. I have previously stated that I am very honoured to be appointed the first shadow minister for customer service by the opposition leader. I take this opportunity to congratulate Transport and Main Roads staff.

I have spoken today about delayed projects, cost blowouts and broken promises. I would like to finish my speech on the appropriation bills with this one question: where is the vision in this budget? Last year the Minister for Transport and Main Roads released a regional transport plan without mode share targets and with a corridor planning diagram that was four years old and already redundant by the time it was included.

Sadly, it looks like I was hoping for too much yet again. We still do not know how the minister proposes to boost and transform our transport network to cater for the Olympic Games in a decade's time and for population growth. We still do not know how the minister proposes to get freight to its destination more efficiently to bolster supply chain management. We still do not know how the minister proposes to deal with the massive maintenance backlog. We still do not know how the minister proposes to improve traffic congestion.

While the minister may crow about a record transport and main roads spend, we need to look at the actual track record of this government. It is what you actually do that defines you and getting up each year and saying what you propose to do and not backing up is simply cheating the taxpayers of Queensland. The member for Miller has had carriage of the main roads portfolio since 16 February 2015. This is approximately 7½ years. What has he to show for it? He has a private email scandal and record project management blowouts. What a legacy. What a wasted opportunity. The ancient Athenian politician Pericles said, 'What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.'

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (8.12 pm): I rise to speak in support of the 2022-23 appropriation bills. I am so proud to be part of the Palaszczuk Labor government that is delivering this fantastic budget for the future of our state. This budget delivers for Queensland. It delivers for the people of Stafford. It delivers a bright future based on good jobs for Queenslanders, investment in better services and is centred on Queensland's great lifestyle. Importantly, it delivers not just a record investment in health and hospital care—which it does—it also provides a clear and determined pathway for a stronger health system going forward and invests in what we need to get there.

Locally for me in Stafford that includes investing an extra \$300 million in expanding our iconic Prince Charles Hospital. That is delivering an additional 93 new beds at the Prince Charles Hospital alone. This is in addition to \$750 million to be invested to create a specialist cancer centre at Herston, to be co-located with our wonderful RBWH. That is 150 new beds dedicated to specialist cancer care for our community. That is great news for northside patients and their families. It is also great news for the wonderful health staff who do such a good job across both the Prince Charles and the Royal.

To the doctors, nurses, allied health, operational and support staff—we thank you for your tremendous service to our community and, in turn, we are delivering the means and resources to support you. That extends from tertiary level surgical theatres through to allied health services and the wardies, logistics officers, cleaners, cooks and laundry workers who all play such a crucial role in our hospitals. Those health workers know that this government has got their back. Importantly, the Palaszczuk government is planning for and investing in our workforce. Our health staff do such a wonderful job for our community already, bringing professionalism, a very high standard in skills and giving care, empathy and dedication to their patients and their work more broadly. With this budget we are on track to deliver an additional 9,475 staff in this term of government alone.

As we expand our hospitals and deliver additional beds, we are growing our workforce through increasing graduate intakes, increasing training capacity and through targeted recruitment campaigns. We are also supporting our existing staff, including career and professional development, education and training, leadership programs and exchange and rotation opportunities to grow our staff's experience and support their health careers. I am very proud to be part of a government that unashamedly stands shoulder to shoulder with our health staff.

I am also very proud that this budget invests record support for tackling mental health challenges across Queensland. That is an additional \$1.6 billion over five years and a capital investment of \$28 million to help Queenslanders improve our mental health. I say this as someone who is very proud to be the member who represents Jacaranda Place. Co-located on the site of the Prince Charles Hospital, Jacaranda Place is a purpose-built, high-quality adolescent focused mental health facility—a facility that is well respected and very much needed; a facility built by the Palaszczuk government after those opposite callously closed the Barrett centre. They closed the Barrett centre without building an alternative. That speaks volumes, does it not? When it comes to health, those opposite cut and we invest and build.

In terms of education, as part of this Labor government I believe in the fundamental power of education to change lives, to create opportunities and to enable our children to have the best possible start in life. For me, that comes through my rewarding work on the Education, Employment and Training Committee, but also through the rewarding work in my community. I am privileged to have worked closely with our local school communities, parents, teachers and school leaders to deliver the best opportunities we can for our young people.

This budget delivers an additional \$700,000 for improvements and upgrades of facilities at schools right across the electorate, including at Stafford, Stafford Heights, Somerset Hills, Wavell Heights and Kedron state schools and Wavell high. This budget delivers the much needed school hall for Wilston State School. Thank you to the Minister for Education and the Treasurer for putting the funding up in black and white in the coming financial year and up to mid-2024. This is very exciting news for the school and the community more broadly. It has been fantastic to work with the school leadership, the P&C and school community to get us to the shovel-ready stage we are at now. Now we have the funding to back it in. I would also like to give a shout-out to my predecessor, Dr Anthony Lynham, for the hard work he did with the school in relation to initial planning and costings for this project. I know that Anthony will be absolutely excited to see the hall construction being delivered.

In comparison, the question remains for those opposite: do they support the important revenue measures in this budget or not—the revenue that provides a significant investment in hospitals, schools and social housing? So far those opposite, including the leader, have not even mentioned it. If they do not support these measures—the royalties and one per cent of businesses chipping in for mental health services—their only option is to cut. The level of cuts that they would have to introduce would be \$400 million a year out of the health budget. For me locally that is in real terms a cut greater than the investment that we are putting into the Prince Charles Hospital—that is, the cuts from the LNP would be the inevitable cut of the 93 new beds at the Prince Charles Hospital. It is outrageous.

We are investing record amounts in renewables right across the state. Protecting Queensland's lifestyle, this budget delivers \$262 million towards investing in protected areas and management of ecosystems, natural resources and habitats. There is almost \$40 million to protect native animals across South-East Queensland, including, of course, our Koala Conservation Strategy.

We are investing record amounts in social housing, including in Kedron and Stafford and more areas across the state. I am proud of this budget that is a real Labor budget delivering for Queenslanders.

I have submitted my budget speech to the Speaker, who has reviewed and approved my speech for incorporation. Accordingly, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Social Housing:

In great news for our community and in great news for local residents in need, the Stafford electorate is one of many that is benefiting from the Palaszczuk government's record investment in social and affordable housing.

In Kedron, and in Chermside we are already seeing new homes coming online. These are quality residential facilities and I am proud that our community is one where social and affordable housing coexists with new home owners, renters, young families, retirees and even those luck locals across Wilston, Kedron and Stafford Heights who have beautiful homes on the top of our hills with glorious city views.

It's part of what makes our community so strong.

The Palaszczuk government is also delivering a new Immediate Housing Response Package. Importantly, it will help put a roof over the heads of local families or living in unsafe circumstances—backed by \$16 million investment package.

This new Immediate Housing Response Package includes increased funding for the Rental Security Subsidy of \$7 million to assist approximately 700 families, with flexibility to increase the subsidy from \$5,000 over six months to up to \$10,000 for 12 months to assist families to sustain a tenancy.

Skills and Training:

This budget continues the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to skills and training.

As I have said before, I am very proud to have been part of the team that reintroduced the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program.

And as a local MP, I have loved working with the Department, with community organisations, with young people and with local sporting clubs to deliver SQW programs on the ground.

This is part of \$18.9 million in continued funding for Skilling Queenslanders for Work.

This is good news for Queenslanders to give them the skills and experience they need to get a job and build a career.

It's also good for the local organisations who benefit from the local work being undertaken.

And it's good for the broader economy because we know we need a high skilled workforce to expand and attract businesses right across Queensland.

Cost of Living:

This budget also delivers significant investment to help Queenslanders directly when it comes to cost-of-living pressures. To assist Queenslanders who need a little support, the budget includes \$6.8 billion in concessions, including a \$175 rebate at the cost of \$385 million—all in the purpose of supporting Queenslanders facing cost-of-pressure challenges.

Builds on legacy:

This budget is on top of the extraordinary investment this government has made in our local hospitals, local schools, public transport and local community organisations and community sport.

Education

Since 2020, I am proud that our government has delivered:

- \$250,000 for the refurbishment of block E science class rooms at Wavell State High School
- \$150,000 for the refurbishment of block D prep classrooms at Stafford Heights State School
- \$140,000 for refurbishments of block C providing 3 new adjoining classrooms for one year level at Wavell Heights State School
- \$620,000 across the electorate for maintenance and upgrades for local schools.

The Palaszczuk government's record includes:

- \$250,000 for an outdoor learning area at Kedron State School
- \$300,000 to make the school hall fit-for-purpose at Wavell Heights State School
- \$500,000 for improvements to the home economics area at Craigslea State School
- \$500,000 for the refurbishment of the science rooms at Kedron State High School
- \$650,000 across the electorate for maintenance and minor works for local schools.

Housing

- \$3.2 million Kedron housing project delivered 9 1 bedroom units and 1 2 bedroom unit.
- 34-unit project in Chermside will commence construction later this year.

Sporting clubs

- \$57,000 for infrastructure at Windsor Royals
- \$60,000 for water infrastructure at Grange Thistle Football Club
- \$50,000 for new field lighting at Newmarket Soccer Football Club
- \$90,000 for new field lighting at Wilston Grange Gorillas
- \$495,000 for new change rooms at Kedron Wavell Hockey Club
- \$100,000 for field rejuvenation at Kedron Lions

This is a strong budget that delivers for Queensland and delivers for the people of Stafford.

I thank the Treasurer, the Premier, the Cabinet and their teams for delivering this great outcome for the people of Queensland. And that is especially so for those Queenslanders who most rely on what having a Labor Government means—those who benefit from real investment in education, in health and in skills, training and jobs.

That's our record and I'm proud to be part of that team.



Ms BOLTON (Noosa—Ind) (8.19 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2022 appropriation bills. Firstly, I would like to commend all on the efforts of this past year, including our frontliners and volunteers who continue to do an incredible job in all ways. Thank you.

For Noosa, there are no surprises in this budget, as the majority of requests are either in the business case stage, such as the remaining parts of the Tewantin bypass, or the design review for bookend No. 2 on Kin Kin Road. Work has commenced on stage 1 of the bypass and work is about to start on the replacement of Six Mile Bridge No. 7, as well as bookend No. 1 of Kin Kin Range.

I thank Minister Bailey and TMR for attempting to address the devastating impacts to our hinterland communities from the inappropriate and dangerous volume of heavy haulage on a route assessed as deficient and inherently unsuitable a decade ago. As we await the outcome from the court case on behalf of those impacted, it is important that the survey, design and investigation works for the additional two projects for 2023-24 be brought forward as, with the danger to users as well as the damage to vehicles, this cannot wait.

We continued the COVID journey and experienced devastating disasters, including extensive flooding and the ongoing damage from that. We had a housing crisis unseen before and, as part of the COVID fallout, demand on our systems including health care that has led to even longer waitlists and shortages.

Through all of this, Queensland and Noosa surged in many realms. Whether it was people and businesses relocating from other states or the influx of visitors desperate for sunshine and to shake off the residuals from the past two years once borders opened, the result has brought relief as well as hardship. This from the ongoing housing crisis where within my community the record numbers of southerners relocating to Noosa has seen us being double the house-price-to-income ratio of the state and residential vacancies below one per cent for most of the year.

That there has been no substantial increase in the budget to tackle what is a humanitarian crisis—and it really is—I still cannot comprehend. When Queenslanders do not have a constant, safe, affordable and reliable roof over their head, the increase in demand for other services, including mental health support and domestic violence, climbs. Again, this last year in the Noosa electorate DV increased by another 30 per cent, leading to an exhaustion of police resources and volunteer organisations to plug the gaps.

I can only hope that the community housing partnerships spoken about by the Treasurer as part of the housing fund are ramped up and that the current underutilised government housing is fast-tracked in a strategy to address it through upzoning or otherwise. It is frustrating for all to see the inability of government to provide appropriate, local accommodation to sole occupants currently in family sized homes. We need to free these houses up desperately.

With no local or state government land in my electorate available for accommodations, temporary or otherwise, as was availed in decades past, it is imperative that land acquisition be part of any forward strategy to ensure in times of crisis there is something to fall back on. Even with the amount in capital expenditure allocated for housing next year, may I point out again, as I did last budget, that comparable countries to Australia host over 20 per cent of community housing versus Australia at less than five per cent. It will take many years at current rates to address demands.

I made pleas unsuccessfully to the then minister for resources some four years ago to utilise the former House with No Steps site for transitional and emergency accommodations as it has existing services, buildings and cleared camp sites for transportables. That I have had to see this sit empty for the last three years while it is master planned leaves me filled with anger, as it could and should have been utilised, including for those fleeing DV.

In addition, we are seeing essential facilities and services such as aged care beyond breaking point through an inability to access any staff and no support from governments of any level to make up the critical staffing shortfall which could be ameliorated if extensions on vaccination boosters were granted until such time as replacements are sourced. This is about the welfare of our most vulnerable, as what will happen to them should facilities have to close? Given our shortage of hospital beds, that is not an option. I would like to hear some clarity on this. Governments need to take responsibility and resolve this urgently instead of deferring to the reason it has occurred.

There have been a number of announcements that are very welcomed across Queensland. Substantial extra funds in a number of sectors has been wonderful news, including for hospitals and mental health which will see a mental health co-responder via the Queensland Ambulance Service based on the Sunshine Coast.

The question I have in relation to the mental health levy on businesses is why is there not a system of levies based on tiers of profit, including from our banks, to address our greatest social issues as part of their ESG policies rather than the wages bill of Queensland businesses? We have such

wealth in this country and we should not be scrambling constantly to provide the basics. With ongoing extensive demands in so many realms and long waitlists for operations needed by Queenslanders so they can get mobile or back to work, I have yet to find where this has been addressed and can only hope to in the coming days.

With ambulance delays ongoing in our community, the new initiatives such as the clinical hub is welcomed and delivers similar to advocacies we had undertaken regarding the previous STAR pilot. With four out of five Australians over 65 having at least one chronic illness, Noosa has an older population where the average age is increasing at a faster rate than the rest of the state, with a 70 per cent increase on 2016 levels.

Coupled with private insurance being at its lowest level in the last 20 years, it is imperative that our Noosa Hospital, even though not a public one, have the appropriate contracted services from Queensland Health and capacity to deal with this. I look forward to positive news of current negotiations regarding an expansion of the emergency department at no cost to government which will alleviate our residents being redirected to SCUH and then unable to get back home, as well as the ramping there.

Of particular concern, and something I will continue to raise, is the need for an appropriate funding model for our palliative care hospices. With government contracts only providing 20 per cent of the needed income to provide these essential facilities, that organisations have to raise the balance makes no sense. These hospices are economical, they free up hospital beds and they are in high demand as part of our end-of-life choice. Why we have to keep fighting for this makes no sense!

Small business has had a win with cuts to payroll tax. However, tourism, which is a key industry for Noosa, has less funding than previously. Though it has been good to hear allocations for the tourism recovery strategy for the next 10 years, I continue to call out the inequity of programs such as Work in Paradise, Back to Work and the Growing Workforce Participation Fund that preclude Noosa based on its proximity to Brisbane. The reality is that Noosa has medium income levels below the state average with higher rents. We have restaurants and other businesses only able to open on limited days and aged-care facilities under unacceptable duress—all because we cannot access staff nor initiatives to obtain them.

One budget announcement that I was really thrilled to see realised after advocating for it since 2019 is the extra funding for the School Transport Assistance Scheme to ensure that children and families in shared care arrangements are finally no longer disadvantaged. This makes a real difference to so many lives and needs to incorporate the issue of 'locale' which has also caused enormous stress—and which I am sure will be included.

Concerningly, I cannot find a continuation of our funds for community transport. This was vital in plugging the gap for those under 65 travelling daily for cancer treatment to SCUH, and that it has not been included is unacceptable. As well, we seem to be missing some funding for Noosa organisations to deliver specialist homelessness services, the prep and delivery of meals, support to individuals for financial literacy, intoxication programs and emergency relief. We need these more than ever at the grassroots.

The minister touched on a number of arenas that I have yet to investigate including the increases in policing. I can only continue to advocate that, out of the 2,025 extra police to be engaged by 2025, a portion are allocated to address Noosa hotspots permanently versus our 'specials'.

It is always good to hear of funding to increase protected lands. However, increases for maintaining and monitoring national parks appears to be minimal. With concerns regarding the Cooloola Great Walk project, it is vital that government provide now more than ever targeted and appropriate resource allocation to accommodate any alternative activities to ameliorate impacts and ensure that our national parks are enhanced and do not become a breeding ground for degradation.

As we await the outcome of the Cooloola sustainability survey and years of advocacy to reduce the volumes entering our national parks at peak times, we must remember that extra protected land is always appreciated; however, the maintenance and management of existing land is equally important. It is really good to see the ongoing commitment to the rail duplication to Nambour; however, it is disappointing that our ongoing requests for a train shuttle from Gympie to Nambour to service commuting residents and tourists have not been addressed.


Even though our own TAFE was closed eight years ago and an expression of interest process is awaiting the announcement of a successful proponent, there has never been a more important time to invest in alternate education delivery methods. I look forward to the ongoing assistance of the department in this for Noosa.

Again I would like to point out the difficulties in Queenslanders being able to read the reports provided. At a glance, budgets in a number of realms—including grants within the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport—are less than allocated in 2021-22, and I hope that through estimates questioning needed upgrades to sports facilities will be covered in upcoming grants rounds.

Additionally, I hope that funding committed during the recent federal election campaign by the LNP will be revisited by our new government, as these are desperately needed. I would like to reiterate again that volunteer organisations are invaluable in all realms. Grants over the last 12 months have been appreciated; however, the process of them sitting on edge yearly while continuing to provide essential services to our communities is draining on them. I look forward to a time when the time span is extended.

With the Treasurer advising of a \$1.9 billion net operating surplus, which appears to have resulted from increases to coal and oil royalties after a 10-year freeze, there are also questions with regard to what is being done about our level of debt. As always, the devil is in the detail, which will take time to dig through. The estimates process is an important element in this regard, and I reiterate again the need to review this process. The inadequate time allocation makes it unfeasible for many crossbenchers to attend in person, and the refusal to accept questions on notice makes no sense, given this is utilised elsewhere and in our federal parliament.

In closing, I congratulate the Treasurer and all who worked on this budget. There are many wonderful announcements. All I ask is that, while the big ticket items make great headlines, it is looking after what we have and ensuring the basics are accessible—such as affordable housing—that are essential as part of a sustainable, progressive Queensland. Let's communicate, innovate and collaborate and really engage in ways that meet our communities' expectations. Ultimately, that is what we are here in this chamber to do—to deliver to our communities, not to the policies and frameworks that may not be serving them as well as they should be anymore. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr SKELTON** (Nicklin—ALP) (8.32 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Queensland state budget 2022-23 as expressed through the Appropriation Bill 2022, Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2022 and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 handed down by the Palaszczuk Labor government. This is an excellent Labor budget. Congratulations to the Treasurer and his department for getting things done.

There have been challenges to our state this year. There is the ongoing pandemic and pressure on the health system. We have faced national disasters and there are issues overseas such as the war in Ukraine which have all impacted on the state's finances. This is a budget that is focused on addressing the needs of every Queenslander. This is a budget that is carefully measured and considered. This is a budget that delivers for the electorate of Nicklin. This government builds, backs our services, procures Queensland products, supporting our businesses and creating jobs. This is a government committed to getting things done, a government of which I am proud to be a member.

I would like to acknowledge this traditional grassroots Labor budget by sharing a story that embodies the sentiment expressed therein. One of the first constituents who came to see me after I was elected was Ms Allison Bunney in her role as president of the Yandina State School P&C. I was aware that many of the older schools in my district were in poor repair but still taking more and more students. I visited the school and looked at its state. Initially, the only thing I could do was purchase a new basketball hoop out of my electorate allowance. At least the children would have something to do on their breaks.

Meeting with Michael Cookman, the principal, to understand the needs of the school and formulate a plan where the whole school community and their member would advocate through every available network, now some 19 months later we see the results of all of us working together. Yandina State School will have a new multipurpose building they can configure to meet the needs of their students to the tune of over \$9 million. They will also get \$200,000 to start planning for a new school hall, which will replace the current small undercover area that currently serves that purpose. In addition to this, the senior playground will be upgraded with \$158,000.

I want to thank Ms Rohan Geppert, one of the magnificent educators who kept me constantly informed and on track to meet this community need. Together we are getting things done. It would be remiss of me not to mention all of the staff, students, volunteers and the entire Yandina community who have supported this. Thank you, Minister Grace, for visiting and listening to our schools.

As the local member and member of the Community Support and Services Committee, chaired by the member for Mansfield, I had the honour of participating in the inquiry into social isolation and loneliness, which recommended that government raise the base funding levels for neighbourhood and

community centres to \$230,000 per annum. This is the greatest single increase in operational funding for neighbourhood and community centres—a rise of \$51.8 million over four years across Queensland. An extra \$100,000 per year will be transformational for our community centres.

I want to take a moment to recognise all of the good work of my centre in Nambour, the Maroochydore Neighbourhood Centre, the Maleny Neighbourhood Centre and the Caloundra Neighbourhood Centre on the Sunshine Coast, and I thank everyone who participated in the committee's inquiry. I thank Minister Enoch and her department for their consideration and assistance and securing extra funding for social and affordable housing, which will be well received across our region.

I will make special mention of my community centre in Nambour and Ms Angela Rondo, Ms Rachael Donovan and Ms Ana Greenfield, who have been generous in sharing their knowledge with me so I was able to understand their complex needs and exceptional work in tackling domestic violence and homelessness. I would also like to thank Ms Linda Denice, who coordinates programs across the Sunshine Coast region tackling the insidious issue of domestic and family violence. I also welcome the tireless advocacy of the Attorney-General, Minister Fentiman, who has secured more state funding and resources in this space.

This additional funding will allow the centres to hire new staff, buy equipment and deliver additional services and support for people who need it most, including those experiencing domestic and family violence, social isolation and loneliness, homelessness and financial stress. For vulnerable people in our community this support can be life-changing.

We are extending support for young Queenslanders at risk of homelessness to access safe, secure and affordable housing with an investment of \$28.9 million over the next four years to develop a policy and integrated framework of housing through the Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-25. I look forward to continuing the partnerships.

This is a budget that puts the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders first and foremost, with a record investment in health of \$23.6 billion delivering three new hospitals; a new Queensland cancer centre; 11 hospital expansion projects across Queensland; 2,200 new beds; and new doctors and nurses, supporting our frontline heroes to get their jobs done.

Madam Deputy Speaker, the Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation, and as such I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

It means better health services for more Queenslanders in our regional and rural centres and increased funding to support our paramedics. It means a commitment to hire an additional 9450 health workers over this four-year term of government.

Locally, our investment in Queensland's Health includes:

- \$24.4 million for Nambour General Hospital to meet the functional requirements of the hospital in its new role as a sub-acute facility, and
- \$24.6 million for Sunshine Coast University Hospital to continue construction delivering 450-beds at the completion of Stage One, growing to 738-beds at completion of Stage 3.

Speaker: Our record Health Budget also includes \$1.64 billion over five years to improve mental health and wellbeing and combat substance abuse. Drawing on the work of the Mental Health Select Committee—and I thank my colleague Joe Kelly for his work chairing that committee, all those that made contributions, the secretariat and Hansard—the biggest ever investment in mental health services will create a sustainable funding model by introducing a 0.25 per cent mental health levy on businesses with annual taxable wages of over \$10 million from 1st January 2023.

It will focus on rehabilitation care, additional community care units, adolescent day programs and Step-Up Step-Down services to help people transition out of our hospital system or avoid it in the first instance altogether.

I welcome the Albanese Labor government's decision to extend the current 50% public hospital funding until the end of the year, as well as their commitment to build Medicare Urgent Care clinics to help ease the pressure on our emergency departments. Finally, Queenslanders have a federal government we can rely on to work collaboratively with the states to get things done!

Speaker: We're looking after our state's most precious resource by investing in their success with \$144.3 million across the Sunshine Coast for additional and renewed infrastructure in our state schools.

In Nicklin we stand to benefit from this as our older state school receive the funding, they need modernise their facilities and keep up with their growing communities. In addition to the work announced for Yandina State School.

I'm proud to have advocated for:

- the new \$10.7 million Performing Arts Centre for Burnside State High School,
- \$600,000 for Nambour State college to refurbish Block L classrooms.

- \$450,000 for Woombye State School to refurbish Block E classrooms.
- \$400,000 for Burnside State School to refurbish Block D classrooms.
- \$375,000 to provide equitable access at Noosa District State High School.
- \$350,000 to refurbish Block A classrooms at Noosa District State High.

Speaker: I can also announce that a new hall for the Pomona Campus of Noosa District State High School has been funded. Former Principal Brett Burgess, current Principal Stacey Wilmore and the entire community have ably ensured getting this outcome. Collectively "getting things done"

Speaker: State-wide, we back our public service which is why we've invested in over 7,165 teacher and teacher aide positions since 2015, and we're going even further in this Budget with 675 more teachers and nearly 200 more teacher aides in 2022-23. Ensuring our students have the support they need to get the job done.

We recognise the elevated demand for child protection services, which is why we are making the landmark investment of \$2.2 billion over 5 years and \$500 million on going.

And we're devoting \$78.8 million over 4 years and \$18.9 million ongoing to continue our Youth Justice Strategy reforms.

We're ensuring community safety with the largest increase in resourcing in 30 years, investing \$2.9 billion into our Police this year.

The new \$9 million Nambour police Station is due to be completed any day now, delivering on a 2015 Palaszczuk government commitment to provide better facilities to our local officers. The replacement of the Cooroy Police Station, valued at \$4 million, will soon be underway. These projects are supported by the more than \$3 billion we have invested in better policing services in Queensland in this budget.

I would like to offer the electorates gratitude to our policemen and women for their duty. I thank OIC Gary Brayley and the team at Nambour for their patience as there have been many delays during construction. I thank OIC Mal Scott and the team in Cooroy and look forward to seeing the plans for the new station there. OIC Kevin in Palmwoods for your ongoing commitment to community safety. I would also like to thank OIC Pierre Senekal in Kenilworth who looks after a large area that has been particularly hard hit by recent flooding and he has had to have his vehicle replaced due to writing one off responding to the emergencies.

Speaker: \$29.7 billion will be invested across the state to support the 25,200 jobs created by our 4-year record level roads and transport plan.

Locally delivering over \$489 million in funding for the Beerburrum to Nambour Rail Upgrade Stage 1, hand in hand with the Federal Government. This Beerburrum to Nambour Rail Upgrade (B2N) project covers about 40km of the North Coast Line and will provide additional track capacity and reliability. This means less travel time and increased passenger and freight services to our growing Sunshine Coast region.

This is in addition to the \$301.3 million to upgrade both the Maroochydoore Road and Mons Road interchanges on the Bruce Highway at Forest Glen and the \$320 million for the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade Stage 1, both in partnership with the Australian Government.

Speaker: Locally and in partnership with the community the safety treatments for Margaret Street in Palmwoods funds have been allocated. This was due to many constituents worried about the lack of pedestrian access and safety concerns.

This is a budget that supports our small and medium sized businesses, delivering payroll tax cuts to more than 12,000 Queensland small business, with the potential to save \$26,000 per year.

I thank Di Farmer, the Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development and her department for their work in delivering this relief, and their work supporting the businesses in my electorate of Nicklin.

We have a laser like focus on enabling the key drivers of our economy to deliver more trade opportunities, a better skilled workforce, with specific attention paid to mentoring and enhancing innovation to support our small business to reach their goals.

Because we know that delivering better services for Queenslanders relies on continuing to grow our economy

Therefore, we strive to create more jobs in more industries across Queensland. Industries like renewable energy, new economy minerals, advanced manufacturing, aviation and aerospace, biomedical products, agriculture, tourism, research and education services, and creative and design industries. Supporting good, secure jobs by supporting the industries of the future, while backing our traditional industries.

Our commitment to delivering more jobs includes our four-year \$59.1 billion infrastructure program, supporting 48,000 jobs in the next year alone.

We're investing \$48 million into pumped Hydro facilities like that of Borumba Dam, which many in my electorate are looking forward too, delivering good quality jobs for our local tradies while supporting our renewable energy future.

We want to make sure our Tourism operators continue to bounce back after the pandemic, which is why we're investing 66.4 million over four years in programs to support the industry.

I'm glad to see we are also taking care of our native fauna with a commitment to invest \$40 million to protect native animals including \$24.6 million for our koala conservation strategy. I would like to thank Minister for Environment Meaghan Scanlon and Minister for Transport Mark Bailey for working with me to provide \$5 million in funding to repair our koala fencing along the highway in Nicklin last year.

To combat the rising cost of living, our government is giving back a record \$6.8 billion in concessions to Queenslanders during this financial year alone an increase of 10 per cent on last year's budget.


Earlier this year, we announced Queensland households would receive \$50 off their power bills, because Queenslanders own our state's power assets, their generators, the transmission, and distribution.

That discount is being increased to \$175, at a cost to the budget of \$385 million. Queenslanders have now received \$575 in discounts over the past four years, at a cost to the Budget of \$1.2 billion.

It is quite often said in this house that Queensland's best days are ahead of it, well this budget doesn't just prove our state's future is bright, but it delivers on it too!

Speaker: This budget addresses the areas of most need. Health, Education, Housing and Infrastructure. An honest Labor Budget that delivers good jobs, better services, and a Great lifestyle.

I commend these Bills to the House.

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (8.39 pm): It gives me no pleasure at all to rise tonight to deliver my 11th budget speech in this place. I have been listening intently to members on the other side rant and rave about this budget and what it means to them. I heard the member for Maryborough say that everybody was getting a share and that the Labor government had spread the money around. I can tell him that they missed Burleigh in that spread because we are not getting anything in my patch—that is for sure. The member for Maryborough and a couple of other members have mentioned that this is a real Labor budget, and I can actually agree with that one. It is a real Labor budget full of incompetence and fiscal mismanagement. If these guys could add one and one together and come up with two, I would be very surprised.

I want to talk briefly about the Treasurer's comments about the new and increased taxes. He apparently told us 26 times that there were going to be no increased taxes, and now he is trying to convince people that because he did not say the word 'business' in there he can effectively attack businesses with an extra tax. Nobody really believes that. The media definitely do not believe that, and we have seen on the front pages of the papers how the media feels about it.

Just to prove how incompetent this Treasurer is, this morning he mentioned that the new tiers of tax on coal had apparently had no effect on the share price of the ASX listed coalmines in Queensland. He only mentioned a couple of them, because he said they were the only ones with mines in Queensland, but he missed a few. I thought I would do a little exercise for myself and have a look because I thought it was a bit strange that this has not affected their share price at all. He mentioned Stanmore Resources. I had a quick look at their chart and there is a big cliff where the share price fell on the 21st of this month. What day was that? Was that budget day? I will table that. Then we have Bowen Coking Coal Ltd, which he also mentioned this morning. It fell off a cliff; there it goes again. I will table that for the interest of members. That also happened on budget day, if not the day before. Then we have New Hope Corporation. Again, it fell off a cliff and has slightly recovered now. The minister said that particular company did not have any mines in Queensland. Well, it actually does; it is just not allowed to operate at the moment. If the government got its act together and allowed New Hope to reopen the Acland coalmine, it would be operating in Queensland. Then we have Whitehaven Coal. It fell off a cliff, and I table that chart for the interest of members.

Tabled paper: Bundle of graphs depicting share price movement in the resources industry [\[921\]](#).

It is quite clear that the coal companies on the ASX took quite a hit after the government said this about their coal prices and they have not recovered as much as they went down. They fell off a cliff. The Treasurer also said quite deceptively that it was a 40 per cent tax on anything over \$300 and if it was \$302 then you only pay 40 per cent on those \$2. What he forgot to mention was that you pay 30 per cent on the first \$300. That is a real heavy increase to our coal companies.

One of the members asked before whether we supported the revenue measure. My answer is no. I do not support the revenue measure. The member for Maryborough said something along the lines of \$1 billion will make no difference to a coalmine. I think our coalmines would be shocked by that comment because \$1 billion will make a lot of difference to a lot of coalmines. If those members opposite were not so financially illiterate, they would understand that coalmines make up a big part of their superannuation fund, my superannuation fund and everybody else's superannuation funds. If you hit them by \$1 billion, that will have quite an effect.

Ms Grace: Please say something intelligent.

Mr HART: Madam Deputy Speaker, I take offence at that remark and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Member for McConnel, the member has taken offence. I ask that you withdraw.

Ms GRACE: I withdraw.

Mr Krause interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Scenic Rim, if you are going to interject you need to return to your seat.

Mr HART: I would also like to talk about things I did not get in my electorate. I did not get a koala bridge over the Gold Coast Highway. I have been asking the Minister for Transport to give me a koala bridge. The government spruiks heavily about protecting koalas but the minister has come back to me several times and said that is all part of light rail stage 4. I do not think light rail stage 4 is going to happen at the end of the day because of the fiscal incompetence of this government. What they have done with light rail stage 3 will probably mean it will be beyond the realm of ever funding it. Speaking of light rail stage 3—which comes from the Mermaid Beach electorate to my electorate in Burleigh—it is now over two years late and \$500 million over budget because of best practice industrial conditions. We have not seen a shovel wandering around our area yet.

Government members interjected.

Mr HART: Something the government crows about regularly is public housing, and I will touch briefly on this. If members opposite were interested at all, they might listen. We have a real shortage of public housing. There are 50,000 people on the waiting list, yet this government are so incompetent that they have left a complete public housing building vacant for the last two years while they waited to sign the contract for light rail stage 4. That building is in the member for Mermaid Beach's area just across the road from my electorate, but we are good friends and we share quite regularly.

I did not get any new police and I have been asking for that. I have been talking for the last couple of elections about making a fix to the Burleigh walking track. It continually has issues whenever we have heavy rain, cold snaps or a fire with rocks falling down and damaging the pathway. I appreciate that the Minister for the Environment keeps spending a lot of money to fix it, but why don't we fix it once and get it right and stop this from ever happening again? I am happy to work with the minister to try to come up with a solution for that.

I have a little bit of school funding. One of my schools has got the second half of a hall funded this year, and I appreciate that from the minister. They really do need a new school hall at Palm Beach Currumbin State High School. We have a little bit of maintenance for schools. The only other thing I got in the budget was a couple of rest rooms at Tallebudgera park, but I wanted a lot more than that.

What is going on through my electorate at the moment is the M1 upgrade. When it is finished, it will make quite a difference. I am going to praise some of the ministers here just briefly—do not get used to it; it will not happen very much. I made a phone call to the Minister for Tourism and to the Minister for Transport. Everybody knows that I do not get along with the Minister for Transport overly, but he took my call on a weekend—and I really appreciate that—to try to assist one of my clubs that is being affected by the road down there. I do appreciate the responses I got from both of those ministers. I said I would not play politics with that issue, so I do not intend to. I just want to get on with it.

I also wanted to talk about the integrity issues that we are seeing inside this government. We have an integrity inferno happening at the moment, especially in Minister de Brenni's area around the QBCC. I have been involved in a little bit of information around that. One of the gentlemen who has been trying to get a meeting with the minister now for a number of years, and in fact a meeting with the Premier, about issues with his particular building, has asked me to table a set of emails that he has sent to both Minister de Brenni and to the Premier about issues. I will do that now.

Tabled paper: Bundle of emails from [redacted], to the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, the Premier and Minister for the Olympics, Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk, and the Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement, Hon. Mick de Brenni, regarding a building work case and the Queensland Building and Construction Commission [\[922A\]](#).

The Treasurer is dealing with the HomeBuilder scheme. I was approached in the last week by a Bethany Pinchin who is a member of my surf club who has bought a property in Burleigh and is relying on the HomeBuilder scheme. We know that because of some of the activities—

Mrs Mullen: Is this in the budget?

Mr HART: It is a federal government fund which is administered by the state and it is administered under state rules. The state rules require that these buildings be completed by April next year in order to get that HomeBuilder funding. As I said, this is a young lady who relies completely on getting that \$25,000 funding. We are now having issues with building on the Gold Coast being delayed, if not shelved, and while people in good faith have committed to make payments to buy units and houses,


they are finding, through no fault of their own, that these things are being delayed. I ask the Treasurer to have a look at the administrative arrangements around the HomeBuilder scheme and give these people the time to get this done. I will table Bethany's letter, and I also table a letter that I asked the shadow Treasurer to write to the Treasurer about this particular issue because it is a wider issue than just one person. I thought the shadow Treasurer might be best placed to do that.

Tabled paper: Letter, undated, from the member for Toowoomba South, Mr David Janetzki MP to the Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment, Hon. Cameron Dick, regarding impacts of pressures on the construction industry on applicants to the HomeBuilder program [\[922B\]](#).

I also want to touch on, in the last couple of minutes I have left, energy issues and renewables. The plans that the government have for renewables just will not work without some sort of firming capacity. I had a look at the electrical generation map on the EPW website today. We have 10 coal plants producing 8,300 megawatts. We have 22 gas plants producing 4,400 megawatts. We have 95 other generators—solar, wind et cetera—that are producing 4,293 megawatts. We are told that we have \$10 billion worth of investments that are private investments in the renewable area, yet when you watch the generation statistics of a night, 80 to 90 per cent of the generating is coming from coal plants. If we are to shut down the coal plants, as those opposite keep telling us they want to do—they do not like fossil fuel—then we are going to start to see the lights go out.

This government has a history of coming up with grand plans that just do not work, and I suspect their hydrogen plants are going to be the next one of these things that do not work. It is pie-in-the-sky stuff. They are building a big test solar plant beside the Kogan Creek coal-fired power station. They tried this before. They tried a solar boost scheme out there that cost \$40 million or \$50 million and is rusting away in the paddock beside Kogan Creek. Anybody who has been to Kogan Creek Power Station can see what is left of that—shattered glass and remnants out in the paddock. They also had the Stanwell Corporation trial ZeroGen. They pumped \$200 million into that. It was another bright idea by the Bligh government and the Beattie government. That failed. They lost out there.

At the end of the day the Labor Party fall back to fiscal incompetence. This is a Labor budget. It is slanted towards all the Labor members. Those of us on this side of the House do not get a reasonable outcome from this. The government, as a plan, they like to blame everybody else. They instigate a few rigged inquiries and then when they find that does not work, they shoot the messenger and at the end of the day they find a scapegoat. There is no bigger scapegoat in this state than the Treasurer.

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (8.54 pm): Far be it for me to use a motoring analogy, but I bought a ute once up in Yeppoon. I was driving it home and the diff made a fair bit of noise. You could get rid of it by turning up the radio. It gradually got louder and louder, but the whine in that diff is nothing like what I am hearing from over there tonight. Oh, my goodness! You cannot turn the stereo up to drown that out.

I am proud to speak to this year's Appropriation Bill, introduced by our Treasurer, the Hon. Cameron Dick. This is my eighth year supporting a strong budget that upholds our Labor values: good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle here in Queensland. This budget keeps up our record investment in health and education and continues our job-creating infrastructure program with billions of dollars in new funding for social housing, renewable energy and rail projects. The member for Maryborough has shown us how happy he is about that, and I score out of that, too. It recognises the enormous opportunity we have to transform Queensland in preparation for the 2032 Olympic Games when the eyes of the whole world will be on the Sunshine State.

Thank you to everyone involved in preparing the budget. I know we are still working in pretty tough times as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to take its toll, so it is appropriate I start with the Palaszczuk government's investment in health through the 2022-23 budget. I will focus on health as it relates to my local community of Kurwongbah and the Moreton Bay region.

I am proud of the health initiatives we are delivering in another record health budget. There will be a \$1 billion expansion of Redcliffe Hospital, delivering over 200 more beds as part of an almost \$10 billion, six-year Queensland Health capacity expansion program. There is \$82.9 million to continue the Caboolture Hospital redevelopment, delivering more beds, a new clinical services building and 1,000 new car parks, among other features. There is \$139 million for the satellite hospitals program which will deliver new medical facilities just to the north of me at Caboolture and in my old patch of Kallangur—I used to be the member for Kallangur. We are getting a rebuild of the Petrie Ambulance Station in a more accessible location which will be far better for ambulances to get in and out of it in its new home on Gympie Road at Lawnton. Work has commenced on our new ambulance site at Morayfield. We are investing \$1.6 billion in mental health, the biggest investment in Queensland's history. I am very proud to be part of that.

As with health, education is a key Labor priority. This budget continues our commitment to employ more teachers and more teacher aides with funding for 675 more teachers and another 200 teacher aides in this budget. I bet some of them are hoping to get jobs at Lawnton State School because they have now got one hell of a hall. Our thanks to the Education Minister Grace Grace for coming out to help us open it last Friday, 17 June. When I became the state member for Kurwongbah there were no plans to build this hall, but together, I, the Lawnton State School community, the minister and the incredible administration dreamt big and now we have a big, bright, modern new hall that will change lives in Lawnton. Work is also underway on the new admin block and classrooms that are fully disability compliant. This over \$10 million commitment is giving Lawnton State School the love it has needed for a long time.

Lawnton is not alone. Jinibara School is getting over \$200,000 for a resource centre extension. There will be refurbishment of block E at Kurwongbah State School. The Treasurer came out recently on a visit to Kurwongbah and listened to the requests. I really appreciate that he has listened and is delivering already. It is a much needed refurbishment at that school. Narangba Valley State High School and Petrie State School are both getting refurbished blocks at a combined value of over a million dollars.

When it comes to infrastructure we still have some pretty great things on the go in the Kurwongbah electorate. Before I mention what this budget does I want to say a couple of quick thank-yous for the projects we have just wrapped up. At Dakabin station what was basically a rail siding has been transformed into a state-of-the-art, disability compliant, new station with only a bit more parking needed to finish it off. The transport minister knows I will not let that one go. There is also the Petrie roundabout, or intersection as we call it now as it is no longer a roundabout. It has unlocked the former bottleneck and given motorists a much more streamlined commute. I say thanks to the transport minister from myself and my community for both projects.

In this budget we also see the continuation of the long-awaited Deception Bay-New Settlement Road interchange, which is well underway. I will say the former government took it out of QTRIP and we put it back in—the member for Bancroft and I. We do appreciate the federal money there as well. It is really changing the area. It is brilliant. The Burpengary station upgrade is in the design and planning stage. I know the member for Glass House will be happy to hear that. When design is complete, the money will be in the budget for the rebuild and it is locked in.

Mr Powell: Make sure you talk to my mother.

Mr KING: I know the member's mother will be very happy. Narangba station park-and-ride has not been forgotten and work is continuing there. There is nearly a million dollars in this budget to complete design and start construction.

We have seen amazing beneficial changes in the Kurwongbah electorate brought about by a Palaszczuk Labor government. Our local community's future is looking much brighter with this budget that is focused on good jobs, better services and our great lifestyle here in Queensland. Madam Deputy Speaker, the Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

When it comes to the rest of Queensland, Speaker, the future is equally bright.

Renewable energy

I want to highlight some of our achievements on renewable energy today. Since 2015, we've put 50 projects on the books. We've invested over \$10 billion and through operational and committed projects we've added 7000 plus jobs and over 5700 extra mega watts in capacity across Queensland.

We're well on track for our targets of 50% renewable energy by 2030, net zero by 2050, and a climate positive Olympic Games in 2032.

Housing

On housing Speaker, I want to echo the Treasurer's comments about how great it is—and how important it is—to have a dedicated housing Minister at the Commonwealth level.

Queenslanders are feeling pressures in the housing market like never before—from increasing costs, both to buy and to rent, to a lack of supply of available homes and delays in building supply and Labor chains.

Federal Labor's \$10 billion Housing Australia Future Fund will build 30,000 new social and affordable housing properties in its first five years.

The Federal fund will complement our innovative Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative, announced last year as part of our Housing and Homelessness Action Plan. This budget allocates \$1.9 billion to continue our work on this initiative creating new pathways for our government to work with a range of partners—from private developers to landlords, to other levels of government—to fast track supply of social and affordable housing for Queenslanders in need.

Education cont.

Speaker, coming back to education and we know that the first five years of a child's life are critical to their development. That's why we've increased funding, to reduce out of pocket expenses for families, better support children with disabilities and introduce need based funding across Queensland kindies.

In the Kurwongbah electorate, our Kindy Uplift Pilot program saw Burpengary, Lawnton and Jinibara kindergartens benefit from over \$73,000 in available State Government funding for this calendar year. And in an expansion of the Kindy Uplift program, 12 early childhood care services across my electorate will be eligible for between \$3000 and \$25,000 each in State Government funding for kindy programs from next year. Great news for local families.

And Speaker, our bonza budget for education also includes:

- improving internet access at all Queensland state schools;
- \$80.6 million over 3 years for a new resourcing model to support students with disability in our schools;
- \$13.3 million in 2022—23 to expand the Share the Dignity in Queensland Schools initiative to fund the installation of Dignity Vending Machines in all state schools, outdoor education centres and student residential facilities;
- a \$100 million Go for Gold grant program to enable schools to build high-end sporting infrastructure;
- and
- a \$20 million funding grant program for the construction and renovation of playgrounds and tuckshops.


I look forward to sharing details of the last two programs with my local schools as they become available—I know there will be keen interest!

Conclusion

Speaker, I am proud to be part of the Palaszczuk Labor Government. We're leading the nation on jobs growth, economic growth, retail trade growth, merchandise export growth and business investment growth.

And we've delivered a budget surplus while still investing in good jobs, better services, and a great lifestyle for Queenslanders.

Speaker, I commend this Bill to the House.

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (9.00 pm): This budget is the latest in a long line of good Labor budgets that fails the Sunshine Coast, the latest in a long line of budgets built on a foundation of broken promises, deception and new taxes. This is a budget that fails to deliver rail for Beerwah to Maroochydore, a budget that fails to deliver more police for residents of Sippy Downs and Mountain Creek who live with the constant scourge of young criminals stealing their cars and breaking into their homes. This is a budget that fails to deliver for the motorists who sit in traffic every day on the Mooloolah River interchange. It is a budget that fails to deliver for the 40 per cent of patients languishing on a ramp at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital because of chronic issues with the ER and ambulance ramping.

This is a budget that fails to deliver more teachers for schools like Mountain Creek State High School and Chancellor State College which are bursting at the seams and barely keeping up. It is a budget that ignores the Sunshine Coast and this budget is just the latest proof that Labor does not listen and that Labor does not care about the Sunshine Coast. It does not care about the 360,000 people who call the Sunshine Coast home, and they deserve better.

The Sunshine Coast is one of the fastest growing parts of Queensland. Places like Caloundra South and Palmview are growing at a phenomenal rate as new arrivals from places like Sydney and Melbourne flock here for our amazing lifestyle and tight-knit community. However, critical infrastructure like roads and rail is not keeping up with this growth. There has been a complete failure to plan for the population growth we are experiencing and, sadly, based on what we see in this budget it appears that this state government has given up even trying.

In years past I have been complimentary of the Minister for Transport and Main Roads because in the past he has been willing to work with me for the betterment of my community. In years gone past the minister listened and he promised to deliver essential upgrades for critical bottlenecks such as the Mooloolaba Road-Sugar Road intersection, but not this year. This year funding for every major road project in my electorate has been cut in half. Projects have been put on the go-slow or they have been cut.

If we use the Sugar Road-Mooloolaba Road intersection as an example, this time last year the minister said that in the 2022-23 year we would have \$6.3 million spent on actually upgrading this dangerous and congested bottleneck. After years of planning, works were supposed to start this month. However, what we have seen in this budget is a cut—a cut in half to \$3.5 million. When will works start? Thousands of motorists are stuck in congestion at this heavily used intersection every single day. I have been fighting for this important upgrade since before I was elected in 2017. I was promised, as were the Sunshine Coast residents, that shovels would be in the ground on this project by now, but construction workers are nowhere to be seen and cars remain in daily traffic jams.

Just like the Sugar Road-Mooloolaba Road intersection, the Mooloolah River interchange has also had its funding cut in half this financial year. Minister Bailey has told local media that it has been delayed due to 'weather, COVID and flu outbreaks'. That has to be the worst excuse I have heard since 'the dog ate my homework'. How can the weather, COVID and flu impact a project that has not even started?

While I am on the subject of roads, where is the Bruce Highway connection road at Palmview? More than 5,000 residents in one of the nation's fastest growing areas are still waiting. The state government directed that this road would be built and opened by the end of this month. That still has not happened and it is clearly not going to happen. More than 5,000 of my constituents are still stuck using one road in and one out. I was hopeful that the roads minister would intervene, that we would see funding in this year's budget, but there is not a cent. It is simply not good enough.

I expect the minister to ensure the Bruce Highway connection road gets built sooner rather than later. The only thing stopping it is bureaucratic incompetence from both the state government and the Sunshine Coast Council. It is time for the minister to do his job and to deliver the road that Palmview locals have been promised. It is just another example of how this Labor state government has forgotten about the Sunshine Coast.

There are no roads and no rail for the Sunshine Coast. It beggars belief that this Labor state government did not take up the fifty-fifty funding to build heavy rail from Beerwah to Maroochydore. An amount of \$1.67 billion was allocated by the LNP federal government and it is being honoured by the newly elected Labor federal government, but did this Labor state government see fit to work collaboratively to deliver passenger rail from Beerwah to Maroochydore? No! Who knows if we will ever see that money offered again. It is almost laughable that what this transport minister did commit to was another business case. What a waste of taxpayers' money. It is nothing more than a pathetic attempt to stall.

The case to build heavy rail on the Sunshine Coast is clear. It has been investigated and it has proven worthy. It is a much needed piece of infrastructure, especially ahead of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Every man and his dog can see the need except this state government. In fact, when she was the transport minister the Premier committed to having this built by 2020 and we are two years past that date.

I am proud to be a member of a party that will build heavy rail on the Sunshine Coast. Only an LNP state government will provide a better future for the Sunshine Coast with this region-shaping project. It is what I and my Sunshine Coast LNP colleagues have been fighting for. In 2024 Sunshine Coast residents will have a choice: a future under this tired, corrupt state government who ignore the Sunshine Coast, or a future where a Crisafulli LNP state government listens and delivers game-changing projects like heavy passenger rail for all Sunshine Coast residents.

Just like roads and rail, the provision of state government services is falling behind in the Buderim electorate and right across the Sunshine Coast as our population swells. Every week I speak to locals who are justifiably concerned about crime in the area, especially the rise of youth crime, which is rampant across the state. They are concerned about a lack of police presence and whether help will arrive when they call. I am in regular contact with the officer in charge of Sippy Downs Police Station and I know that he and his staff are working hard to prevent crime and to respond to incidents. However, the simple fact is that our police can only do so much with the resources they have. We need more police on the front line keeping families and their belongings safe. The community is sick and tired of cars being stolen and houses being broken into. Police are sick and tired of arresting the same young offenders. My constituents and all Queenslanders deserve to feel safe, and I call on the government to make the provision of more police on the Sunshine Coast a priority.

I turn now to health. The Sunshine Coast holds the unwanted title of the worst performing health service for elective surgery wait times in all of Queensland. Almost half of all elective surgery patients at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital are not being treated within the clinically recommended time frame. The latest stats show that over 3,600 people are waiting for their surgery. Hundreds of patients, many in my electorate, are waiting in pain far longer than they should for the treatment that they deserve. The specialist outpatient waitlist, or the waitlist for the waitlist, is not much better.

Last week I met with a Palmview grandfather who is housebound due to his deteriorating eyesight. He has cataracts and despite being a category 2 patient, the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service have told him he will not be getting a specialist appointment until August next year. He should get one within 90 days. He tells me he sits and he cries and he does not know how he will go

on. What has Queensland Health come to when a treatment administered for not-for-profit organisations like the Fred Hollows Foundation in Third World countries cannot be accessed in a timely manner at our state-of-the-art hospitals?

I feel for people like Darrell and the hundreds of others just like him on the Sunshine Coast. Whenever someone like Darrell asks for help, I fight my hardest to get them the treatment they deserve, but they should not have to come to their local member just to get the health care they should have available to them. Every Queenslanders should have access to health care without having to wait months or even years longer than they should.

Despite the government's rhetoric in this budget, there is no significant funding to address the long waitlist at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital, a facility which is only five years old and is one of the worst performing in the state. There is nothing in this budget to fix the issue of ambulance ramping, which sits at 40 per cent. Almost one in two patients who arrive in an ambulance at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital ED are left in the care of paramedics for more than 30 minutes. Frequently, patients wait for hours. It is not what our hardworking paramedics signed up for. They want to be back on the road helping the next person in need. This ramping crisis means that an ambulance might not arrive in time to help a Mountain Creek grandmother who has had a fall, a Buderim boy having an asthma attack or a Sippy Downs mum in labour. Queenslanders expect better from their health system. My LNP colleagues and I have been proposing real solutions for many months now. More beds, better triaging, the release of real-time data and putting doctors and nurses back in charge of hospitals will go a long way to fixing the Queensland health crisis.

The last two years have been marked by considerable hardship for small and family business. In fact, this time last year much of Queensland was just seven days away from another COVID lockdown. At that time, industry stakeholders and the LNP had to fight to get support for business, and the government's failure to anticipate the needs of small and family business was all the evidence Queenslanders need to know that this Labor state government either do not understand or do not care about small and family business. With this budget the state government show that they still do not understand the needs of small and family business. Despite assertions to the opposite in the budget papers and in the brief contributions from the minister and her Labor colleagues, this budget sees a cut in the support for small and family business, with a paltry \$1 million allocated to support small and family business and to support the Mentoring for Growth program in the next financial year. How is that a genuine commitment to small business?

On training and skills, this budget writes large the fact that this Labor state government is failing. By the government's own estimation, this budget shows it has failed to meet all but one measure of effectiveness. Once again, the state government has failed to reach its apprenticeship targets. Apprenticeship completions in 2021-22 fell short by over 1,200. Over the last seven years this state government has fallen short by 14,400 apprenticeship completions. Imagine what another 14,000 apprentices would mean for Queensland at this time.

With completed apprenticeships below target and with no economic modelling on the economic impact of having fewer qualified tradespersons, Queensland is experiencing a skilled and unskilled labour shortage leaving the entire state with too many job vacancies. In fact, for many of the industries that the state government like to trumpet, employment numbers are down. In manufacturing, in agriculture and tourism, jobs are down. If I focus just on the Wide Bay, for example, the number of people employed as metal fitters and machinists is down from 2,207 in 2015 to 896 last month. That is a reduction of nearly 60 per cent over this term of government. Remember that Wide Bay is where this state government like to crow about building more trains, and presumably metalworkers are an important part of that.

Those opposite might think I am being selective about the data here, but I am not. Most regions have seen a reduction in the type of jobs that this government would say they want to create more of. Jobs in manufacturing, agriculture, education and tourism are all down. Perhaps more worrying is the fact that the policies of this state government are not producing the skilled workforce that employers need in order to grow. That is why we are seeing a reduction in jobs in many key areas. Employers simply cannot get the workforce they need so they are required to automate, move or reduce production just to remain sustainable.


The state government like to crow about training commencements, but they are silent on training completions. That is the key part. The SDS is deliberately framed to focus on competency completions, not qualifications completions, but the reality is that many jobs require a full qualification to be completed in order to make someone employable. While it is great that the unemployment rate is low, I believe that we are moving into a period when workforce availability is going to become more of an issue than

unemployment. In such an environment Queensland businesses need more than ever government policy that is focused on delivering the skilled workers they need. Pouring funding into a training system that does not align with the current and future needs of employment is about as useful as rearranging the deck chairs on the *Titanic*. That is why it is somewhat alarming that the government is only now committing to develop a Queensland workforce strategy. Only now in this budget has the government thought about a workforce strategy, but I guess it is a start and I look forward to holding the government to account as it delivers it.

I also acknowledge the commitment in this budget for a number of schools and school projects in my electorate. We have upgrades to the special school and the primary school at Palmview. More particularly, I would like to speak to the new halls at Chancellor and Buderim Mountain state schools. Both of these have been desperately needed as they are at some of the biggest schools in the state. Chancellor has 3½ thousand students. I appreciate the government's commitment to get these halls built. More particularly, I would like to acknowledge the P&Cs, which are contributing a considerable amount of their own funding so that these halls can be built—over \$500,000 for both of those schools. On behalf of the community I would like to acknowledge the government's contribution but also the contribution from the P&Cs.

I will finish as I started. This is a budget built on a foundation of deception. There is an old saying: tell a mistruth once and all your truths become questionable. How can Queenslanders ever trust anything that this slippery Treasurer says, when 26 times he reassured them that there would be no new or increased taxes? We see three new or increased taxes in this budget alone. Queenslanders deserve better.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Before I call the member for Buderim, I appreciate that it is getting late but the general volume is starting to increase. I ask members to keep it down.

 **Mr SMITH** (Bundaberg—ALP) (9.16 pm): How good is it to once again be in this House talking about an outstanding Labor budget by an outstanding Palaszczuk Labor government? This is a budget that delivers for regional Queensland, a budget that delivers for all Queenslanders and a budget that delivers for the people of Bundaberg—so much so that the local media are even calling it the 'billion dollar Bundy budget'. That is how much this budget delivers.

What a fantastic budget it is, with a record health investment for Queenslanders. There is some \$23.6 billion for all of Queensland. We are investing in mental health. We know how important it is to invest in mental health for Queenslanders generally and especially following the pandemic. What about the investment into our frontline health workers—those heroes who every single day are on the front line, showing up to keep us safe in our hospitals, especially with what they had to face in Bundaberg over the Christmas-New Year period? When COVID was running throughout Bundaberg they put their lives on the line in many different ways. They worked tirelessly and as hard as they could. We thank those heroes of our Bundaberg community.

What about the investment of over \$9.7 billion over six years for new hospitals and hospital expansions? How good is it that the new Bundaberg Hospital is a part of that \$9.7 billion? There is \$1.2 billion to deliver the new Bundaberg Hospital. It is the hospital that our community needs and deserves. I have been so proud to stand with my community and all of the health workers in the hospital to fight hard to get this money for a \$1.2 billion world-class hospital.

During the election campaign in 2020 the Premier and I promised a new hospital to the people of Bundaberg. Every day I have worked hard to deliver that money in the budget. How fantastic is it to know—I know that the member for Gregory will appreciate this—that early works for our new world-class hospital will start this calendar year? That is a promise we will deliver on for the people of Bundaberg—to start the early works this year. We will see construction in the second half of 2027. How fantastic is that? What that means for our community is an additional 121 overnight beds, more emergency department spaces, more patient transit lounges, an increase in day beds and more services at level 5. That is what we want: level 5 services. This will be a world-class health facility for our world-class health staff. Our world-class health staff deserve the best health facility. That is what the Palaszczuk government is going to provide for the whole Bundaberg community.

How fantastic is it that we will have homegrown health workers in that new hospital? There will be kids going through our primary schools, such as Norville State School, who will then move on to a school like Bundaberg State High School, Kepnock State High School or Bundaberg North State High School. They can then do their Bachelor of Medicine at CQU and go into our new world-class hospital. That is delivering for the Bundaberg community, delivering for our young people and delivering for our

health system. This budget will create 3,960 construction jobs. This is the party of the workers creating jobs for the workers. That is what this Palaszczuk government is all about. Let us talk about Paradise Dam. Let us talk about those people in our community who I respect so much, our local growers.

Ms Camm interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Order! Member for Whitsunday.

Mr SMITH: I am proud to stand with our local growers. So many of them, even though they might be on big farms, are small family businesses at heart. It has been a great thrill of mine to listen to them and advocate and fight alongside them to deliver that \$1.2 billion commitment—that is, \$600 million from the Palaszczuk government—and thank you to the minister who is in the chamber—and \$600 million from federal Labor.

Ms Camm interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Whitsunday.

Mr SMITH: That means that the most important agricultural and horticultural investment in the Bundaberg region is 100 per cent Labor funded. That is the Labor Party looking after the growers in our community.

Mr Millar interjected.

Mr SMITH: I hear those opposite mention Keith Pitt. The minister is in the chamber and he remembers our announcement. Keith Pitt did not know what to say when the media went to him because his own party did not talk to him about Paradise Dam. He did not know what was happening. It goes to show that after the federal election even his own party thinks he is a former shadow of himself.

Ms Camm interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Whitsunday will cease her interjections.

Mr SMITH: Let us talk about the new Bundaberg TAFE agriculture and horticulture centre and the \$2.6 million to finish the work by 2023, meaning that we will have young people in the Bundaberg community—

Ms Camm interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Whitsunday, you are warned under the standing orders. I have asked you repeatedly to cease your interjections.

Mr SMITH: The young people of Bundaberg will be able to learn agriculture and horticulture skills at the new Bundy TAFE agriculture and horticulture centre that will be completed next year. How fantastic is that? Again it is Labor looking after the growers and our agriculture and horticulture industry.


Let us talk about education and the \$8 million investment in Bundaberg schools. The minister is here. She does fantastic work for all of Queensland, but especially Bundaberg. There is \$1 million for the Bundaberg Central State School security fence. That is something they have been fighting hard for. I want to show my appreciation to the P&C and the principal who have done such good work. I was at their sports day the other week. It is a fantastic school. It is a small school, but it is a proud school and they are proud of that \$1 million in the budget. There is \$500,000 for Bundaberg North State High School, \$400,000 for Bundaberg South State School, \$400,000 for Bundaberg State High School and a whopping \$3.9 million for the great Kepnock State High School. I declare that I did teach at Kepnock for a bit. I know they will be happy with the \$3.9 million in this budget.

This is a budget that delivers for health, housing, education and jobs. I was a history teacher so I like to talk about history; those on the other side might not. When we talk about jobs do we remember the 14,000 public servants being marched out the door by the LNP? I know that the member for Rockhampton would remember that. Those opposite talk about a health crisis, but 4,400 health workers were marched out the door. In the Wide Bay 345 health workers were told, 'See you later', by the LNP. 'See you later', said Campbell Newman with his good mate the Leader of the Opposition, David Crisafulli, the member for Broadwater. Remember when they all sat around the table and drew a line through the jobs of mums and dads who just wanted to work hard and provide for their families? In the Wide Bay area 120 nurses and midwives were marched out the door. We heard from those opposite about maternity wards. What about the fact that we would have had fewer nurses and midwives under an LNP government.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SMITH: I hear them say I was not even there, but those nurses were there, those midwives were there, and I have talked to them and they do not forget. I go into the hospital and I talk to them. They do not forget. I know the paramedics do not forget either.

We know that if the LNP do not support the coal royalty changes in this budget they will have to find \$1.2 billion in cuts. As I mentioned previously, in our plan there is \$1.2 billion for the Bundaberg Hospital. Does that mean that the LNP are not going to back in the new Bundaberg Hospital? The Palaszczuk Labor government will deliver that hospital for the people of Bundaberg. We know that the LNP has a mentality of cut, sack and sell. Meanwhile, the Palaszczuk Labor government has a record of delivering for the regions, delivering for all Queenslanders and delivering a billion dollar Bundy budget.

 **Mr BENNETT** (Burnett—LNP) (9.25 pm): I do not share the enthusiasm for the budget that the member for Bundaberg does—surprise, surprise! I want to give the House an update on the purple bin program that has been in the parliament now for a couple of months. It started last year. To date another \$500 has been raised for domestic violence watches and trackers. If members want to get behind a charity, this is a good one to back.

In relation to health, the budget talks about new beds across Queensland from 2024 to 2028. We know locally there is \$20 million for the early works package, but I have concerns about the lengthy delays and the delivery, with the promises of funding potentially going over two election cycles before anyone will be seen in the new hospital. Locally we know the gravity of the government's terrible record on health, trying to gloss over the worst ambulance ramping and wait times in the state. I am concerned that no acknowledgement of the failures has been forthcoming. Thinking that just throwing money at it will fix the problem is dangerous. We see health promises and commitments locally. Local residents know this government has no ability to deliver these solutions. The crisis in health in Agnes Water and Childers has not been addressed in the budget and it is in dire need of attention to make sure that those residents get the services they expect and deserve.

After visiting other east coast states recently and seeing what great work and significant investment other governments, both Labor and the LNP, are making to try to address the housing crisis, I was devastated on behalf of many Queenslanders and those most vulnerable, to see no new money to build social housing in addition to the investment fund announced last year. I raise concerns with this government's attempts to gloss over their failures in finding solutions to the housing crisis and reports recently proving what we have been saying for seven years: we are spending less per person than every other state and territory—half of what Western Australia and South Australia are spending.

The housing crisis, the failure to address chronic shortages and failures to find alternative delivery options has created the tragic reality that many of the most vulnerable, including women, are spending up to six months in refuges. While 50,000 Queenslanders are looking for leadership and solutions, this budget exposes expenditure on social housing will fall from \$502 million down to \$441 million. The housing crisis has developed over the last seven years due to the failure to partner with the private sector and the failure to unlock the government's land bank, bringing more land to the construction sector to build the homes people are desperate to obtain. If we accept the government's claims they have built only a thousand new bedrooms, the crisis deepens with the reckless selling off of properties by this government—nearly 600 dwellings, not beds, sold—so we have a net decline.

We need more tradies in Queensland, as the member for Buderim mentioned. As a previous builder I have trained many apprentices, and I am horrified to think that the completions, which are an important part of training and development, are down by 1,200 and, without wishing to repeat it, 14,400 apprentices have failed to progress into the workforce. We should be absolutely appalled at the crisis that is unfolding in the trades sector.

Queenslanders are being hit with the pain of higher power bills. The state's energy assets will siphon more than \$1 billion back into Treasury. Government owned corporations are being used as cash cows. I know many residents are asking: why, if the government owns the energy assets, do they not have better control over these bills?

An important part of a functioning community is the strength of its local government. Since the government reduced the budget for the Works for Queensland program seven years ago, we have seen diminished services being provided to our region. Over the forward estimates, there is only \$190 million remaining in that program. Councils will not be able to support 26,000 workers given that 40 per cent funding cut. The cuts continue to our local governments with the budget reflecting a 60 per cent reduction in available funding to Bundaberg and Gladstone regional councils. Funding to maintain our important local government road networks has seen no increase since 2015. It is bewildering why local government roads are not being maintained as they are an important part of our networks. An important funding stream to assist our councils deliver the Building Our Regions program is being reduced from \$30 million to \$19 million.

The region I am privileged to represent has a proud history and a bright future, especially in agriculture. Farmers have had plenty thrown at them by this government. While this budget was an opportunity to truly reflect the importance of the sector, unfortunately opportunities to develop more technology based solutions for farm productivity and sustainability that support environmental benefits have been ignored. On the back of funding cuts, industry-led programs such as the Smartcane BMP or best management practice programs are being axed. My area relies heavily on sugar cane and other horticultural products and it is an insult to the agricultural sector that those best management practice programs, which do so much, are being cut. I do sympathise with the industry and we will look for a solution.

Water and water security are vital to my region and I am extremely concerned about a real lack of commitment on this issue. We have seen \$30-odd million for an early-works package, but how slow can we go on the restoration of Paradise Dam? For years construction crews have been tearing down the dam. Surely we do not need to go through another planning and delay phase? Let us get on and rebuild Paradise Dam.

Over recent years, my region has experienced bushfires, particularly in our protected estates, many of which should have been preventable if the government had resourced better management. In this budget we needed to conserve the biosecurity of our state. Whether it is out-of-control weeds, pests or better fire mitigation, we need to do things differently. Engagement with traditional owners and allowing stock grazing permits in state forests would make a difference, but over the years we have seen those things cut. We have to ensure that fire mitigation, particularly in our protected estates, becomes a reality.

I want to talk about some positives in the budget—surprise, surprise—as there are some announcements that will benefit our communities. I remind the House that in 2019 we announced policy reforms to extend support to young people aged up to 21 years who leave care. From 2023-24, carers will continue to receive allowances for 19- to 21-year-olds remaining in foster and kinship care.

The investment to support the development of respectful relationships education materials is very welcomed. We know that we have to do more to engage with young people. We need to understand the education programs that support forming respectful relationships. We must ensure that the allocation of \$363 million over five years does respond to the first report of the Queensland Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce.

I am encouraged to see reflected in the budget the work and recommendations of the Community Support and Services Committee following our inquiry into social isolation and loneliness. I note the chair of the committee is in the chamber. I congratulate all the members of the committee for their work on that inquiry. The budget allocates \$21.9 million as part of a bigger funding allocation over four years to strengthen the community and social services sector. Elevating the role and functions of neighbourhood and community centres to support the delivery of services was overwhelmingly endorsed by all members of the bipartisan committee. As we travelled around the state, we heard constantly about the lack of funding and support for neighbourhood centres. There will be \$51 million to increase neighbourhood and community centres' base operational funding, which is great. There will be \$9.3 million for the neighbourhood and Community Connect worker program and \$39 million for the construction of new neighbourhood centres.

However, there is a caveat because for a decade I have been advocating for Discovery Coast residents who really deserve a neighbourhood centre. The Discovery Coast has a population of 5,000. The funding is disproportionate when we look at where neighbourhood centres are being constructed. However, there is money in the budget, which has to be acknowledged. On the back of the committee's report on social isolation and loneliness, the additional funding to support neighbourhood centres is very welcome.

The 2022-23 budget allocates \$51.7 million to provide for infrastructure and systems to support children, young people and families and to prevent and respond to crime, violence, abuse and neglect. Those are things that we should all be working towards every year.

Tourism is re-emerging with a vengeance. We really need a long-term plan for tourism in this state. We had expected the Tourism Industry Reference Panel's 'next steps plan' to be released. There is no major increase in funding for Tourism and Events Queensland. Every member knows the value of tourism to their regions and we know how important special events are. I see this as a missed opportunity. You know the state is laden with debt when you see recommendations to potentially introduce a tourism levy. Slugging visitors who visit our national parks is not the answer. I suggest that removing bureaucratic impediments and government red tape is a solution that will save operators and

businesses a lot of money and should be done before we put some sort of tax on visitors to Queensland. I agree that the industry needs to be bold and courageous, but taxing everything that is not tied down is not a solution; it is a lazy, predictable and ever-increasing practice.


In addressing the issues of future liabilities, debt continues to grow uncontrolled and the government continues to borrow, leaving \$140 billion worth of problems for future Queenslanders. We are already paying \$2.9 billion in interest payments each and every year. Since 2015 in this state, debt has risen 80 per cent. There has been a lot of posturing around taxing businesses after promising not to. However, the government's new payroll tax levy will affect small and family businesses that will have to pass on that increased tax burden to everyday Queenslanders, which is particularly harsh in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. Already we have seen Queenslanders slugged with the most expensive vehicle registrations in the nation and, more recently, the highest speeding fines and infringement costs are being imposed on the most vulnerable.

An honourable member: It's not compulsory, you know.

Mr BENNETT: I think under Labor governments it is compulsory to tax us into oblivion. My point is that we need to try to be more efficient with what we have. We have to try to operate in an environment that does not create all these unnecessary burdens

Mr Saunders interjected.

Mr BENNETT: I take the interjection from the member for Maryborough. I would point out that I think there are some good things in the budget, but as we go forward we have to remember that big-taxing governments like this Labor government will have to pay the piper at some point in time. I hope it is not my grandkids who have to pick up the tab.

 **Ms LUI** (Cook—ALP) (9.36 pm): I rise to speak in support of the appropriation bills 2022. In doing so, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Treasurer, the Hon. Cameron Dick, the Premier and the Deputy Premier for delivering another outstanding budget for the people of Queensland. This budget is a good solid budget that aims to improve the lives of all people, from metropolitan areas to the outback and from regional towns to remote communities.

It is hard to believe that, just over two years ago, the world's economy came to a standstill. There is no doubt that the height of the COVID-19 pandemic placed enormous pressure on the global economy and Queensland certainly felt the economic impact. Therefore, when it comes to this budget I have only one word—'solid'—because even after our most economically challenged times Queensland has come out solid in its quest to protect Queenslanders and recover our economy.

I cannot begin to imagine what it would take to put a budget like this together. With a vast and diverse electorate such as Cook, where do you even begin? I took one look at the budget papers for Cook and felt extremely proud to be a member of the Palaszczuk Labor government and even prouder to represent a government that delivers for all Queenslanders, no matter where they live. In my electorate that is from Mareeba on the Tablelands to Mossman and Port Douglas on the coast, Cape York and all the way up north to the Torres Strait Islands. This budget is delivering far and wide.

The 2022-23 budget delivers for health, education and jobs—all of which are at the forefront of this government's priorities. There is no denying the Palaszczuk government's support for vital services. The record announcement for health funding to better improve the lives of people is nothing short of amazing. I am thrilled with the health budget for Cook as we will see millions of dollars going towards the replacement, redevelopment, upgrade and maintenance of our health service infrastructure across the electorate. We will deliver a brand new primary healthcare centre on Mer Island in the Torres Strait with \$5 million out of a \$7 million total spend for the replacement of the existing facility. This has been a long time coming for the Mer Island community and I look forward to delivering that vital infrastructure to meet the ongoing health needs of the community.

The Weipa Integrated Health Service has received a major overhaul over the last couple of years at least, with a new birthing suite, operational cost car park and modification of their new CT scanner. In this budget, we will invest an additional \$800,000 to rectify noncompliance and redundancy requirements of the chiller and heating, ventilation and air-conditioning.

Wujal Wujal Primary Health Care Centre will receive \$315,000 for the supply, installation and certification of electrical works for body protected area compliance. Bamaga Hospital will receive \$150,000 for rectification works to staff accommodation.

This government continues to back health in the region and, despite the significant amount of dollars already spent, this government continues to invest additional funds into regional and remote communities to keep Queenslanders strong and healthy. In the Torres Strait, we will deliver \$11 million

out of a \$50.7 million total spend to support the redevelopment of the hospital and the separate primary healthcare centre, part of the priority capital program in the Advancing Queensland health infrastructure program. While there has been a significant amount of work already done, I look forward in the near future to visiting the Thursday Island Hospital with the Minister for Health when work is completed.

While infrastructure is important, ongoing maintenance to keep our infrastructure in top condition is of utmost importance. The Mareeba Hospital will receive \$500,000 for the delivery of upgrades to mechanical and electrical systems. As the member for Maryborough said earlier, if I were to list everything I received in this budget we would be here all night.

Education is the key to success and every child, no matter where they live in Queensland, deserves access to good quality education. Schools in Cook will benefit from a massive boost to enhance our children's learning environment so that we continue to nurture and support educational outcomes for future generations.

On the Tablelands, this budget will deliver electronic security at Mareeba High School and Mareeba State School. Additional funds have been committed to Mareeba State School for a school security fence. Julatten State School will receive \$149,000 to deliver a sport courts shade structure. In Cape York, schools in Aurukun, Kowanyama, Laura and Lockhart River will be able to deliver administration upgrades, planning for hall renewals, an upgraded bore and irrigation system and enhancement of the administration block. I am absolutely delighted that over \$2 million will go towards delivering additional classrooms for the growing Western Cape College in Weipa.

I am extremely pleased to see that 47 schools will receive additional funding for maintenance and minor works in schools. I know that my schools will welcome this announcement to address some of their immediate concerns to maintain and deliver minor works. This budget will help schools to address maintenance issues and build pride in our local schools.

Local government plays an important role in communities. I value the close partnership with local councils in my electorate to deliver vital projects in the best interests of our community. Works for Queensland is one of the most successful programs to be delivered, receiving rave reviews from council. Councils in my electorate—and there are many—will benefit from over \$10 million in Works for Queensland grants. I am absolutely delighted to see more support for local councils to deliver infrastructure projects, supporting local jobs.

I acknowledge the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Minister Bailey, and his department for their strong support for better and improved roads in Cook. Ongoing roads funding means that we continue to improve and maintain road conditions to keep locals and visitors to the region safe.

I am pleased that in this budget there is funding for a planning study for the Mareeba-Dimbulah Road. Locals have been calling for years to deter heavy vehicles from using the main street in Mareeba. I am proud to say that the Palaszczuk government is committing vital funds to explore options for the future.

This is a truly outstanding budget. It delivers for communities right across the Cook electorate. It supports infrastructure, services, economic growth and local jobs but it also supports the visions and aspirations for community to deliver big things in the electorate. I am referring to tourism and the opportunities that come with that.

The Speaker has reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

In addition to all the roads funding to Far North Queensland, I am pleased that this budget will deliver bitumen seal and drainage for the Jardine Ferry Road and sections one, two and now three, of the Aurukun Road. We will replace the causeway in Pomppuraaw Road, Colman River and support works to seal and improve intersections between Mossman to Daintree.

What I am most excited about is that I'll be able to say that I delivered the two very first roundabouts on Thursday Island, in the Torres Strait even. This budget will support the construction of two roundabouts on Douglas and Hasting Street and Blackhall and Douglas Street.

We are a government that works closely with communities to support their aspirations for industry growth and development for the future. \$800,000 in this budget will help to deliver the Thursday Island Tourism Information and Business Centre. There is still so much to see and do in the Torres Strait and the Tourism Information and Business Centre will definitely help to showcase our beautiful region.


In Cape York, we will invest \$225,000 for the Kowanyama Visitor Camping and Tours Pilot to deliver and pilot unique eco-tourism products and culturally significant experiences for the Kowanyama region, part of the Growing Indigenous Tourism in Queensland Fund. The Olkola Cultural Knowledge Centre will benefit from \$100,000 for the delivery of a multi-dimensional, unique tourism product and culturally significant experience for Cape York Olkola Country, also part of the Growing Indigenous Tourism in Queensland Fund.

The Ranger Program is another area of significance for First Nations people—it supports local jobs helps to deliver vital environmental protection work in the region. With over \$7 million in funding, the Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program will be able to continue their important work in Laura, Wujal Wujal, Shelburne Bay, Archer Point, Mareeba and Palmerville Station, Melsonby, Olkola, Port Stewart and Normanby Station.

Last but not least, Splash Parks are back. This budget will deliver splash parks on Thursday Island, Douglas Shire and Mossman. Not too long ago, the nearest splash park to any of my communities was in Cairns. I have always wanted to deliver something like this for my communities and since I've been elected in 2017, we continue to deliver and create these fun, family friendly spaces for families to enjoy no matter where they live. Cairns is no longer the nearest community where my families can access splash parks because we've delivered across Cape York and soon in Mareeba Shire, Douglas Shire and the Torres Strait.

So Speaker, when those opposite carry on about this government not doing enough, that is just not true. This budget speaks for all Queenslanders and those in the length and breadth of my electorate of Cook.

I commend the bill to the house.

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (9.44 pm): I rise to make my contribution to the budget. First of all, budgets are about a government setting its priorities and making choices with taxpayers' money as to where it should be spent and what it should support. We need to understand that the fiscal balance is still negative \$2.4 billion and that net borrowings of \$4 billion will come out of this budget. The \$10 billion revenue windfall has been met with a \$7 billion increase in expenses. The government was delivered a spectacular \$5 billion boom in coal royalties and a further \$1 billion from petroleum royalties of, obviously, gas. We need to look at those industries and what has happened to them. As they slip down the Fraser Institute ranking, these big international companies may not find Queensland as attractive in the future as they have in the past. That would be a real shame for these industries in our area.

Government debt has increased. That means that we will pay more interest. The interest is forecast to get to \$2.9 billion per annum—and that is before some of the rises come. To put that into context, the hospital at Toowoomba this year will get \$20 million out of a \$1.3 billion fund. At the same time, the interest bill we will pay on the debt that we have would have funded the entire hospital this year. In the future, we would be able to build two hospitals from the debt we will repay.

Whilst it is a very small start, it is still a start. It is good that the government made the choice to build the hospital. The people of Toowoomba desperately need it. It will add much needed new beds. I am disappointed at the amount of funding there this year, because that means it will take longer to get the project completed. Some 1.5 per cent of this amount is not much of the funding required for the hospital.

Let me move on. Let us talk about education and the different issues that have been affected in my electorate. First and foremost, I very much thank the minister for recognising dyslexia and for providing funds for dyslexia. Not everybody may know, but I am a dyslectic reading from a very badly laid out mind map at the moment because reading text is difficult for me. To have that support for young children in school is incredibly valuable and is something that should be recognised and supported.

The funding for West Special School and for the Highfields administration block is included to complete those two projects. That is a good thing. There are a couple of things I would love to see. There are some buckets of money available. I will be working with my communities to tap into those buckets of money. With the traffic around Stuart Street at the Mount Lofty campus of Toowoomba State High School, there now is definitely a very busy junction, with buses, children crossing and lots of commuter traffic. At the moment, students literally run across the road when there is a small gap in the traffic. Out the front of Wilsonton State High School it is getting more and more chaotic, even though that school has done a really good job and is growing. At the junction of Richmond Drive and North Street we really need to fund a scramble crossing.

One disappointment for me is that one of my hardest working schools, Toowoomba North State School—it has a lot of Yazidis as new Australians and a lot of First Nations students—has nowhere for students to play inside in the middle of winter. They have to move everything out of their library so they can have a parade. I would really like to see funding for the hall approved for Toowoomba North State School. They have a covered area, but in Toowoomba when the westerly wind blows and it is four degrees it is really not a lot of fun. I do not think it will cost a fortune. The school definitely deserves it. The students definitely deserve to be treated at the same level as those in other schools in our state. There are not many schools, except maybe in the Deputy Speaker's electorate, that get as cold as Toowoomba North in the middle of winter.

Another missed opportunity for me as we see the effects of the cost-of-living crisis and the pressures that people are feeling around that is the investment in crime prevention. In my electorate people's insurances are going up. They are having to invest money in CCTV. They are having to invest

money in security screens. Our aged population are afraid when in their own homes. I have seen vision of people fighting pitched battles at their front doors in an attempt to try to defend their property and stop people from forcing them to hand over their keys. This is completely unacceptable. To hear that this year's increase in police numbers is five—not for Toowoomba but for Queensland—is very disappointing. We need both legislation and resources for the police to get on top of this crime wave and reduce the cost-of-living pressure on people due to them having to invest in their own homes to protect their property and to feel safe.

I will talk a little about social housing. There is funding of \$379,000, I think, to repair all of the social housing issues in my electorate. I am not an expert—and I would be interested in getting a briefing on this—but that seems a very small amount for the maintenance and repair of our social housing. We do have quite a number of homeless people in Toowoomba. One of the problems in Toowoomba is that, unlike some parts of the state, it is cold. In the middle of winter it is really cold.

The council has some responsibility around land supply and the lack thereof, but in the social housing space I certainly think the government could be investing more and supporting more. There are services in Toowoomba that do a good job. We have a good hub. The community work hard with both the charitable and government sectors, but long-term investment in social housing is something that I would like to see prioritised in my community. We are the hub for further western communities. People come to Toowoomba to get services and if they cannot find accommodation they can find themselves homeless pretty quickly. That then causes further problems.

Another thing I would like to talk about is water. Toowoomba needs a long-term water plan. At the moment hundreds of millions of dollars have been put on the table to run a pipeline south of us into the electorate of Deputy Speaker Lister, but we are concerned about the funding and the processing of that water. We are concerned about what that might do to Toowoomba, who will pay for the ongoing upkeep and whether we will be transporting water that has been cleaned. The finer detail of that proposal is going to be very important.

Some \$300 million is an awful lot of money. We should be looking at a longer term vision and what we are going to do on the Darling Downs over the next 20, 30, 40 years. We cannot keep putting more and more straws into Wivenhoe and expect that we are going to be able to supply water in the long term. We will need alternative sources. We should take a comprehensive look at that so we can make favourable decisions.

There are a couple of other missed opportunities in the budget. I see the roads minister in the chamber. I would like him to consider working with the council to gazette a second road to Highfields. The New England Highway becomes incredibly congested in the morning. We are seeing lower speed limits along that highway. It is causing problems in and out of various schools. It is time to at least investigate a potential corridor and protect that corridor from further development. Good planning will make an enormous difference to the community going forward.

I would propose using Old Goombungee Road and Boundary Street. There is already a bridge built over the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing—the Toowoomba Bypass—at Boundary Street. If the road were to simply go across Gowrie Creek and the railway line and connect with Old Goombungee Road that would take people into the back of Highfields and Meringandan—one of the fastest growing areas in our region—and provide access to the west, to the city and to the industrial bases at Charlton and Wilsonton where a lot of people are employed. As well, it would obviously give people who live in the Wilsonton area the ability to head north on a second road without having to go all the way into town. I think we should be looking at that road.

Outside of my electorate, the route travels south. With a little bit of Euston Road it would take people into the back of Westbrook, which is another area that will grow in the future. There will be more land released both at Highfields and Westbrook. These will be growing suburbs in our community going forward. Rather than wait until these areas have grown and the infrastructure is choking, let us gazette the road and protect the corridor and when the triggers are there and there is the budget we can work with the council to get the road built. The most important thing is to protect that second road corridor so that we have a long-term plan for the people of Highfields.

I will go back to our hospital and the \$20 million in funding. There has been a lot of spruiking about the biggest ever health budget. In the same way that the funding for this budget is intergenerational, when the government goes into debt it means that future taxpayers will have to pay that debt off. There is no magic tree. Taxpayers sometime in the future will pay this off. That means our children will be burdened with our debt.

I would suggest that in the future the cost of hospital construction is not going to go down. It seems imminently sensible to me to inject more money sooner and get the hospital underway faster so that we not only get the beds sooner but also save money in the long term. It is strange to me that in the health budget we can only find \$20 million for Toowoomba Hospital, \$20 million for Bundaberg Hospital and \$20 million for Coomera Hospital, but we found \$200 million to lease Wellcamp for a year.

It seems to me that one of the reasons the government has intergenerational debt is because of waste. When governments waste money and carry debt into the future then future generations have to pay for that waste. I do not think that is fair on future generations.

Mr Minnikin interjected.


Mr Bailey interjected.

Mr WATTS: Whilst I appreciate that the shadow minister and the minister are arguing, I am talking about something very serious—that is, the money that my children will have to pay back because of the incompetence and waste of this Labor government. We do not honestly know how much has been invested in Wellcamp. It is a secret. It is not transparent. That is not the way the government should operate.

There are a couple of other things that I will mention quickly before my time runs out. Withdrawing money from the safe night out precincts is a major mistake. This will put pressure on our hardworking police who will now have to resource this out of their regular budget. These are late-night shifts. It will be very difficult for them to do that. This is an industry that I used to work in as a former publican. It has been a great program that both sides of parliament have supported. If someone loses their life because we did have police on the beat because the budget was tightened up in that area it would be a tragedy. I would like the government to reconsider that.

There is some money for alcohol and drug services. We could definitely do with a detox facility in Toowoomba. We have both Teen Challenge and Sunrise Way running very successful programs. A detox facility would be fantastic and is very much needed.

At the end of the day, we are borrowing more than we should. We are wasting money. Future generations will have to pay this back.

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (9.59 pm): I wish to begin by congratulating the Treasurer on another proud Labor budget from our Palaszczuk Labor government. This is a budget that will make a real and positive difference to people's lives right across Queensland, and I could not be more delighted. Nowhere more will that be true than in health and mental health, with an unprecedented investment in our Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan.

We absolutely know that our health system is under pressure. The last few years have brought a perfect storm of factors to strain our health system. Demand was increasing even before the pandemic. We have had staff members off due to COVID, influenza and RSV outbreaks. We have had a lack of overseas health workers available due to borders being shut. Workers have burned out. There has been a GP crisis right across the state from areas like mine to the Far North to Central Queensland and beyond. We have seen an increase in mental health issues, declining rates of health insurance and demand steadily going up due to an ageing population. Our budget is working to address those issues by building more hospitals, more beds and delivering more health services right across Queensland.

One of the centrepieces of our Labor budget is our \$750 million Queensland Cancer Centre at Herston. It is going to be a statewide centre of excellence that will offer every form of high-tech treatment under one roof and it will become the heartbeat of cancer research in Queensland. This new Queensland Cancer Centre is emblematic of Labor values in action.

For me, our most significant budget commitment is the promise our government makes in this budget to Queenslanders experiencing mental illness, to their families, their friends and their carers, and to the dedicated people who work to support them in their recovery every single day. I was so proud of the work our Mental Health Select Committee did to set the stage for this record commitment. It was a genuine pleasure to work in a bipartisan way with committee members. I particularly acknowledge the member for Greenslopes for his work as chair. I acknowledge the really knowledgeable and professional contributions that the member for Moggill was able to bring to the process, as well as all members. The member for Moggill brought unique expertise.

As the committee process played out, it emerged that, whether personally or professionally or through friends or family, almost every single member of the committee had been touched by mental illness in some way. It was a real work of the heart. I was very proud and glad to be part of it. It was a

privilege to hear from Queenslanders right across the state about their experiences of mental illness and Queensland's mental health system. I especially acknowledge the young people who shared their stories with us so bravely and openly. I do not like to say that they were inspiring but they brought tears to the eyes of members of many occasions.

That is why our budget makes such a magnificent commitment of an extra \$1.64 billion over five years for mental health, addiction, substance abuse and suicide, along with just under \$30 million in capital funding. That money will change lives. The funding focuses on rehabilitation care, more community care units, adolescent day programs and step-up step-down services that are all very much needed.

Given how positive the committee process was, I hesitate to reflect on the contributions made by some LNP members today, but I was disappointed particularly by the Leader of the Opposition, who spoke at length about his commitment to Queenslanders' mental health and his belief in the importance of enhancing services in the mental health space. I was listening and I was waiting for the 'but' and right on cue the 'but' came. The Leader of the Opposition wants better mental health services for Queenslanders but, at the end of the day, he supports big multinationals over those same Queenslanders.

The member for Whitsunday said she was disappointed by our levy on big business to cover mental health services. The member claimed that mental health was being politicised by those measures and then proceeded to politicise the issue of mental health as hard as she could.

The member for Moggill said strong financial investment is needed in mental health services, and I absolutely agree. Again, I was waiting for the 'but' and it came on cue. He welcomed the investment but said that the government should not be asking the biggest and most profitable businesses in our state to chip in to support the most vulnerable Queenslanders in our state.

We have seen a range of extraordinary contributions from the LNP today. I note that the Leader of the Opposition talked about listening to Queenslanders, but Queenslanders know that it is our Premier who listens to them. Queenslanders told our government that they wanted more hospitals and more health services right across the state, and our Labor government listened and acted with the biggest boost to health funding and health infrastructure in Queensland's history.

When they were out listening to Queenslanders, as the Leader of the Opposition claimed, I want to ask the LNP how many of those Queenslanders told the LNP that what they wanted was to extend the royalties freeze for hugely profitable resources companies?

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): The member for Kawana will not interject while he is not in his seat.

Ms KING: How many Queenslanders told the LNP, including the member for Kawana, that they preferred to boost the bottom line of multinational companies over a boost to mental health services? The Leader of the Opposition talked about broken promises, but Queenslanders will never, ever forget the promises that he broke when he and his leadership team promised that no public servant had to fear for their job only to have their job slashed by those same people in government.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The interjections are not being taken.

Ms KING: They are not. We have also seen some fairly predictable and disappointing contributions from the Greens party today. Whatever she may tell herself, nobody is interested in copying the member for South Brisbane's homework whatsoever. Labor does not deal in fantasies or misrepresentations. We promise what we can deliver and then we get on and deliver it.

The member for South Brisbane claimed our government was squandering the resources boom, but she could not be more wrong. Building hospitals is not squandering the resources boom. Investing in more renewables and battery storage is not squandering the resources boom. On the contrary, building hospitals and creating more renewable energy and storage are exactly how those royalties should be invested.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. There are too many interjections. They are interrupting the member. She is not taking the interjections. If I have to mention this again, I will start warning members.

Ms KING: More than anything, the Greens party member for South Brisbane is the member for double standards when it comes to housing. The Greens constantly play politics with unrealistic and misleading claims about housing. On the very day that our government announced a further \$16 million to provide practical help and housing to our most vulnerable, the member for South Brisbane claimed that there is no new housing money in the budget. This is the same member who objects to every kind of housing development in her electorate and who has even been known to picket the driveway of unit developments, stopping workers from getting on with the job of building housing for Queenslanders. It is shameful.

Ultimately, our budget is a hugely positive story. Here is what our Palaszczuk Labor government's budget will mean for the people of Pumicestone. This budget continues our half a billion dollar hospital building program in Caboolture and on Bribie, with construction funding for the massive redevelopment of the Caboolture Hospital that will see the hospital double in size, adding 130 new beds and a whole range of new services and facilities.

The budget also has construction funding for our Bribie Satellite Hospital and our Caboolture Satellite Hospital. These hospitals will be a game changer for our communities, and it was great to see the construction fencing go up on the Bribie site this week. Both our satellite hospitals will have extended hours, minor accident and illness centres, as well as other crucial hospital services delivered by doctors and nurses right in the heart of our community. I cannot wait to see the construction finish next year.

Our Bribie and Caboolture neighbourhood centres also do wonderful work supporting our community, so we are backing them with an 81 per cent increase in funding. I was delighted to ring the hardworking team at the Bribie Island Neighbourhood Centre today and let them know about the increased funding and that they are going to be able to deliver their life-changing services to even more people in our community.

Something that is really dear to my heart is our Abbey Museum and Abbey Medieval Festival. Our northern Moreton Bay region has so much to offer, and I have long believed that we need enhanced tourism experiences to make sure visitors do not drive through on their way to somewhere else. That is why it was wonderful to receive a commitment of \$2.1 million in this budget to deliver the art gallery the museum has been wanting to build for so long, a cafe to ensure that the operation remains sustainable into the future, and a further \$400,000 in infrastructure funding to support the festival. If you have not been, I invite all members to don your gown, pull on your tights and join the tens of thousands of visitors at the beautiful greenfield site on 9 and 10 July. The jousting is especially spectacular and not to be missed.

Our Pumicestone schools did well in the budget, with planning money for a much needed new administration block at Bribie Island State School and \$1.2 million for a security fence for Bribie Island high. There is also over \$400,000 shared between all of our state schools for key maintenance and minor works. I know that many families in Pumicestone will be pleased that a new \$80 million education resourcing model will be rolled out in Queensland schools and will formally recognise dyslexia, ADHD, mental illness and other conditions as disabilities and provide support accordingly. While we already support kids with these conditions, this means more dedicated resources to help them learn and achieve their very best.

People in the Bribie area often tell me that public transport does not work for them—

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Member for Everton, you are warned under the standing orders.


Ms KING:—whether it is bus routes that do not help them get to where they want to be or difficult timing with linked services. That is why I am delighted that this year's budget includes \$400,000 for a public transport planning study. The study will encourage residents on and around Bribie to give detailed feedback about their transport needs and what is and is not working. I acknowledge and thank Minister Bailey for his work with me on this issue over a long period. I am really looking forward to receiving our community's feedback so we can design optimal public transport services for them for the future.

There are so many road commitments in this budget for Pumicestone that I almost do not know where to begin. Most importantly—I am sure the people of Beachmere will think this is the most important—funding begins for our start to finish upgrade of Beachmere Road. It is such a key issue for this community. The two things they all agree on are that Beachmere is the best place in the world and Beachmere Road needs an upgrade, so they have been delighted to see the enhanced scope of the project announced recently.

There is significant funding to continue upgrades to Bribie Island Road. The Regina Avenue intersection at Ningi will help residents, business owners and patrons get in and out of the local shops. We are going to see more work on stage 2 of the Old Toorbul Point Road intersection upgrade that will link the dual lane sections from the service station to Saint Road. There is also funding in the budget for the Hickey Road to King John Creek upgrades.

Bribie Island Road is such a key connector for our community. It has seen enhanced usage over the last few years, so residents are delighted by these upgrades. There is also more money in the continued planning for a future replacement of the Bribie bridge and funding for upgrades to the D'Aguilar Highway, which will be welcomed by residents.

This is a great Labor government and we have delivered yet another great Labor budget. If the LNP does not support these budget measures, if they will not back a levy on our biggest businesses or an increase in royalties paid by resource companies from their record profits, they will have to cut around \$400 million a year. I invite them to outline exactly what they would choose to cut. This fantastic Labor budget backs health, backs jobs and cares for Queenslanders, especially the people of Pumicestone, and I could not be more delighted to commend the budget to the House.

 **Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (10.13 pm): 'Just call me Robin Hood.' That is the way the *Courier-Mail* has referred to the Treasurer's efforts with this budget. To hear the member for Woodridge justify his claim that he was speaking to the people of Queensland and not business when he promised 26 times there would be no new or increased taxes and charges shows exactly why there is so much cynicism about politics in Queensland and Australia. I table the *Courier-Mail* front page.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Courier-Mail*, undated, titled, 'Just call me Robin Hood: Treasurer defends broken taxes promise by saying it will only hurt the rich' [923].

Robin Hood was no superhero, he was a simple bandit. His specific targets were the wealthy. He bore the traits indicative of a highwayman—polite, courteous—but would not think twice of splitting you in two for a coin. He was polite and courteous, yet underlined with menace. The message of Robin Hood is a relevant moral one for this parliament and the state of Queensland. Thefts and untruths are inherently wrong, yet when attached to a supposed good cause the moral ramifications seem to be different, according to the Treasurer. I think the Treasurer is taking Queenslanders for fools, as is the Premier, and Queenslanders are not fools. As Sarah Elks said in the *Australian* under the heading 'Read my lips but not my meaning'—

Dick's unedifying performance is a symptom of a third-term government that has long struggled with honesty, accountability and transparency.

...

The truth matters in politics. Dick ... would do well to remember that.

I table that article.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Australian*, dated 22 June 2022, titled 'Read my lips but not my meaning' [924].

In the same article Marlena Whop, a Channel 7 journalist, asked the Treasurer, 'On taxes, are you ruling out new or increased business taxes?' The Treasurer was unequivocal. 'There won't be any increased taxes,' he said. It is a clear broken promise, made worse by the Premier doubling down about to whom he was speaking and made worse by the Premier declaring that Queenslanders can trust her.

The *Courier-Mail's* editorial excoriates this third-term Labor government too. It said—

... this is a government that continues to be a vision-free zone.

...

Palaszczuk government ministers seem intent to just tread water and enjoy the trappings of office while a lucky few who have managed to attach themselves to the Labor Party make a personal fortune trading off the access those actually in the parliament grant them. It's all pretty sad actually.

It concludes—

... when you have a quarter of a million staff at your disposal, you would hope you do not have to rely on three days of reporting by your State's newspaper for your best idea.

This refers to the mental health advocacy from the *Courier-Mail* last year that the Treasurer would have us believe inspired him to implement new and increased taxes, even though previously, 26 times, he delivered a promise of no new or increased taxes. I table the article.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Courier-Mail*, dated 22 June 2022, titled 'Health funding is a good measure—but where's the vision?' [925].

When I turn to my shadow portfolio areas of seniors, disability services, communities, multiculturalism and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, once again the budget is a mixed bag of lost opportunities. Seniors seem to have been forgotten; for example, the Age Friendly Community Plan has still not been delivered and there are only token amounts for elder abuse prevention. The Queensland government does not have a consistent definition of elder abuse. There is no specific law in Queensland where elder abuse is categorised. The government is failing to address what will become an even larger problem in the future with our ageing population.

The state disability plan has still not been delivered. In Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships there is no clear way forward with Path to Treaty. Just a few weeks here in the precinct with many of those opposite present during the Reconciliation Week breakfast, along with the member for Buderim and the member for Toowoomba South, Dr Jackie Huggins told the audience and the media that she was perplexed as to why the government had not released the Treaty Advancement Committee's report and the government's response more than seven months after receiving it. Dr Huggins said—

I am just perplexed around why it's been stalled ... a lot of this is why we don't see the best statistics that we could be seeing in terms of Close the Gap, incarceration, and child protection to name a few.

We want to see outcomes to deliver critical infrastructure such as water and waste infrastructure to provide local services in local communities. Labor is all talk when it comes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing and addressing the chronic overcrowding issue and their housing crisis. \$105 million was provided by the former federal government almost four years ago but the overcrowding problem is getting worse, not better. In some communities it is not uncommon for up to 15 people to live in a two- or three-bedroom house. In communities there are a number of community centres that are not funded and about which I have made speeches in this House, but they are still working hard to provide services to their communities on the smell of an oily rag. The staff of the minister and Attorney-General have recently told some stakeholders they have no intention to fund any further community centres.

Whilst multicultural affairs has wraparound services funded in several portfolios, it is disappointing to see the lack of funding and initiatives outlined in this year's budget. In comparison, New South Wales announced a package of \$28 million into multicultural communities with an emphasis on language services, scholarships and re-establishing the Religious Communities Advisory Council.

I now turn to my electorate of Surfers Paradise and the Gold Coast overall. Out of sight, out of mind—this is the disappointing reality of Labor's attitude towards the Gold Coast. The Brisbane-centric government is out of touch with the Surfers Paradise electorate, and my constituents are suffering because of it. Labor's latest budget is once again pure window-dressing and continues to neglect the needs of Gold Coasters. The budget is tangible evidence that supports the truth that the Premier has lost touch with everyday, honest Queenslanders. Even her union mate Michael Ravbar concurs. The Premier trumpets \$1.7 billion of infrastructure spending on the Gold Coast but neglects to include that of that amount \$1 billion is cost overruns on just two projects—the Coomera Connector and stage 3 of light rail. I table the Hayden Johnson article.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Courier-Mail*, dated 5 June 2022, titled 'Actually, it will cost us this much more' [\[926\]](#).

I also table an article by Paul Weston and Sam Stolz about the additional cost blowout of up to \$100 million for the 10-kilometre widening of the M1 between Varsity Lakes and Tugun.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, dated 10 June 2022, titled 'Revealed: Southern upgrade of M1 hit by major cost blowout and opening delays' [\[927\]](#).

I note the Auditor-General's report No. 18 of 2021-22 of 14 June points out the lack of monitoring or reporting by departments as to whether they are using Queensland government procurement arrangements. I table the 'In brief' page of the report.

Tabled paper: Extract from the Auditor-General's report 18: 2021-22—Enhancing government procurement, page 1 titled 'In brief' [\[928\]](#).

Our police force is being stretched to its limits tackling the juvenile crime crisis and the hooning epidemic plaguing the Gold Coast and the rest of South-East Queensland. I want to address the overwhelming presence of these issues that I have brought up numerous times in the last couple of years, especially since COVID, and that are notably common to the Surfers Paradise electorate. We recently had two new top police appointees who have acknowledged that they will be targeting bikies and youth crime. That was the subject of a recent article on 15 June by Greg Stolz and Jeremy Pierce titled 'Top cops to target bikies, youth crime'. I table that.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, dated 15 June 2022, titled 'Top cops to target bikies, youth crime' [\[929\]](#).

Members of a local high-rise body corporate asked me to come and see them. When I went to visit them, they told me they had made a desperate plea for police resourcing to be increased following a recent escalation in incidents which were having an adverse impact on the safety and wellbeing of residents and the general public. They said that these people had been banned from the precinct yet they continued to come back. The body corporate said—

... we don't believe there are sufficient police resources available compared to a suburban area with the same number of homes!

...

The police are not currently fulfilling these most basic of general duties; not because they don't want to, but because they don't have enough resources to deal with the increase in crime and vandalism.

I table a copy of that email.

Tabled paper: Correspondence from constituent of Surfers Paradise regarding youth crime [\[936\]](#).

Calls were made to police on several occasions by this body corporate in a prominent shopping centre in Surfers, and the same devastating response was repeated time and time again: 'We don't have enough police to attend.' My constituents deserve to feel adequately protected by the police and confident in their ability to deliver support. They deserve better than a soft-on-crime Brisbane Labor that does not get the Gold Coast. I also want to table an article by Keith Woods on the police resources.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, dated 27 April 2022, titled 'What we could do with \$200m' [\[930\]](#).

I know other members have mentioned this—that Labor spent \$200 million on Wellcamp without 'necessarily knowing' it would be needed. That is money that could have been used to hire more police officers. This article references the movie *Brewster's Millions*. In the film version, at least only \$30 million was squandered, not \$200 million, and it was not taxpayers' cash.

I want to table an article by Luke Mortimer, who asks Labor whether it will take another kiddie car thief mowing down an innocent family before much needed change occurs. Sadly, it appears to be the case, judging by the piecemeal approach to tacking the juvenile crime crisis plaguing South-East Queensland.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, dated 16 April 2022, titled 'Enough! Courts must get serious about youth crime' [\[937\]](#).

I know the member for Currumbin spoke yesterday in the 'scream' about youth crime. Many of those issues are to do with car theft, so I am going to table another article—this one by Dan Petrie. He reported that on the Gold Coast unlawful use of a motor vehicle and joyriding teens have increased from 662 cases in 2015 to 1,631 in 2021.

Tabled paper: Extract of an article, undated, relating to vehicle offences on the Gold Coast [\[931\]](#).

Mrs Gerber: It's out of control.

Mr LANGBROEK: I take that interjection from the member for Currumbin. It is obviously out of control. Police are doing what they can—making arrests and putting these children before the courts only to see them released and rearrested time and time again. It is serious enough to be of concern to the Gold Coast community. The Gold Coast community has demanded better resourcing for police—loud and clear. They are tired of feeling vulnerable in their own homes, wary of opportunistic kids nicking their keys and vehicles. The government owes it to these troubled kids and the communities they live in to go all in to smash the cycle of youth crime.

The opposition calls for more support and funding for our police from the Labor government and more support from the courts. We want more reassurance that the Premier and Labor are doing everything they can to protect those who protect us. We deserve the protection of the courts from youthful intruders and thieves, backing up the work of the police who apprehend them. I will continue to beat the drum about the police resources that my electorate so desperately needs.

Events of late show that, whilst we have been advocating for improved support, the issue of police resourcing has now cascaded into a crisis. Let us cast our minds back to recent events that embody our police resourcing catastrophe. This month alone we have seen several brazen delinquents cause insurmountable devastation in the community. In another event, a pair of wanted criminals terrorised the community in Nerang during a 20-hour siege. I table the *Gold Coast Bulletin* article outlining how the men were wanted on warrants and after removing an ankle monitor the police hunt was triggered.

Tabled paper: Bundle of media articles regarding police resourcing on the Gold Coast [\[932\]](#).

We also had a drive-by shooting of the police beat at Arundel, as well as an innocent driver shot in Coolangatta. I table that article as well.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, dated 10 June 2022, titled 'Police to review secret shot' [\[933\]](#).

The Coolangatta shooting of a member of the public on a Saturday was not revealed to the public until the following Wednesday. The public were kept in the dark about a potential safety risk—so much for the much vaunted transparency spruiked by Annastacia Palaszczuk and the Labor government. The police are trying to serve the community to the best of their ability but their hands are tied. We have also recently had police being assaulted in central Surfers Paradise. Brisbane Labor needs to do more for the Gold Coast. The police deserve more resources, and Queenslanders deserve protection and a more responsive government.

From the south in Coolangatta out to the west in Nerang, it is crystal clear that our Police Service is under pressure. The complaints and desperate pleas for help I receive from constituents all corroborate this indisputable fact. I am going to table and quote from four separate pieces of correspondence. The first is from Northcliffe. That correspondence states—

Weekends are a constant rotation of noisy vehicles speeding and driving dangerously. In 16 months of living in Surfers Paradise I've never once seen police enforce traffic rules on Northcliffe Terrace, or ever even seen a vehicle pulled over ... I'm sure it's only a matter of time until a cyclist or pedestrian is injured or killed.

There is another one from Bundall. It states—

Hi John Paul

The hoons were at it again.

...

They meet at the Homemaker Centre on Bundall Road.

...

As a local resident it's ... frightening. I feel afraid to leave my home when it's happening.

One comes from Clear Island Waters, where I live. It states—

... the noise has got increasingly louder over the last 2 years and I would say since COVID.

I have often said in this House that the support has not come back for the police after they were monitoring the borders and the hotels. It continued—

The Gold Coast is such a beautiful city, ... but 'normal' traffic isn't an issue. When you look at the road you can see there are still lots of cars on there but it's the super loud ones and the ridiculous motorbikes... I speak to a lot of my neighbours who are literally at the end of their tether in regard to the noise.

There is another one from Main Beach. It states—

In the last fortnight alone, I have witnessed 3 separate incidents of people using the traffic lights in front of Southport Yacht Club on Macarthur Parade, and nearly run over by cars running a red light. Not orange-to-red but a red light with a green walk indicator.

This person also wrote—

I was directed to Policelink and Hoon Hotline. I placed a call, filed a report and was told the matter would be investigated.

...

If something is not done about the speeding along Waterways Drive, Macarthur Parade and Seaworld Drive, families will be mourning a fatality.

I table that.


Tabled paper: Bundle of correspondence from constituents of the Gold Coast relating to hooning [\[934\]](#).

It is obvious that the lack of law enforcement and police presence means that brazen criminals are not being put on notice for their selfish and irresponsible behaviour. It is unacceptable that my constituents continue to suffer from an obvious deficit in police resources. It remains the case that Brisbane Labor just does not get the Gold Coast.

Finally, I want to table an article by Madonna King from *InQueensland* about the recent article called 'Portrait of Power' in Queensland. It featured a recent photo of the state's female leaders—the Premier, the Governor, the Chief Justice and the Police Commissioner. I want to quote Madonna King. She said that if the blurring of the lines of separation happened under the LNP or the Nationals 'the outrage would break the sound barrier'. I table that article.

Tabled paper: Media article by Madonna King, dated 6 June 2022, titled 'Separation of powers: Why respect for this doctrine matters a lot more in Queensland than other places' [\[935\]](#).

Labor must do better.

 **Mr WALKER** (Mundingburra—ALP) (10.29 pm): The speeches so far from the opposition show that the LNP is planning more cuts. We know this because they have not said one word in support of the revenue measures. That means they do not support making coal companies pay their fair share. That means they do not support the top one per cent of business chipping in to pay for mental health services. They will ride on the votes of mining magnates, but they will not tax them.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Lister): Pause the clock! Honourable members, the level of interjections from both sides is unacceptable. I have already indicated that I will warn members. I will not give any further warnings.

Mr WALKER: As I just said, they will jump up in defence of the mining magnates and ride on their flash boats, but they will not help the people of Queensland get their fair share of tax revenue and their fair share of the health service dollar in this state.

As the member for Mundingburra, I rise to speak in support of the Palaszczuk Labor government's 2022-23 state budget, an excellent budget with a record \$16.5 billion health budget, a budget with many fantastic announcements for the people in my seat and the Townsville region. As we have heard on more than one occasion, there is record spending on health and we should be talking about this very momentous occasion and the record spend. We know the opposition do not want to hear it, but listen up.

In the seat of Mundingburra sits the largest tertiary hospital in northern Australia. It is also the largest employer north of Brisbane and the biggest employer in northern Australia. If the opposition had their way, it would be half the size. Over 6,700 staff are employed in the Townsville University Hospital, a hospital with some of the best frontline health workers in the world. I want to thank the Treasurer and the health minister for the latest investment of \$1.2 billion in health for Townsville and the surrounding region. The Palaszczuk Labor government continues to invest in world-class health services. I must also add that it was not that long ago that the Minister for Health also opened the new paediatric emergency department alongside the team that advocated for the specialised facility—another excellent investment in health. In this budget, we have an investment of \$3.8 million in the new hybrid theatre as well as a future \$1.74 million in hospital upgrades.

The commencement of this budget year will see the duplication of Stuart Drive to four lanes, an election commitment I made at the last election. This is an especially important announcement. I want to thank the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Mark Bailey, Treasurer Cameron Dick and the Premier for their ongoing support in this particular important investment in local road infrastructure—a piece of infrastructure the community needs and deserves. Furthermore, over the past year I have met with the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Main Roads staff about the need for duplication of the Bowen Road Bridge. I am pleased to report that Minister Mark Bailey and the Treasurer have supported my request for funding to get the duplication of the Bowen Road Bridge underway. In this year's budget, it is to be noted that there is \$2 million to commence the geotech testing and design work for the duplication of a new bridge on Bowen Road. This is a huge step forward in providing very important road infrastructure for the people of Mundingburra and the Townsville region. Thank you, minister.

In great news for William Ross State High School, thanks to the Minister for Education, Grace Grace, the much anticipated school hall is a step closer and will receive \$200,000 in funding to have the detailed design completed. The William Ross State High School will also have facilities renewal, including the refurbishing of the science lab. Aitkenvale State School will have a newly constructed covered link and refurbished amenities. The Kurrajong State School will have a new lift installed to improve access to the classrooms for those with a disability as well as four learning spaces refurbished. Mundingburra State School will have facilities renewal as well.

As members are aware, no amount of crime is acceptable. That is why the Palaszczuk Labor government continues to invest in more police for Townsville and the region and across the state. Furthermore, the budget has further spending on resources like the police facility at the old 1300SMILES Stadium site and more mobile police beats. There is \$10.4 million also included in the budget to conduct ongoing program renewal and minor works to youth detention centres and youth justice service centres. There is also ongoing funding for programs like Booyah and Transition 2 Success to divert young people from a life of offending and getting them back into education and/or training to become production members of society.

The Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct to the west of Townsville also receives a \$27 million investment in enabling infrastructure. This will allow for water to be piped to the site and the construction of a reservoir for the storage of water. This is a game changer for the precinct and the wider community. This will also assist the Drive-it facility, which is currently nearing completion of its latest stage.

There is a further \$12 million for a road and rail infrastructure upgrade at Landsdown. This will be further enhanced by the new federal Labor government's commitment of a further \$22 million. That is what you get when all three levels of government work together: progress, investment in industry, jobs and a brighter future for our young people.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my speech on the budget for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Mr. Speaker,

This is what you get when all three levels of government work together to generate jobs and invest in the new economies of the future, the green economy.

Mr. Speaker, Social Housing is of great concern, and it is important to acknowledge the \$2.9 billion dollar investment from the Palaszczuk Labor State Government addressing this very issue. In the Seat of Mundingburra there has been several social housing projects recently completed, more, currently under construction and some about to commence construction.

Mr. Speaker

One of the latest social housing projects about to start construction is the new Townsville Youth foyer at the Pimlico TAFE College site. Forty, one-bedroom, self-contained units. An impressive design by local award-winning architects, Counterpoint. What this demonstrates Mr. Speaker, is these projects generate local jobs.

Mr. Speaker,

Townsville is a garrison city, a proud city that embraces its military family. That is why we support The Oasis, a veterans' facility that will be getting further support with \$250,000 from a \$1 million total spend. An especially important investment in those who have served our great country.


Mr. Speaker,

You will note in this year's budget \$12.8 million for the Manufacturing Hubs Grant Program. This will help address identified industry challenges and opportunities associated with manufacturing firms transitioning to advanced manufacturing. A particularly important investment in manufacturing for the new economy and the emerging Green Economy.

Mr. Speaker,

In this year's budget is \$10 million of a \$29.1 total spend to continue to investigate the feasibility of raising the Burdekin Falls dam to increase capacity and increased water supply in the Burdekin and surrounding regions.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): To issue a general warning, this behaviour of calling out around people incorporating will cease. The next person who does it will be warned.

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (10.35 pm): This is a budget of broken promises. This is a budget where any semblance of trust that this government had, which was very small, has totally and utterly been smashed. This is a budget that has confirmed that, when it comes to keeping their word, their integrity is in tatters. The Treasurer Cameron Dick, who has just delivered the most unimaginative budget probably in the history of Queensland, was asked on countless occasions if there would be any new taxes.

Mr BROWN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on proper titles. The member referred to the Treasurer as his name and not as the Treasurer or the member for Woodridge.

Mr MANDER: I said 'the Treasurer'.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, members! I will take the point of order in silence. I did not hear that, but I would ask the member to continue and use proper titles.

Mr MANDER: On every occasion when the Treasurer was asked this question, he emphatically stated there would be no new taxes. On one occasion he was asked directly, 'Will there be any new taxes on businesses?'

Mr Minnikin: What did he say?

Mr MANDER: He replied, 'There will be no new taxes.' We now know that that promise was not kept with the introduction of three additional taxes.

Mrs Gerber: How many?

Mr MANDER: Three additional taxes.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock! Member for Currumbin, there will be no interjection from outside your seat. That is the last warning.

Mr MANDER: We now know that that promise was not kept with the introduction of three new taxes. When challenged by the media he said, 'I never mentioned business in my replies.' A couple of media interviews after that can only be described as absolute train wrecks. They were entertaining to watch. The Treasurer said the reason he did not mention businesses was absolutely 100 per cent clear because 'our promise was to the people of Queensland'. These are the conclusions you can make from his statements: either the Treasurer broke his promise and introduced new taxes, or the Treasurer was deliberately deceptive and underhanded by being tricky with his words.

The Treasurer also offended tens of thousands of Queenslanders because he does not believe that tens of thousands of Queenslanders who work for mining companies, who work for Coles or Myer or anybody in the retail industry or those who work in the gaming industry are Queenslanders. Every one of those workers is at risk because of these extra taxes.

We all know that this Treasurer has a fascination—some would say an unhealthy obsession—with American presidents. He has taken those black-and-white photos mimicking his Democrat heroes, JFK and Obama. Who would have ever thought that he had a similar desire to be identified with Republican presidents? When it comes to telling the truth, this week the Treasurer has been described by the *Courier-Mail* as 'Trumpian'. When it comes to telling the truth and breaking promises, he is earning the new nickname of 'Tricky Dicky'. Yes, Richard Nixon once said, 'I was not lying. I just said things that later on seemed to be untrue.' That is what he said.

Mr POWER: This is the second time the member has ignored correct titles. This time it was written in his speech; it was clearly intentional and he should withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will take some advice. I was consulting with the Clerk about something else. Again, I was taking advice. I did not hear that. I would ask you to refrain from using anything other than correct titles.

Mr MANDER: This Treasurer has a record of misrepresenting the facts. Who could ever forget the tweet and the photo of him emerging from those blackened bushfires looking pristine with not a stain on him claiming that he found the Binna Burra bell? Who could ever forget that? With this record who could believe his recent statement that, 'I have zero interest in becoming Premier'? Absolutely unbelievable!

Ms LAUGA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Which SDS does this have relevance to?

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I have already given an indication to the House that I will take points of order in silence. Member for Keppel, I gave a ruling earlier today or advice to the House. The latitude of relevance for the budget is extremely wide, so there is no point of order.

Mr MANDER: Unfortunately, the deception of the Treasurer has leaked to other members of the cabinet. The housing minister has said relentlessly this week and for the last 12 months that they have invested \$2.9 billion in social housing. This statement is a total hoax because a billion dollars of that \$2.9 billion is not going directly into housing; it is the so-called return on investment of \$1 billion. However, there is a problem with that. Despite the Treasurer promising in last year's estimates that \$40 million a year would come from that fund, for the next four years it said zero, zero, zero, zero—nothing, absolutely zero. In this year's budget it does not even appear; the funds disappeared altogether.

Secondly, the hoax with social housing is that in this year's budget there has not been one extra cent added that will contribute to the construction of new housing. There was another example of that deception on Monday when the Treasurer came out with the housing minister and talked about 1,200 new affordable houses as if this was a new thing. Guess what? The announcement was made 12 months ago. It was in last year's budget. The deception of this government is to continue to reannounce and reannounce and make out as if this is some new initiative.

Let me say that again that when it comes to housing there has not been one extra cent added to this year's budget which will contribute to a new house. This is despite this state suffering the most severe housing crisis in our history. At a time when working Queenslanders and Queensland families are living in tents or in their cars, this lack of investment is completely unfathomable.

Let's have a look at the facts when it comes to housing. Last year they promised that this year they would spend \$537 million on social housing. What is the amount they have in this year's budget? It is \$441 million, nearly \$100 million less. This government cannot be trusted. They are continually peddling false hope to our most vulnerable Queenslanders. Yes, they care about the glossy brochure. The Treasurer is very—

Mr Minnikin: Fixated.

Mr MANDER:—fixated—thank you for that interjection—on having that brochure to show everybody, but guess what? There is nothing of substance in that brochure, absolutely nothing at all.

Let's have a look at what else they announced. Five years ago, in the 2017 budget, they announced a housing strategy. This was a \$1.7 billion injection of funds. In 2022, five years later, from their own statistics there has been a net increase of only 1,124 tenancies, or 1,190 new bedrooms. That is less than a one per cent increase. This government cannot be trusted. It does not matter what they say, they cannot be trusted. That was less than one per cent at the same time there was a 70 per cent increase in the number of people on the public housing waiting list.

The housing minister crows all the time about what we did when in government. I can tell him what we did in government. We reduced the public housing waiting list to 17,000. It was 32,000 when we came to government, but 17,000 was the figure we left. That represents just under 30,000 people, but today that has blown out to 50,000 people.

Again, the housing minister asked what we did. We introduced one of the most innovative housing programs in this country, the Logan Renewal Initiative, and they cut it. Since then every other state—Labor or Liberal—has introduced that concept and their social housing and affordable housing is flourishing. That is what this government does. There is a lack of innovation and a lack of vision, and they tore up a signed and sealed contract. Why would people do business in this state when a government does that?

One of my other shadow portfolios is public works. We go from one disaster of a minister to another disaster of a minister to the king of disaster of ministers, Minister de Brenni.

Mr Minnikin interjected.

Mr MANDER: Many descriptors have been given to him. I love it when they say 'beleaguered minister' or 'embattled minister'; that usually means they are on the way out. This minister has had everything. I turn to the review in the QBCC, which only happened because of the pressure applied by the opposition. That was the only reason. There was no problem, but they realised they had to have some sort of pressure valve release, so they announced an inquiry. There was every issue under the sun, whether it was conflict of interest with regard to board members, ministerial intervention or homeowners not seeing building inspectors—it went on and on. That report came down weeks ago and we have seen nothing. Why have we not seen any of it? They actually picked an honest bloke to do the review, Jim Varghese.

Mrs D'ATH: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I appreciate that appropriations is a very broad debate, but this debate has now strayed outside of anything to do with the budget. I ask that the member be brought back to the appropriation bills.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I have given directions twice before that I will take points of order in silence. Thank you, Leader of the House. There is no point of order.

Mr MANDER: This review was released weeks ago and we have heard nothing. Why have we heard nothing? I reckon some recommendations came back that are not particularly good and they are saying, 'How do we work out this one? How do we cover that one up? What do we do there?' Bring out the report so we know what is happening.

In the meantime, the minister cannot even answer a question. We asked how long it takes, when someone reports a defect, for an inspector to go out and see them. It is a fair question. The minutes from the QBCC of a couple of years ago reported alarm that it was taking 11 weeks, so someone knows. The anecdotal evidence is that it is now 30 weeks. If you report a defect, it takes 30 weeks for the QBCC to come out and inspect it. It is absolutely disgraceful. How can Queenslanders have any confidence in that? We are awaiting the outcome of that review. We wait with bated breath to see how the minister is going to spin his way out of this one and what recommendations they will make.


I turn to the electorate of Everton. I went back to last year's speech. I could read the same two paragraphs, because we have not got a brass razoo! We have constantly asked for the intersection of South Pine Road and Stafford Road to be upgraded—the one that has that gigantic poster of me. It is an absolutely stunning poster! One good thing about the delays is that it gives people more time to look at my poster. I have to put my personal interests aside, because that intersection needs to be upgraded.

Murray Watt was the member for Everton before me. I gave him the greatest gift of all time when I beat him: he now has a lifelong seat in the Senate, because he is No. 1 on the left. He put the plans in at the time he was the member and those opposite still will not fund it. We need that intersection

upgraded. It is a bottleneck in the north-west of Brisbane. It affects Pine Rivers and anywhere further out, Ferny Grove and Stafford. Those opposite refuse, I can only imagine because it is in an LNP electorate. I am in my fourth term in an electorate that is normally Labor. I do not want to brag, but I am still there. What about the resurfacing of Old Northern Road? It was done only six or seven years ago, but there are potholes everywhere. Thirty thousand cars a day go down that road and it is absolutely dangerous.

I mention Mitchelton Football Club. Members may have seen photos of it during the floods. The artificial turf pitch, which was pristine and beautiful—money was contributed by the Brisbane City Council and the state government—was ruined. The \$1½ million pitch was totally ruined because of the floods. They need money to restore that, not just for themselves but also for the community. We need this facility so that people can play all year round. It was a great sporting experience—a great testament to the vision of the Brisbane City Council. We need special funding from the state government.

I asked for all those things and I got not one brass razoo. This is a budget that failed, a budget that lacked imagination and vision. This is a budget from a government that has checked out.

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (10.53 pm): I think the member for Everton has just granted the Palaszczuk Labor government one of the greatest gifts. I thank the member for Everton.

I am proud tonight to rise to speak in support of the appropriation bills delivered by the Hon. Treasurer, Minister for Trade and Investment and member for Woodridge. I congratulate the Treasurer and his team. What a great budget it is for the Queensland we serve and for the good people of the electorate of Mansfield.

This great Labor budget addresses the challenges in our health system, the result of the global COVID-19 pandemic and nine years of neglect by the federal LNP government. This budget creates jobs, setting out a clear economic plan, attracting investment and building infrastructure—building the economy for the future. It is a budget that delivers the health and education infrastructure for the future success of young Queenslanders and for the prosperity of our great state.

As a former school principal and still a passionate educator, I know the importance of investing in teachers, the teaching and learning process and school infrastructure for my community. Our community is known across Brisbane as a hub of educational excellence. The reason many young families flock to our electorate every month is to access our high-performing schools. It comes as no surprise that I have worked hard to secure \$31.2 million for local schools in the Palaszczuk government's 2022-23 budget. This includes \$11.56 million for Mansfield State High School to build additional classrooms and learning spaces to replace old demountables; \$6.03 million for Rochedale State High School to build a new hall as part of my 2020 state election commitment; \$1.05 million for Rochedale State High School to refurbish seven learning spaces; \$4.91 million for Rochedale State School to build additional classrooms and learning spaces; \$4.9 million for Wishart State School to build additional classrooms in an existing building; \$50,000 for Upper Mount Gravatt State School to complete the multipurpose sports facility; and more than \$1.08 million for maintenance of state schools across our entire community.

Since being elected in November 2017 I have delivered more than \$180 million to our local schools. I congratulate the Minister for Education for her commitment to the children of Queensland. The Palaszczuk government has a clear vision for education. We believe that a quality education transforms lives. It is the best investment we can make for the future of Queenslanders and for the future prosperity of our great state.

Through my work as chair of the Community Support and Services Committee and its recent parliamentary inquiry, the 2022-23 budget also commits \$125.6 million over four years and nearly \$19 million ongoing to help address social isolation and loneliness and support neighbourhood and community centres throughout Queensland. I thank our great minister for her support. This is an outcome that I know my entire committee is proud of, regardless of their political association. This will result in an increase for our Mount Gravatt Community Centre's operational funding to \$233,000 per annum, up from around \$126,000. Further, the Mount Gravatt Community Centre will receive \$148,950 in 2022-23 for the continuation of the Ways to Wellness program—a world-leading program supported by the University of Queensland.

To address the challenges in our health system, the Palaszczuk government has delivered the largest investment in new hospitals and new beds in Queensland's history. I congratulate our health minister for her wonderful work. The 2022-23 state budget provides additional funding of \$9.78 billion over six years including for a new cancer hospital. For our community this means a new satellite hospital at Eight Mile Plains, the expansion of QEII Hospital with 112 new beds, and 249 new beds at the PA Hospital.

One in two people in Queensland will suffer a mental illness in their lifetime. Our government will do what Labor governments do. We will not leave behind those families suffering mental illness, with \$1.6 billion provided for mental health services over five years to address issues around mental health, addiction, substance abuse and suicide. I commend you, Deputy Speaker Kelly, for the work you led around the mental health report. This funding will focus on rehabilitation care, additional community care units, adolescent day programs and step-up step-down services to help people transition from hospital. This is the biggest investment in mental health services in Queensland ever.

I commend the Treasurer on his values based decision to levy the one per cent of very large multinational Queensland businesses with annual wages of more than \$100 million a 0.5 per cent levy. Further, in the year to March 2022 coal companies saw the value of their exports increase by \$24 billion. Our government will introduce three new progressive royalty tiers to help Queenslanders share in these profits from natural resources and to ensure this mental health funding is sustainable for many years to come.

This act is really a statement of values rather than about figures and economics. This decision reflects so clearly the deep and strong Labor values held so dearly by the Treasurer and this Labor caucus. This is something that we all can be proud of. The LNP has not said one word to support the revenue measures in the budget. Their failure to support these revenue measures means they must cut. Does this mean they will sack 1,360 public servants from my electorate of Mansfield just like they did last time? My community has not forgotten what those opposite did. They will never forget.

It has been an honour to work with Minister de Brenni to deliver a new Rochedale bus station and park-and-ride. This new infrastructure costs approximately \$750 million and will make a real difference by cutting commuting times for families living in Rochedale. This project includes 485 vehicle parking spaces, including nine accessible spaces and charging bays, undercover storage for 30 bikes, kiss-and-ride bays and pedestrian and bike connectivity. This is part of the Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill upgrade and is estimated to support 721 jobs over the life of the project.

The Mansfield electorate is passionate about sport and so am I. I have secured \$8 million over three years for the Hibiscus Stadium to expand the basketball courts. The Mount Gravatt Youth and Recreation Club will receive \$825,000 of \$1.5 million for their stage 2 development. Like most Brisbane suburbs, including your electorate of Greenslopes, my electorate experiences a shortage of green space. To address this, \$507,773 is committed to Rochedale State High School and \$423,000 for Mount Gravatt East State School in the 2022-23 budget to light their ovals. The amount of \$25,000 has also been committed for the cricket nets at Mansfield State School.

The 2022-23 state budget ensures a progressive Queensland will be one more educated, more critical, more healthy, more mobile and better prepared for the ongoing economic challenges that lie ahead. This will be the work of one government, a Labor government, and the result of only one party, the Australian Labor Party. Deputy Speaker, you have reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

The Palaszczuk Government platform of jobs, health and education continues to guide our Government in every decision we make.

Education

A quality education transforms the lives of individuals, families and whole communities. When I was elected to this Parliament, I vowed that I would strive to ensure the Mansfield Electorate became a hub of educational excellence. I am proud of the schools in my Electorate, and the quality education they provide. Our \$16.5B for education in 2022—23 delivers on our election commitment to employ 6,190 new teachers and 1,139 teacher aides from 2020. 675 teachers and 195 teacher aides will join our great schools across Queensland in the next 12 months.

Free period products will be made available to every Queensland state school. Queensland charity Share the Dignity will be provided with funding to expand our initiative and install vending machines with free tampons and pads at every Queensland state school that needs one. Access to free period products can make a real difference to children, especially students whose families are doing it tough, have unstable accommodation or are fleeing domestic and family violence.

Health

Queensland's health response to this global pandemic has drawn accolades globally—on behalf of my community I thank the Premier, the Minister for Health, the Deputy Premier, Dr Young and Dr Gerrard our Chief Health Officers for their courageous and decisive leadership.

The delivery of 7 Satellite Hospitals, one locally in Eight Mile Plains, to enable our acute hospitals to continue safely managing patients via alternative models of care worth \$265 000 000 is welcomed by my community.

Forty-five additional Ambulance Officers will be allocated to Metro South Region over the next two years, including to our local Wishart Ambulance Station.

Communities and Housing

Social isolation and loneliness is a well-documented and researched new world issue identified prior to the pandemic, but which has been exacerbated since Covid-19. Since my election in 2017, I have worked closely with the University of Queensland, School of Psychology and Sociology, the Mt Gravatt Community Centre and the Queensland Community Alliance to proactively address this important issue in my community. The employment of social workers locally (known as link workers) as part of our Nation leading Ways to Wellness Program which has attracted \$505 016 by the Palaszczuk Government. I am proud of this program, the international interest it has attracted and the significant outcomes achieved to date for our local people. I am equally honoured to have chaired the Parliamentary Committee who conducted a State wide inquiry into this important social issue that significantly impacts the lives of Queenslanders and the future economic prosperity of our State.

I am delighted to announce:

- \$292 000 for Southside Community Care
- \$591 000 to INSYNC Mt Gravatt to deliver specialist homelessness services
- \$735 000 will further enable the Mt Gravatt Community Centre to continue their tremendous work supporting our most vulnerable through the Home Assist Secure Program.
- \$14 418 over the next two years will support my much loved Meals on Wheels service

Mr Speaker it is also pleasing to see a continued strong commitment by the Palaszczuk Government to free TAFE for Queenslanders under 25. This is valued immensely by the young people in my community.

Further, Over \$1 million has been budgeted for the training and training infrastructure of the Mount Gravatt TAFE in this year's budget.

The Back to Work and Skilling Queenslanders for Work Programs since 2020 have afforded 48 people in my community the dignity of work. The Mt Gravatt Community Centre deliver many of the certificate courses to assist disadvantaged locals which is part of these \$472 million Palaszczuk Government signature programs.

More than 43,000 Queenslanders have secured a job as a direct result of their participation in the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program since 2015.

Police

And we're keeping Queenslanders safe.

The Palaszczuk Government will deliver from 2020 an extra 2,025 police personnel over the next 3 years.

Transport and Main Roads

We are delivering another record investment in road and transport infrastructure, \$29.7 billion over 4 years supporting 25 200 jobs for Queenslanders.

- Upgrades to M1 Pacific Highway—one of the state's busiest roads. The Pacific Motorway Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill upgrade will continue.
- \$5.4B for Cross River Rail
- \$3.5 billion rail project pipeline as Queensland's population booms.
- \$1M for the Prebble St Bike Way at Rochedale as we partner with the Brisbane City Council

Further, a \$500,000 commitment to begin the Priority Safety Upgrade to Ham Road for Mansfield State Primary and High School—this funding we expect will be matched by the Brisbane City Council under the Local Road Improvement Program.

Small Business

Small Businesses play an important role in my community. Our strong health response has meant that we can get back to business as usual. Many small businesses in my Electorate have benefited from the interest free loans, 4 of the small businesses in my Electorate have received recent Palaszczuk Government Covid-19 Adaption Grants totalling \$52 000 and will continue to access other supports when required.

\$39.1 million is being invested to support our small business growth across the State and \$50 million to support Queensland manufacturers over two years.

Environment

Almost \$40 million is also committed to help protect Queensland's native animals at risk across South-east Queensland, including \$24.6 million to support the South East Queensland Koala Conservation Strategy 2020—2025. This will also include koala fencing to prevent koalas crossing Cavendish Road at Mount Gravatt TAFE. I thank our local environment groups whom I share an enduring and special relationship as together we care for our community.

Our strong health response in Queensland has ensured the foundations for the best possible economic recovery. The Palaszczuk Government's plan for economic recovery from COVID-19 continues with investing for job creation. The greatest investment any Government can make is in the people they serve.

We're focusing on growth sectors like renewable energy, wind, solar and hydrogen, cobalt and vanadium.

This budget strengthens the core pillars of the Palaszczuk Labor Government: healthcare, education, infrastructure, renewables and jobs.

It is a true Labor Budget: we are building more schools, better roads and a workforce for tomorrow, equipping Queenslanders with the skills they need to succeed and unlocking the opportunities our state requires to grow and flourish.

This is what Labor Governments do, and this is exactly what the people of Queensland elected Labor to do!


Mr Speaker, the Palaszczuk government's strong health response has put us on the road to economic recovery.

My community understands that strong and proven community leadership, and a good strong, stable government is what is needed at all times, but especially in times of a global economic and health pandemic.

I am proud to stand part of a Queensland Labor Government led by our Premier who has a vision for this great State of Queensland.

The 2022/23 State Budget ensures a progressive Queensland will be one more educated, more critical, healthier, more mobile and better prepared for the ongoing economic challenges which lie ahead. This will be the work of one Government, a Labor Government and the result of only one party—The Australian Labor Party.

I commend this Bill to the House.

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (11.01 pm): What a contrast in what we hear from the government and the opposition members, the opposition giving a true reflection on a budget that has been delivered after promises of no taxes and uncovering the truth and those opposite talking about the promise that was never really made. I think my grandchildren can tell better fibs than the one that the Treasurer told. Queenslanders will realise that. I look forward to being part of the estimates process in a few weeks time where we will get an opportunity to ask questions about the budget in more detail—as long as it is a proper functioning estimates process where the chairs are acting fairly and allowing the opposition to ask good questions.

This is another example of a government with broken promises that Queenslanders cannot trust. They broke the debt promise last year and again this year. They broke the no new tax promise. I am informed that 26 times the Treasurer mentioned no new or increased taxes. That does not add up to businesses across Queensland. Businesses across Queensland employ 2.1 million Queenslanders. Those 2.1 million Queenslanders are going to be looking for wage rises or negotiating future enterprise bargaining agreements. With the taxes and revenue provisions that this government has announced there will be dollars ripped from those businesses. Every dollar taken from those businesses is a dollar less that workers can negotiate in their enterprise bargaining or for additional wage rises. I believe the government should apologise to those 2.1 million Queenslanders. That is a significant number of Queenslanders. I do not believe the Treasurer or this government will have the gumption to apologise to them.

It is very clear that this government is not listening to Queenslanders. We are in a position where we have rising costs of living—even the federal Treasurer has said that we are facing tough times—and we have a Labor government in Queensland taking money out of the pockets of Queenslanders. That is absolutely wrong. This budget is another smokescreen. The budget is another lot of Labor debt. It is heading to \$110 billion, with the forward estimates showing \$129 billion. This budget should have charted a clear path out of the pandemic. There is no vision or investment in services for Queenslanders.

I note our leader's statement earlier about a 20-year plan for tourism. What a great opportunity, with 10 years leading into the Olympics, and a way out of this pandemic. Many of our tourism businesses have been badly affected by the pandemic and we need to give them some certainty. What great vision it would have been from this government to see a 20-year plan on tourism delivering for Queenslanders after the Olympics. This is Labornomics. Even Labor members and Labor supporters know that Labor cannot manage money. When they have spent their own they come after yours. That is what we have seen again here in Queensland.

Government members interjected.

Mr McDONALD: I hear government members bleating about a surplus. There is a surplus of \$2 billion, but the fiscal balance is minus \$2.4 billion and there is borrowings additional of \$4 billion to cook the books. It is a smokescreen so they can say that there is a surplus. It is borrowing money to keep the lights on. Every business and household across Queensland knows you cannot spend more money than you earn. There is a fear and a lack of certainty for business. We have seen that the contribution from the private sector in economic terms has gone from four times as much as the public sector to now being equal. How could they have confidence when there is a budget like this and broken promises? The Treasurer said he did not mean not taxing business. That is a fib and the Treasurer should come clean to Queenslanders.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. You have used unparliamentary language twice. I was going to wait until the end of your speech to ask you to withdraw, but I will ask you to withdraw that unparliamentary language.

Mr McDONALD: I withdraw. Thank you for your guidance. How could business have confidence after this budget? As I said, 2.1 million Queenslanders work for those businesses, many of which will be taxed. That is less money for them in increased wages or future enterprise bargaining. Those workers will not be happy. I would like to place on record my thanks to our health professionals for the great work that they do. I recognise that there has been a very small step into the water with improvements and a new hospital in Toowoomba and some additional beds in Ipswich which will benefit Lockyer residents. As the AMAQ says, we need 1,500 beds now. This is evidence of the lack of planning from this Labor government. It is not the fault of our health professionals. They do a great job and we say thank you. I look at the guidance that we have put on the table. We need to see real-time data and we need to put doctors and nurses in charge of our health system again. As the AMAQ has said, we must see those 1,500 beds delivered now, not in six or seven years.

I would also like to place on record our thanks to the hardworking police across the state. It does not surprise me that because of the attrition rate from the Police Service the investment in new police is only just keeping up with that attrition. We need to do something about it. I fear that this government will break the promise of 2,025 extra police that was made before the last election. I call on the minister to make sure that he gets what is needed for the police because we have seen crime going up. We are seeing more people dead on our roads. In fact, in June 12 more people lost their lives than the 138 in the previous year. We need to see the police properly resourced.

This budget does very little for local government. In fact, in last year's budget \$148 million was allocated to the Working for Queensland program, which is vitally important for local governments to support employment. The 40 per cent cut to \$88 million will mean that councils will have to independently support 26,000 extra jobs. That is an enormous number of jobs. Although putting in revenue measures and additional taxes, this government is taking money away from local government and putting at risk the jobs of 26,000 people. That is not acceptable. When the Auditor-General has said that there is a \$6 billion backlog in road maintenance across the state and we are seeing this sort of money pulled out of local government, we know things will get even worse.

In addition to the cut in funding to local government, we have seen cost blowouts in union-led projects. There is \$1.2 billion of extra costs on union-led projects across South-East Queensland, which means that \$6 billion backlog will continue to grow. That \$1.2 billion overspend means fewer projects across Queensland. In the Lockyer, that means no new money for the Warrego Highway and the safety improvements we so badly need. It means no new money for the Brisbane Valley Highway, the Forest Hill Fernvale Road, the Gatton Helidon Road, the Gatton Laidley Road, the Mulgowie Road or even the Laidley Plainland Road, all of which are in need of safety improvements. Our community take their lives into their own hands when they cross the Warrego Highway.

We need grade separated interchanges at the Glenore Grove crossroads. This would have been an ideal opportunity to put money into the budget for the Warrego Highway at Glenore Grove, which is the only location between Brisbane and Toowoomba where the road floods. This is not just a flood issue; it is also a safety issue. This would have been a wonderful opportunity to fund that intersection so that people can get to Toowoomba during heavy rainfall and so that our community can safely cross the highway.

The housing issues across the state have been well ventilated. There is an opportunity under the state development program, particularly with regards to the coordination of state agencies. Bringing the state agencies together would do away with the problems of decision-making at different levels and referrals to different agencies. If they came together and worked under the same banner to produce additional housing stock, that would help private enterprise unlock some of the housing market. At present, only 0.4 per cent of housing stock is available. We need that improved.

I now turn to health and ambulance services across Queensland. We have heard about how much trouble the health system is in. While I recognise that this government says this is another record budget, it is about what you do with that money. We must see more efficiencies in health services. When Lawrence Springborg was health minister, he brought health back into order in just a few years. We need to see some good management strategies put in place. At the moment, ramping is at 42 per cent on average across the state. In 2015, when this Labor government took over, it was at 15 per cent. Many Queensland residents are waiting in ambulances for longer than the clinically recommended time. As the AMAQ has suggested, the only way to fix that is to deliver the 1,500 beds now and not in five or seven years.

I pay tribute to those in my community who are coping with the terrible flood events that we have had in recent times. We have had the compounding effects of drought, the pandemic and the whole problem with market issues, and now flood, hailstorm and flood again. Flood assistance, mitigation and betterment need to be better coordinated. Whilst I recognise the QRIDA program, it needs to be reviewed. It needs to be tailored and scalable for when events of that nature affect a community's ability to deliver.


The \$741 million Resilient Homes Fund is jointly funded by the Queensland and Australian governments and delivered through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. At present, the eligibility criteria for the Resilient Homes Fund are not publicly known. We need to give people clarity on that. There is hope for people who need to raise their homes or sell back their homes, but this is not just about inundated homes. In the Lockyer there are places where a creek has moved 120 metres and \$15,000 or \$75,000 just does not cut it when it comes to fixing the resulting problems with access.

I wish to recognise a couple of projects. At the Lowood pool, the disabled works will be finished. That has begun but a little bit of a top-up is needed to finish the project. The Flagstone Creek State School will receive \$400,000 to refurbish a couple of learning spaces. The Glenore Grove State School will receive some funding. Other allocations include: the Laidley State High School, \$492,000; the Lockyer District State High School, \$150,000; the Lowood State High School, \$327,000; the Lowood State School, \$250,000; and Ma Ma Creek State School will receive \$150,000 to refurbish a learning space. That is very welcome. There are 36 schools in the Lockyer so the money that has been allocated to those few schools is welcomed. There is another \$1.2 million for maintenance and minor works in 30 schools.

I have to say that there are many things that we could see happen in the Lockyer. I recognise and thank the Minister for Communities for funding our community centres. I acknowledge Alana Wahl and her team from the Laidley Community Centre and Linda Roberts and her team from the Lockyer information and neighbourhood centre. They do a wonderful job. The increase of base funding from \$124,000 to \$200,000 is very much appreciated. I thank the government for that and everybody in our community who helped us to fight for that money.

I acknowledge the allocation of funding to the Southern Queensland Correctional Centre, which will see the employment of 600 full-time equivalent staff, with an \$850 million spend and an additional 900 to 1,000 beds. Again, I implore the minister to make sure that contractors are engaging with our local community so that we get the best benefit from that project.

I join with my colleagues in saying that this is an underwhelming budget. It is another Labor government budget that will not deliver for Queenslanders because they are not listening to Queenslanders.

 **Mr MADDEN** (Ipswich West—ALP) (11.17 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Appropriation Bill 2022 and the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2022. I will focus my contribution on the Appropriation Bill 2022. I thank the Treasurer, Cameron Dick, the Premier, Annastacia Palaszczuk, and all of the other cabinet ministers for a great budget. Queensland is leveraging the benefit of its strong health response to drive recovery and a growing economy through three priorities: more jobs in more industries, delivering better services and protecting the Queensland lifestyle. As Queensland continues its remarkable transition out of the COVID pandemic, the 2022-23 budget has a range of priorities.

Mr Deputy Speaker, you have reviewed and approved my budget speech for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Protecting the health of Queenslanders remains vital to the state's future. The 2022—23 Budget provides a record \$23.6 billion in 2022—23 and a transformational \$9.785 billion capital boost to the health system over 6 years.

An additional \$6.784 billion over 4 years will support the ongoing growth in demand for health and ambulance services as well as an additional \$1.645 billion over 5 years for mental health services, which is to be funded by a new mental health levy. This investment will support thousands of additional frontline staff including doctors, nurses and paramedics.

The biggest capital program investment since 2010 will see \$59.1 billion spent over 4 years, which is expected to support 48,000 jobs in 2022—23.

Building on the state's strengths, the Budget will drive the creation of more jobs in more industries across Queensland including renewable energy, new economy minerals, advanced manufacturing, aviation and aerospace, biomedical products, agriculture, tourism, research and education services, and creative and design industries.

Queensland's economic strategy will focus on the enablers of a thriving economy including expanded trade opportunities, a larger skilled workforce, enhanced innovation and digitalisation, continued investment in public and private infrastructure, strengthened Environment, Social and Governance credentials, and a competitive investment environment. As part of this and to enhance Queensland's trade opportunities, a new Queensland Trade and Investment Strategy will be backed by \$150 million over 10 years.

A growing economy will allow for the delivery of better services across the state including schools, transport, policing, social services, and women and child safety.

Alleviating cost-of-living pressures, the Budget includes \$6.8 billion in concessions for Queenslanders in 2022—23, including a \$175 Cost-of-Living Rebate at a cost of \$385 million to help manage electricity costs.

To return the 2022-23 Budget to Surplus, it includes a number of new revenue measures and include:

A mental health levy will be introduced which will apply to payroll tax liabilities arising on or after 1 January 2023. This will be applied to large employers, or groups of employers, with annual Australian taxable wages over \$10m, including an additional levy applied to taxable wages over \$100m, providing funding for mental health services.

The mental health levy will be applied as follows:

- a 0.25% levy on the annual Australian taxable wages of employers, or groups of employers above \$10m
- an additional 0.5% levy on the annual Australian taxable wages of employers, or groups of employers, above \$100m.

The levy will only apply to the portion of the wages above the respective taxable wage amounts (i.e., on a marginal basis).

Payroll tax relief will be provided for small and medium businesses, by increasing the payroll tax deductions available to employers, or groups of employers, with annual Australian taxable wages of between \$1.3m and \$10.4m. These changes are proposed to apply to payroll tax liabilities arising on or after 1 January 2023.

A 5% racing levy will be applied to the betting tax rate and bonus, or free bets will be incorporated into the calculation of betting tax for liabilities arising on or after 1 December 2022.

Three additional progressive coal royalty rates will apply. The new tiers will apply on that part of the average price per tonne of the coal sold, disposed of or used on or after 1 July 2022 as follows:

- 20% for prices exceeding \$175 AUD,
- 30% for prices exceeding \$225 AUD, and
- 40% for prices exceeding \$300 AUD.

The Budget delivers for the Ipswich Statistical Region, which extends from Toogoolawah in the north to the New South Wales Border in the south as follows:

\$1 billion for productivity enhancing infrastructure and capital works estimated to support around 3,200 jobs in this region.

\$817 million for the West Moreton Hospital and Health Services that includes \$710 million for Stage 2 of the Ipswich Hospital Extension, delivering 200 additional beds.

\$311.6 million to maintain, improve and upgrade schools in Ipswich.

\$45 million for Ripley Valley Priority Development Area infrastructure including \$9.2 million in 2022-23 for catalyst infrastructure within the Ripley Valley Priority Development Area to support delivery of land supply for housing.

\$34.3 million social housing to expand and improve social housing in Ipswich.

\$25.1 million for disaster recovery and reconstruction for delivery of recovery and betterment projects to Ipswich City Council, Somerset Regional Council and Scenic Rim Regional Council local government assets impacted by disaster events between 2019 and 2022. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Government.

The budget delivers for the Electorate of Ipswich West in a variety of ways including:

New Rosewood Police Station

- A new Police Station will be built at Rosewood on the site of the current Police Station, at the corner of Railway Street and John Street. The budget provides funding of \$1,875,000 of a total spend of \$4,000,000.

Transport and Main Roads Infrastructure:

- \$14,700,000 of a total spend of \$29,450,000 for the new high level Mt Crosby Bridge,
- \$2,771,168 of a total spend of \$5,000,000 for the planning, costing and design (Scoping) phase, for the Warrego Highway Mt Crosby Road Interchange with community consultation of the new design to commence later in 2022 and construction to commence in 2024.
- \$33,000 of a total spend of \$936,654 for planning for the Warrego Highway and Haigslea Amberley Road Interchange.
- \$3 million for to improve flood immunity in John Street, Rosewood. This will involve design work, planning and costing to upgrade the storm water system in John Street and Railway Streets, as well as reconstruction of the kerbing, drainage, drive ways and road surface in John Street.

State School Funding:

- The 2022/23 Budget provides for total funding for Ipswich West State Schools of over \$44 million.
- Ipswich State High School:
 - Additional classrooms \$18,500,000 of a total of \$28,096,000
 - Facilities Renewal \$200,000.
 - Planning for a new school hall \$200,000.
 - Infrastructure Enhancement Program \$900,000 of a total of \$1,000,000.
 - Refurbish Block C—Home Economics—\$1,000,000.
- Rosewood State High School, additional classrooms \$5,911,000 of a total spend of \$7,000,000
- Rosewood State School, refurbish amenities in Block J, \$250,000.
- Walloon State School, additional class rooms, \$4,519,000 of a total spend of \$5,200,000.
- Tivoli State School, refurbish amenities in Block E, \$250,000.
- Brassall State School, refurbish GLA's in Block D.
- Marburg State School, replacement of amenities \$800,000 and installation of electronic security \$90,000.
- This follows on from the recent installation of purposed built amenity centres as Ashwell, Haigslea and Mt Marrow State Schools.
- Ipswich West State Schools can also access the \$20 million program to upgrade State School tuckshops and playgrounds as well as the \$40 million program to make roads safer around our schools and the Free Period Products Program which will operate at every Queensland State School.

North Ipswich Rail Museum:

- To deliver temporary exhibitions, programming and learning activities, \$1,112,000.

Neighbourhood Community Centres:

- Thanks to this significant funding commitment for Queensland Neighbourhood Community Centres, in Ipswich West funding for centres will increase:
- Leichhardt Community Group Inc. Leichhardt One Mile Community Centre—
Current funding is \$123,780 but with an increase of \$106,220 total funding annual will be \$230,000.


- Rosewood and District Support Centre Inc. Rosewood Community Centre Current funding is \$123,781 but with an increase of \$126,219, annual funding will be \$250,000.

This is a budget that delivers for Queensland, for the Ipswich Statistical Region and for the Electorate of Ipswich West.

In closing, it would be remiss of me not to comment on how disappointed I was to hear the Leader of the Opposition's Budget Reply Speech.

There was no support for the Treasurer's Budget revenue measures. That means they don't support making coal companies pay their fair share in royalties to the State, a revenue measure that has been universally supported by the community. This just shows how out of step the Opposition is with the views and values of the Queensland community.

I commend the Appropriation Bill 2022 and the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2022 to the House.

 **Mr LAST** (Burdekin—LNP) (11.18 pm): I rise to speak to the appropriation bills. It was Alexander Hamilton, one of the founding fathers of the United States, who said—

Necessity, especially in politics, often occasions false hopes, false reasonings, and a system of measures, correspondingly erroneous.

What we saw in the delivery of this budget was a lot of false hope, a large serving of false reasoning and a system of measures that go beyond erroneous and border on negligence. I will start with the Burdekin electorate where the false hope delivered by the Treasurer is plain to see. It was only seconds into the Treasurer's budget speech, with the Minister for Health sitting right there beside him, that he gave well-deserved praise to our health staff. Seconds later, the Treasurer stated that we must ensure our health system has the infrastructure and the resources it needs to meet future demands.

For those living in Moranbah or Clermont, the tributes were nothing but false hope. The budget documents talk about a new hospital in Moranbah, but there is no money. If we go to the budget document, funding is entirely absent in forward estimates for the construction of this facility. According to the *Courier-Mail*—

A Queensland Health spokesperson said the specific allocation of funding to the new Moranbah Hospital would depend on the outcomes of necessary upcoming design development work ...

Rewind to 16 September 2020, and a media statement from the new Deputy Premier commences with—

The Palaszczuk Government has launched planning for the expansion of the Mackay Base Hospital and the redevelopments of the Bowen and Moranbah hospitals ...

The Deputy Premier went on to commit \$500 million to that project. Two years later, what do we have? More words. The commitment from the now Deputy Premier is worthless. The commitment from the Labor candidate is worthless. That is for a very good reason—because there is no money in the budget, just more false hope. I visited this hospital with the shadow minister for health only a fortnight ago. Yes, we desperately need a new hospital in Moranbah. We also need some answers to simple questions such as, 'When can we expect this project to start? Will it cater for future growth?' The long-suffering community at Moranbah deserves better. They deserve a health service and health care in that community the same as what exists in the south-east corner of this state. They should not have to drive hundreds of kilometres for a simple blood test, to get a scan or to see a specialist.

Down the road in Clermont, the locals have endured more than four years of false hope. When we talk about erroneous measures, we only have to look at the pathetic excuses for not fixing the GP crisis that Clermont faces. Despite all the talk about health, there is no money in this budget to employ a permanent GP at the Clermont Hospital—more false hope. For four long years that community has been waiting for a permanent doctor at that hospital. They deserve better.

When it comes to road funding in the Burdekin electorate, we have even more false hope. In the lead-up to the recent federal election we had a commitment to finally seal May Downs Road and the Kilcummin Diamond Downs Road, an announcement welcomed by the LGAQ. A few months later, the hope that we may finally see some decent roads is dashed by this budget. I also note there is no money in the budget to match the federal government's commitment to the replacement of the Phillips Creek Bridge on the Saraji Road. This government has failed to address the roads that we call goat tracks that crisscross regional Queensland—the goat tracks that restrict trade and the growth of businesses, the goat tracks that destroy school buses and prevent get kids getting to school, the goat tracks that when an ambulance responds to an emergency contribute to that ambulance ending up damaged and the health of the paramedic put at risk.

It is not just the roads that need to be sealed. We have works on the Bruce Highway around Bowen that are at a complete standstill and have been for nearly four months. The work sites have been abandoned and, according to locals, are becoming like something out of a *Mad Max* movie—more false promises.

We on this side of the House will acknowledge the positives while holding this government to account. I note that in this budget there are investments in projects at schools throughout the Burdekin electorate, upgrades that I have fought long and hard for, such as the additional classrooms at Moranbah State High School and the Moranbah East State School. I welcome those announcements. I am passionate about education and about students in these rural and regional areas having access to the same level of education and opportunities as their city cousins. I do not think that is too much to ask for.

However, I remind the minister that the students at Middlemount Community School are still using a manual arts building that has a dirt floor. That is right—a dirt floor. Take me to a school in the south-east corner of the state with a classroom that still has a dirt floor. That is my challenge to those members opposite: take me to a classroom in their communities that has a dirt floor and show me, because that is what our students are putting up with in the bush. It is a disgrace.

Despite the projects to improve school facilities in my electorate, education faces immense challenges. We still have chronic staff shortages. Classes are combined, reducing the focus on the specific lessons that will allow students throughout the Burdekin electorate to achieve their dreams. In Moranbah we still have no technology teacher.

Recently, I met with a number of school principals from my electorate who highlighted their concerns at the lack of support they are getting from this state government. Chronic teacher shortages are impacting their ability to offer a decent curriculum to country students, not to mention the burnout facing teachers across the electorate. What makes the false promises and the ignorance of key services even harder to take is the fact that centres like Moranbah, Clermont, Middlemount and Dysart are in the heart of the coal country. I am not afraid to mention that word. I am not afraid to mention the word 'coal' because these are the centres that provided \$7.3 billion in royalties to the Queensland budget in 2021-22. These are the centres that will provide an additional \$1.2 billion to the Queensland coffers over the next four years. This mob are quick to get their hands on that bucket of money. We have heard it tonight. Tonight we have heard members talk about getting their hands in that bucket of money.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. I ask the member to withdraw that unparliamentary language.

Mr LAST: I withdraw. When the centres in the very area that require the extra royalties have their essential services ignored and are fed false promises after false promises, is it any wonder they do not believe the Treasurer's claims that all of that \$1.2 billion will be going to regional Queensland? I am proud of the resources sector. I will back my coalminers every day of the week. It galls me to see the royalties from my electorate flowing into the south-east corner of the state. It galls me to see that we are given the breadcrumbs in the bush and that our infrastructure is disgracefully underfunded. We have to go begging to this state government for even the most basic of needs. It is about time that we received our fair slice of the pie in the bush. It is about time some of those royalties started flowing back to regional and rural Queensland.

I move on to my shadow portfolios centred around Queenslanders or keeping Queenslanders safe. What do we see? More false hope. The thing about false hope is that eventually it shows up government members for what they are. Luckily for Queenslanders, it did not take long to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that this government's so-called commitment for 2,025 extra police staff by 2025 was just more false hope. The proof is in the government's own budget documents—Budget Paper No. 2 to be precise. Sadly for the Treasurer and the police minister, the false hope has been revealed due to their egos. Sadly for Queensland, would members believe that this government has added just five extra full-time police officers in the past 12 months? Can members believe that? We wonder why we question its ability to deliver 2,025 extra personnel before 2025. This is an increase, according to the government's own budget documents, of 0.02 per cent of police staffing when during the same period unlawful entry charges against juveniles in Queensland increased by 30 per cent—yes, a 30 per cent increase in one year—and unlawful use of a motor vehicle charges against juveniles increased by 27 per cent. There were five extra full-time officers over the same period that saw a 41 per cent increase in the rate of total personal offences and an increase in total property offences, according to the government's budget documents.

The failure of this government to address crime did not end there. The slashing of funding for safe night precincts in the police budget means that in centres right throughout Queensland there are fewer first response officers available when people dial triple 0. We cannot withdraw significant police resources from nightclub precincts without having a significant impact on the level of service provided. I know because I set up the safe night precinct in Townsville. I know what it means on a busy Friday or Saturday night to have 20 or 30 police in the nightclub precinct to deal with the issues that arise in those localities. The minister can talk all he likes about a record police budget, but when cuts to the number of officers on duty, increases in crime, increases in reoffending and the addition of only five full-time officers is business as usual, that is a failed police budget.

As at 30 June 2021, built capacity in Queensland's prisons was 9,618 and, according to last year's budget documents, facility utilisation was 125.8 per cent. In last year's budget for Queensland Corrective Services there was over \$340 million dedicated to building new facilities or additional beds. I am sure officers in those facilities look forward to the overcrowding finally being addressed. I am sure those officers' families look forward to a safer workplace for those officers.

Sadly, this is more false hope because the facility utilisation this year was still 125.8 per cent. In other words, nothing has changed. Officers and other staff still face the same dangers thanks to a corrections system that has failed to keep pace. Sadly, it is not just in the area of infrastructure that this government has failed. Despite no change to the level of overcrowding and an increase in the rate of serious assaults on officers, Queensland Corrective Services will gain just nine extra full-time equivalent staff. I must point out that the nine extras are staff not necessarily custodial officers.

It is somewhat ironic that just this week here in the chamber we had the minister trying to lecture members about how this government is quite rightly investing in the brave men and women who work in our correctional centres, but failed to mention the increase in serious assaults that are directly linked to the overcrowding that the same minister has overseen.

Moving on to the fire and emergency services portfolio, I am glad to see an increase of 92 staff in this budget, especially given the commitment for 40 additional staff to support SES activities. Given the decline in volunteer numbers over recent years, an increase in capability to respond to disasters or emergencies will be welcomed by every Queenslanders. What I find alarming is the almost \$200 million blowout in supplies and services. I have no doubt that the minister or the Treasurer will give the stock standard COVID response, but it must be noted that this is for supplies and services and not employee expenses.

When it comes to rural and regional affairs, this budget is underwhelming despite the Treasurer's claims. Agriculture—one of regional Queensland's key industries—scored literally two sentences in the Treasurer's budget speech. Life in rural and regional Queensland is different to life here in the south-east.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock. Members, there is way too much background noise. Please take your conversations outside.


Mr LAST: Roads are the lifeblood of regional Queensland so to have just one mention in the Treasurer's budget speech sends a clear message that people in the regions have had one of their key issues overlooked yet again. We welcome the announcement of a new 10-year deal with the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Members I just gave you a warning. Take your conversations outside or I will start warning members.

Mr LAST: That service is absolutely crucial for those people who live in the bush.

While I agree with Alexander Hamilton when it comes to the dangers of false hope, I disagree that false hope is necessary, especially in politics. What is necessary is honesty. The broken promises by this Treasurer show how desperate this government has become in trying to deliver for Queensland.

As the Leader of the Opposition has made abundantly clear, those of us on this side of the House will support good policy but will also call out bad policy. I will not stand by and let people from rural and regional Queensland be taken for granted and overlooked. I will continue to fight on their behalf for the resources and services they deserve because if this government continues to peddle false hope and if this government continues to break their promises then Queenslanders deserve a better government.

 **Mr HUNT** (Caloundra—ALP) (11.33 pm): I rise to speak in enthusiastic support of the 2022-23 state budget. How could I not support a budget of this rolled gold quality? Indeed, I am wearing my new gold tie that I bought from the iconic Caloundra business Chaps Menswear just to celebrate this budget.

'You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.' So said American president Abraham Lincoln. This Premier, this Treasurer and indeed this entire government has seen the responsibility of tomorrow—namely, the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders—and they have comprehensively taken steps to ensure it is in the safest hands and the best possible condition. Every single Queenslander will be able to look back at the philosophy that underpins this budget and know that this is a government that cares and has that care as its absolute highest priority. They will know this because every single Queenslander now and for generations to come will benefit from this transformative approach to health.

Without exception, every Queenslander will, at some point in their life to greater or lesser extent, need to access the services of our state's health system. They will be able to access a larger, better funded, more comprehensive healthcare system than any previous generation of Queenslanders. If the LNP is against this budget or the funding model that is its foundation, they should very simply be up-front about it and tell us exactly which services they will cut. At a local level, Caloundra will benefit from a further \$24.6 million towards the advancement in the very exciting field of brachytherapy and a new linear accelerator for the treatment of cancer patients. Almost \$1 million will go to the Caloundra Hospital, getting it ready for a brand new solar energy fit-out.

It does not end there. The first injection of \$1 million has secured one of my election pledges from 2020 which is a brand new, state-of-the-art ambulance station for Caloundra to be located in Caloundra South. This is a terrific outcome for the health and safety of my community. The community will be even safer thanks to this budget with the delivery of funding to lock in two further election commitments. There is funding for our new police station in Caloundra—a station that will bring in the single biggest increase in policing numbers Caloundra has ever seen. There is funding for a Fire and Emergency Services station also in Caloundra South. Again, this will mean a doubling of resources for the Caloundra community.

That is a community safety hat-trick for my community—something the LNP was never able to achieve in the proceeding 116 years. Indeed, let me summarise the entire contributions from Sunshine Coast LNP members. They have used their speeches on the budget to argue that this government is not contributing enough funding to projects that they never funded at all or in many cases did not even start.

Education is always a priority for Labor governments and this year we have prioritised it yet again. This government has delivered three new schools in three years for Caloundra. Again, that is something Caloundra has not ever experienced before. The educational spending keeps on coming. I look forward to seeing the continuing work on the Caloundra State School hall as it gets \$1.6 million towards a \$3.2 million upgrade. Almost \$4 million will be making its way to our oldest primary school at Glen View.


There is a very welcome \$1 million for Golden Beach State School for their new security fence. When this news hit my community, I got a very simple but genuine message from the P&C president that simply read 'OMG we are getting the fence. We cannot thank you enough.' Golden Beach State School, you are very welcome because this government values the education of our children.

That is not even the highlight. Matt, Sam, Emma, Fiona—the amazing leadership team at Baringa State Secondary College—will be delighted to learn that a very tidy \$26 million is coming their way to fund their new performing arts block. I cannot wait to join the Aura community watching the first school production in the new facility.

I can also highlight this government's tremendous initiative, partnering with Share the Dignity, to provide period products for our state schools. This is an important step in addressing period poverty and ensuring our young women have all that they need when they need it.

The record rail and road spend goes on unabated on the Sunshine Coast. The rail duplication and the Bruce Highway are all supported in this budget. For me, the highlight is the \$22 million for the mighty Bells Creek arterial road that will benefit all of the electorate as it will open up infrastructure, jobs and give Caloundra two entry and exit points on the Bruce for the first time in the history of our town. It will also provide another route into our beautiful hinterland communities and it simply cannot come quickly enough.

I could go on because that is not the end of the good news for Caloundra, but for now I can only offer my strong support for this budget. It focuses on the health and safety of Queenslanders, continues the incredible work of the Palaszczuk Labor government that guided us safely through the pandemic and is now guiding us to a healthy and economically strong future. On that basis, I commend the bills to the House.

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (11.39 pm): I rise to deliver my speech on the budget. I make this contribution as the member for Condamine and the shadow minister for natural resources, mines and energy. Once again, under this Palaszczuk government we see the state debt continue to rise with another \$4 billion in new borrowings, despite a record \$10 billion increase in revenue thanks in large part to \$5 billion from coal and \$1 billion from petroleum royalties. Despite this, total borrowings are to reach \$80 billion and state debt \$139 billion.

As we can see, it is not the level of revenue that is the problem. It is the mismanagement and poor handling of the Queensland economy by this Palaszczuk government that is the problem—all of this as our health system falls apart right before our eyes, especially the eyes of the Premier and the Minister for Health and, more importantly, everyday Queenslanders who rely on the public health system. Whilst it is great to see the need for a new hospital in Toowoomba finally acknowledged by this government, it is still six to seven years before we will see any relief for the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service. This hospital is needed now. This is just another example of more catch-up being played by this government which has demonstrated time and time again it has an inability to plan for the future.

This failure to plan will not help to ease the situation our health system faces in the here and now. This will not ease the pressure from the ambulance ramping and delays that see our public health system under extreme pressure and well past the crisis stage. This failure to plan is endemic across this government. Ministers have surrounded themselves with bureaucrats whose sole purpose is to protect the government and the relevant ministers. Not to work to resolve issues that are in the best interest of the general public, which is what the various departments were established for, is a common occurrence within this government. I have experienced this firsthand in my role as the shadow minister. There has been no greater example of this than the appointment of the DG to the Minister for Resources, Scott Stewart, when he appointed Mike Kaiser to this position. This disgraced former Labor MP immediately politicised the department of resources and it showed in the manner of both the department and the minister. It is no wonder that the morale of those on the front line is so low.

This minister plays politics with every issue that he is confronted with, whether it be mine safety, resource approvals, valuations or the treatment of the tenants at the Dockside Marina. In fact, when I exposed that the commercial operators were going to be moved out of the marina, the minister's response was to try to have me referred to the Ethics Committee instead of dealing with the problem. This was simply extraordinary and subsequently dismissed by the Speaker.

As for approvals, this minister continues to dither instead of making a decision on the granting of a mining lease on the proposed stage 3 of New Acland mine. There is no longer any reason to delay this decision. Maybe if New Hope had engaged Anacta they may have had a different result. One wonders if the minister stood up to the Treasurer when he decided to break an election promise and

introduce coal royalties. I somehow doubt it. It does not matter how the Treasurer tries to spin this; it is a broken promise, a breach of faith with the industry which is delivering a river of cash into the government coffers.

Those sorts of increases of unexpected and unaccounted expenses do immeasurable harm to industry confidence in this state and further investment. How many resource companies which were considering operating in Queensland will be having second thoughts and looking to establish themselves elsewhere where the government is seen to be less unpredictable?

There is no relief for Queenslanders experiencing higher land tax, with many paying land tax for the first time with rising property values and no changes to the land tax threshold to reflect inflation over recent years. The budget identifies rises of 5.2 per cent to land tax in 2021-22 and 10.6 per cent in 2022-23. It is no wonder the minister was unsupportive of extended appeal time for flood affected landowners who had far more pressing matters on their mind at the time of the revaluations. This minister is not across his brief and that was made glaringly obvious to anyone who saw Tuesday's question time. At a time when domestic gas supplies are on everyone's mind, the minister was absolutely clueless.

As for the Minister for Energy, Mick de Brenni, where do I start? I have stated many times regarding this minister that if you fail to plan you plan to fail. I have consistently asked this minister to provide his energy plan as we move towards the government's 50 per cent renewable energy target to give industry and consumers some assurance that we will have a safe, secure and reliable network.

Mr de Brenni interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock. Minister, go back to your seat if you want to interject.

Mr WEIR: I have asked the minister many times to give industry and consumers some assurance that we will have a safe, secure and reliable network. So far as I can ascertain, the minister now has a plan to have a plan.

A plan would have come in handy in recent times as the grid came under considerable pressure. All stakeholders have expressed concern as to the lack of any coherent transition plan which would help to avoid situations such as we have just experienced. The few comments the minister has made have only added to the confusion prospective investors are feeling about investing in the energy industry in this state. The minister has stated that he will not be closing down any coal-fired power stations. The question all investors would like an answer to is how is that going to work? These comments have been described by industry observers as either misleading, uninformed or straight-out dishonest. The minister needs to explain himself as his comments just do not make sense.

The minister needs to be honest with Queenslanders, who have just had a glimpse of what an unstable grid looks like. For the first time we have seen the regulator come in and set wholesale prices on generators and order them online to stop both price gouging and to stabilise the grid. This is an extraordinary intervention over our state owned generators. This is what you get when you do not plan. What is going to be the cost of this instruction by AEMO and who will have to pay?

Mr Brown interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Capalaba.

Mr WEIR: Mr Deputy Speaker, you may remember on 1 February this year Queensland was sweltering through a heatwave and the Premier told Queenslanders to turn off their air conditioners—

Mr Brown interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Capalaba, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mr WEIR:—or we could be facing load shedding across the state. This scenario was averted when a big storm hit Brisbane and blacked out a number of suburbs and the temperature dropped and load shedding was averted. In the interim, a lack of reserve 2 was issued and AEMO issued a reliability and emergency reserve trader, or RERT as it is known, to boost supply. This does not come without a cost.

Mr de Brenni interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Minister for Energy, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mr WEIR: The RERT was only issued for a short period due to the storm taking so many consumers off line and only contributed 331 megawatts. So what did that 331 megawatts cost consumers? \$50,960,399. This is now on your electricity bills.

Given that AEMO stepped into the market and we have been running LOR 2 and 3 since last Wednesday, what is that going to cost? Maybe the minister can give some indication during his contribution. It is safe to say it will be in the many hundreds of millions of dollars. That account needs to be paid and it will be passed onto Queenslanders because of the failings of this government and this minister. This minister would have you believe that power increases are a result of the high international cost of coal and gas. Is the minister really telling Queenslanders that the state owned generators do not have long-term price agreements with their coal providers? Are we really buying coal on the world spot market?

Mr de Brenni interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Minister for Energy, you are under a warning. I ask you to leave the chamber for an hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Springwood withdrew from the chamber at 11.49 pm.

Mr WEIR: If this is the case, it is gross incompetence on this minister's behalf. If this is the case, the cost will continue to rise thanks to the royalties rise introduced in this budget by this government. The budget allocates \$35 million for a feasibility study for a second pumped hydro which is welcome as pumped hydro is a must-have element of any renewable energy future.

I have had a number of briefings regarding the proposed Koombaloo project and I would love to see a feasibility study into this project, which is being advocated for by the Queensland Electricity Users Network. This is not to be confused with the Koombaloo project being supported by the Cairns Regional Council, the Cardstone Project. The Koombaloo project is located in North Queensland in one of the highest, most reliable rainfall regions in Australia. The project will more efficiently use the Queensland government's existing Koombaloo hydro dam and transmission network.

Every time this minister is under pressure he resorts to outlandish statements, as we saw in question time on Monday. He tried to turn the issues he was being questioned about into an attack on workers in the energy sector, which is absolute rubbish. This is a desperate attempt to deflect from his own failings.


In Condamine, yet again the Treasurer appears to have overlooked the needs of our community: joint road funding with the federal government and yet again reannouncements of school hall funding. The people of Condamine should feel very left out, including in relation to social housing funding, which for this area is the second-lowest of all the regions in Queensland. We have schools crying out for more teachers and support staff. With widespread shortages, principals, deputies and heads of departments are having to head back to classrooms instead of managing the future educational requirements of the students in their care. Finding teacher replacements is a statewide problem and our children suffer. Our public health system is in complete disarray and has gone well past the critical stage. Ambulance ramping, delays in patient care, bed shortages, staffing shortages and a lack of adequate resources have been happening for months.

While we wait for the new Toowoomba Hospital to be built the population of the Darling Downs continues to grow, and people from New South Wales, Western Queensland and the Southern Downs attend Toowoomba daily for their medical procedures and appointments which the public system will not be able to cater for. The small hospitals in Condamine outside the Toowoomba CBD are ageing, with little investment to upgrade or replace old equipment, new beds or even fresh paint or flooring. I take my hat off to the Clifton Cooperative Hospital. They operate a wonderful facility, providing great care and service to the community.

Crime, in particular youth crime, is all over the news in Condamine. We have a daily influx of calls and emails from constituents with stories of break-ins, property theft, stolen vehicles and property damage. This week a vehicle was stolen from Kingsthorpe with all of the owner's tools on board. He now has no tools and no vehicle to transport him to his workplace, which makes his life exceedingly difficult. These kids—and they are mostly kids—and their families need to start taking some responsibility for their actions. The police are struggling to keep up and are being let down by a judicial system that lets offenders back on the street to commit more crimes.

As I stated earlier, this government has once again broken its trust with the Queensland public by introducing three new taxes, despite the no new taxes pledge during the election campaign. The Treasurer has stated that the new payroll tax will only affect large businesses that employ over 100 staff. He has got to be kidding! Do he and this government honestly believe that large businesses like

Coles and Woolies will not pass this on? This is a government that currently has so many inquiries into integrity matters that I have lost count, so what does breaking an election promise matter? Well, Mr Deputy Speaker, it does matter and the people of Queensland will not forget it. They deserve so much better.

 **Mr MELLISH** (Aspley—ALP) (11.53 pm): The 2022 Palaszczuk government budget is a great budget for Queensland now and setting us up into the future. It is all about good jobs, better services and our great lifestyle. We are supporting good, secure jobs by supporting the industries of the future while backing our traditional industries. We are investing in the frontline services that Queenslanders depend on, and we are building the infrastructure that keeps Queensland the best state with a great lifestyle.

I congratulate the Premier and Treasurer for another great Labor budget. The centrepiece of our budget is our record investment in health infrastructure. Our Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan is an outstanding investment in the people of our state. I again congratulate the Premier and Treasurer for achieving both a budget surplus and an unprecedented investment in hospital upgrades in the same budget.

This budget does not shy away from making tough calls. Once our state's mineral and non-renewable resources are exported we will not get them back, so it is only prudent that we take steps at a time of unprecedented value for these resources—resources that the world needs from us right now—to maximise our advantage to benefit Queenslanders now and in the future. Queensland is the world's largest exporter of metallurgical coal. The global demand for steel is not receding any time soon and the world is paying through the roof for our metallurgical coal, so we would be doing future generations wrong if we did not seize this generational opportunity to set our state up for the future. This is driving improvements to our way of life here in Queensland.

We have a \$9.7 billion capital pipeline over six years in health and over 2,500 extra beds. In our part of the world on the north side that means a \$300 million project at the Prince Charles Hospital, delivering 93 additional beds. A little bit further north at the Redcliffe Hospital we have \$1 billion delivering 204 additional beds, and just to the south we have the dedicated cancer centre at the RBWH with 150 beds, a \$750 million project. These are all fantastic projects.

We have some great education investments in our area too. I was really pleased to see continued funding for Aspley Special School and Geebung Special School. These are \$16 million projects at each school. They are absolutely fantastic. I was at Geebung Special School last week, and you can really see the benefits those projects will deliver for many years to come. At Aspley State School we are refurbishing three learning spaces. At Aspley East State School we are refurbishing 10 learning spaces. At Craigslea State School we are refurbishing an existing outdoor learning area. At Craigslea state high we have a really exciting extension to the existing science building to include a marine science laboratory. I am really looking forward to that. Well done to Minister Grace for those projects.

Locally we have some really great transport outcomes. In coming weeks we will see the next stage of early works on Beams Road. This is about relocating the existing park-and-ride. The entry to that is dangerous for buses and cars, so this will allow the overpass project to proceed and make for a much safer journey. This is on top of the additional 200 car parks that were opened recently in the member for Sandgate's electorate just over on the other side of the tracks, which are making a difference to both of our electorates and congestion around that station. We are finally getting somewhere on the next stage. The council has held that up, but we are really looking forward to moving ahead with this project. I thank Minister Bailey for his leadership in this area.

For the Bald Hills park-and-ride I was really pleased to hear about up to 90 additional car parks on the southern side. The business case is underway now and construction will come in coming years. This is another great local transport project funded in the budget, and I am really looking forward to seeing this roll out.

I was particularly pleased to see a community centre base funding increase. This will mean almost a doubling to community centres, including the Zillmere centre over in the member for Nudgee's electorate, which has a much broader appeal on the north side. Many northside members—I see the member for Sandgate nodding—would know of the great work they do there.

More broadly, in the veterans' affairs space it is really fantastic that this year we have seen already more than \$1.5 million awarded from the first round of our Queensland Remembers grants, and that funding continues. Our annual grants program is set to open soon, and there will be many more veterans' initiatives that we are rolling out which are funded in this budget.


On broader revenue measures, I of course support initiatives to ensure that Queenslanders benefit from the astronomical higher cost of coal at the moment. This is being given back to Queenslanders through our investments in health and shoring up our fiscal state for many years to come. As the Treasurer has said, health is wealth. Sadly, those opposite do not support health funding or good fiscal management. Those opposite did not deliver a surplus in their last three years of government in Queensland or in their last nine years federally. They promised plenty of them. They even printed the 'Back in Black' mugs down in Canberra, but they delivered no surplus budget. They are zero from 12. I am a West Tigers fan, and zero from 12 would shock even me. You would sack the coach if your team was zero from 12, and they have had a few coaches over there. They are the party of cuts and economic mismanagement.

Over the last decade or so it has been really sad to see that the LNP in Queensland and the Liberal Party nationally have completely given up on good economic management. They are drifting closer to the Republicans in the US and Tories in the UK on giving up economic management completely, and that is pretty sad.

Their failure to support these revenue measures means they would have to cut. They do not support the coal royalty change so they must cut \$1.2 billion from the budget—presumably from the Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan. That means they would have to cut both the Prince Charles Hospital expansion, which is 93 beds, and the Queensland Cancer Centre at RBWH, which is 150 beds, to balance the budget.

Mr Langbroek interjected.

Mr MELLISH: I appreciate the member for Surfers Paradise's input. I had to remind someone earlier that he was actually a shadow Treasurer a few years ago. We did forget who the shadow Treasurer was during that 2015 to 2017 term. It was a very interesting trivia point. This is an outstanding budget and I congratulate the Premier and Treasurer.

 **Mr DAMETTO** (Hinchinbrook—KAP) (12.00 am): I rise this evening to give my contribution on the Appropriation Bill.

Ms Boyd: It's 'this morning'.

Mr DAMETTO: It is morning. I would like to welcome everyone to this morning's sitting of the parliament. I would like to acknowledge that right now back in the Hinchinbrook electorate we are having the Ingham Show. There would be all sorts of things happening at the Crushers bar and the chook bar, with everyone raising money and those sorts of things. It is great to see these community events going on while we are sitting here early in the morning doing our job for Queenslanders, discussing and debating this budget and Appropriation Bill.

While I am on my feet, I must talk about the Appropriation Bill and the budget. In all fairness, I have described the budget like this before and I will describe it again—it is a standard state Labor government budget.

Ms Boyd: Hear, hear!

Mr DAMETTO: It does very good to deliver for roads.

Ms Pugh: Hear, hear!

Mr DAMETTO: Come on, keep going with the 'Hear, hears!' There is health and education, but it falls short in many other areas.

Government members interjected.

Mr DAMETTO: I will take the interjections and the boos from the government. For the first time, this year in this parliament we have heard coal being talked about in the positive. Isn't it great to hear coal being talked about in the positive from the Labor Party? The reality is that the only way to fix some of the holes in the budget—to fix some of the problems in our schools, to keep our education up to scratch and to make sure our hospitals are kept up to a standard that the community expects—is to make sure we keep the revenue rolling in from the royalties from our mining industry. There is \$9 billion, with \$7.6 billion from coal royalties in this budget alone. The reality is that without that not only would we not be able to keep the lights on in this state; we would not be able to keep up the infrastructure that we need to maintain a normal level.

This is a standard Labor budget. We have not seen anything delivered when it comes to major infrastructure projects for North Queensland. I will say this again: we will not see a state government budget that reflects what North Queensland needs until we see a separate state in North Queensland. Unfortunately, it is just a measuring and balancing act in this state. When it comes to the Treasurer, I

must say once again that he has a very hard job. He is not in the House right now but I am sure he is listening intently at home on his TV. Until we have a North Queensland state, we will not see the revenue generated in North Queensland redirected back to the north. There are 74 state seats in the southern part of the state and they compete for the revenue raised. We will not build the rail line into the Galilee, Hells Gates Dam or the duplication of the Bruce Highway—and that duplication would greatly benefit the Cook electorate, Madam Deputy Speaker Lui—until we see a separate state. Unfortunately, the priorities are in the south-east, and the approaching Brisbane Olympics will always take priority over infrastructure in North Queensland where the wealth of the state is generated.

While I am on my feet, I must congratulate the state government for delivering for the Hinchinbrook electorate. We have seen things that will generate income for the north. There is the infrastructure upgrade necessary from Powerlink to make sure the Kidston pumped hydro transmission network is connected to the new battery system. It is a great project. A number of jobs will be generated out of that over the next couple of years, and it has been great to see jobs being generated during the construction phase. This is a renewable project that does have some credit.

There are a number of road projects in the northern part of the state getting some funding allocations. We will see \$20 million allocated out of this budget, out of a full \$110 million spend, on the northern intersection upgrade in the northern beaches of Townsville just after Ring Road stage 5. I see the member for Thuringowa to my left, and he is always spruiking that. It is good to see that these road projects are getting funded, but we had a bit of angst from the community as this project was delivered because there was not enough consultation. If we are going to duplicate the Bruce Highway all the way to Cairns at some stage, it would be great to make sure that Transport and Main Roads are interfacing properly with the people who live along that road corridor.

We have seen a number of road projects over the last two years being delivered between Townsville and Ingham. That is great but I have a number of residents right now saying that they do not want any more road infrastructure projects between Townsville and Ingham. They are sick of the roadworks because it is taking them too long to get to Townsville. What we do want though is more money being spent between the Ingham part of the Hinchinbrook electorate and Tully Heads. That is where we have a lot of narrow bridges and dangerous sections of the Bruce Highway. We need more attention from Transport and Main Roads and the minister on this section of the Bruce Highway before more lives are lost.

I want to talk about the money that is being allocated to some of the schools in the Hinchinbrook electorate. We are grateful for that money. The most amount of money is being allocated to the Northern Beaches State High School. Robin Sprott, the principal, and her deputy principals would be very happy to know that \$1.2 million is being allocated for a security fence to go around their large school. They have had a number of safety breaches over the last couple of years which means they need to protect their students. It is great to see that the education minister, who is not here in the House tonight, has made sure that money is allocated through the department.

Madam Deputy Speaker, is there a problem? Are we pausing the clock?

Mr Stewart: You can't say that they are not here.

Mr DAMETTO: I did not realise that. Thank you very much, member for Townsville.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Hinchinbrook, I remind you that it is a convention that you do not mention the absence of members from the House.

Mr DAMETTO: Thank you for your guidance. It was not anything other than acknowledging the fact that they have delivered for the Hinchinbrook electorate. I withdraw.

I have seen some negative press in the *Courier-Mail* today about Minister Bailey making an announcement about a similar amount of funding being delivered to a school in his electorate for a fence. All I can say to anyone about that is that if they can do the fence cheaper they should come and put a quote in and build it themselves.

We have seen some funding to our schools being rehashed. There was \$45,000 allocated to the Trebonne State School for their outdoor nature playground equipment. They have tried to spend that money, but unfortunately the price of this equipment has gone up and it is very difficult to get anything built for this school for under \$100,000. We will be going back to the government and asking for a bit more funding to make sure they have the funds that align with what these things cost.

There has been a contribution to health in this budget—and it is a record health budget—but unfortunately we have not seen that flow through to the north. Charters Towers and the Ingham Hospital are crying out for CT scanners. We have done all the lobbying with the government, we have done

everything we can in the press and we have done everything we can to raise this with our local hospital and health service networks, but it still seems to fall on deaf ears. You need a CT scanner if you have had a stroke before they can administer anticoagulant drugs. Without anticoagulant drugs, you suffer from the systems of your stroke longer, which creates a scenario where you could have prolonged problems from the stroke or it could affect your rehabilitation. That is why I will continue to fight for a CT scanner on behalf of the Hinchinbrook electorate and the people who work at the Ingham Hospital. We acknowledge that we have had funding for dialysis seating and units delivered in the last term and constructed in this term, but we need to make sure that money continues to flow for these important things in the regions.

While I am also on my feet, I want to talk about the fact that unfortunately we do not see the nation-building infrastructure being delivered to regional Queensland. I touched on it a little bit earlier: unless we create jobs in regional Queensland, we cannot help create jobs for the rest of the state. We need the nation-building infrastructure. We continue to see money allocated for projects, for business cases, economic impact studies, environmental studies, but no money allocated for construction for large water projects. We are sick of talking about projects like Hells Gates Dam. We have projects like the CopperString Project 2.0 which has government funding but no money for construction, no extra funding allocated in this budget. I talk about CopperString 2.0 because we hear this constant reminder that we need to transition away from coal and towards renewables. Firstly, if we are going to generate income and revenue-raising from royalties, we need to make sure that the North West Minerals Province has access to cheaper electricity. If you have any interest in creating renewable energy jobs, you would build CopperString 2.0 tomorrow so that you would have this beautiful corridor outside of high-value agriculture land to place your solar panels, wind farms and all sorts of things that create renewable energy.

We have had money allocated to water projects that have not yet raised even a business case which are competing with other projects at the moment off the back of, 'We have money to throw around from water right now.' Unfortunately, we have seen projects like the Stone River Weir project in the Hinchinbrook Shire denied funding and told, 'Go to the feds, come back to the state, go back to the feds'—bounced around like a basketball asking for a measly couple of million dollars to put a business case together. We were told the last time from the minister, 'The council has to put some money into this.' Guess what? The council continues to put money into trying to get projects up and running in the Hinchinbrook electorate, projects like the Dungeness dredging project and rock wall reconstruction and sand spit reconstruction for Enterprise Channel.

The Hinchinbrook Shire Council is a small shire council with limited funds that have spent \$485,000 on trying to get a case up with the Department of Environment and Science and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries so we can actually get to a stage where we can ask for money to be funded from the state or federal government and we continue to face roadblock after roadblock so we cannot even apply for funding. Now we are asking the small regional councils to go back to their ratepayer base to fund things like water projects that we could go around for the next 10 years trying to seek some funding for. We need help from the state government. We need help from the federal government. Finally we have an alignment of state and federal governments that may be able to work together and deliver for our small regional councils instead of sending them around the mulberry bush five or six times making them spend their ratepayers' money, sending them broke.

I must reflect on something that the Hon. Bob Katter has said a number of times to me. Unfortunately we have this mantra from government right now when it comes to spending money or deciding whether or not they say yes or no to a project. If the answer is absolutely no to a project, then we positively must have another business case or positively must have another inquiry into it. If the government wants to tell us no, just tell us no. Stop wasting ratepayers' money or allocate the funding from the state to go around in circles. We may as well spend your money rather than ours when it comes to small regional councils. At the end of my contribution—

Mr Whiting interjected.

Mr DAMETTO: I do not even know what the contribution is from this guy, what he is saying. I do not even know what member he is, so I will not take the interjection.

An honourable member: 'This guy'?

Mr DAMETTO: I withdraw, Madam Speaker. Winding me up.

Mr Whiting: The Member for Bancroft.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Lui): Member for Bancroft, order!

Mr DAMETTO: You have been warned, by the sounds. While I am also on my feet, I must talk about revenue-raising in this state. There has been a number of constituents who are absolutely flabbergasted by the increase in fines for speeding across the state. We passed legislation last sitting week in relation to the SPER debt that this state has incurred. We have the highest SPER debt that you can ever imagine. It is a shameful thing to think about. We have the SPER debt which has been racked up by people who will never pay this off, people who could not care less whether or not they pay their fines. That is why the debt will keep charging up. However, we will continue to ratchet up fines on good and hardworking Australians and Queenslanders who continue to go to work, who need their licences, who might be in a bit of a hurry or have a lapse of concentration for five seconds. Let me read some of these out: for the offence of one to 10 kilometres over the speed limit, the fine will be raised to \$287. If you are 11 to 20 kilometres over the speed limit, it will be \$431. People in Queensland cannot afford this. All you are going to be doing is taxing once again the people who are trying to generate an income in this state and keep food on the table for their kids.


A government member interjected.

Mr DAMETTO: It is easy to do when you are out in regional Queensland. Sorry about the member for Bancroft; he would not know anything about regional Queensland. I will use my last three seconds to say he has no idea about regional Queensland.

Mr WHITING: Madam Deputy Speaker, I take personal offence at that and I request the member withdraw.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Lui): Member for Hinchinbrook, the member for Bancroft takes personal offence. Do you withdraw?

Mr DAMETTO: I withdraw.

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (12.16 am): I appreciated when the member for Bancroft travelled to Rockhampton last year to celebrate Beef Week. He spent several nights camping in a tent in Central Queensland. I do appreciate when South-East Queensland members come up to regional Queensland and see just what it is like to live there and see the great lifestyle we have in regional Queensland.

The member for Hinchinbrook's contribution was of great interest. I am pleased that he supports a number of the measures in the budget that we are debating this evening. I am very pleased that the Katter's Australian Party supports the measures in the budget to ensure that some of the record profits the big coal corporations are making currently go back into the royalties which flow back into our record health and education budgets that this budget is delivering.

Can I correct the member in terms of his contribution regarding water and this budget and how we are delivering water projects right across Queensland? In particular, I am very pleased, as a result of the advocacy of the member for Rockhampton, that Mount Morgan will be receiving \$40 million in this budget towards a pipeline from Gracemere up to Mount Morgan which will deliver that security of water supply that Mount Morganites desperately have been calling for. No money from those opposite. No money from the federal LNP government during their term. Only state Labor has been able to deliver that \$40 million which delivers that security of water supply to Mount Morgan. I congratulate the advocacy of Mayor Tony Williams from Rockhampton Regional Council as well.

I congratulate the Premier and Treasurer on this landmark budget, an historic budget that delivers amazing outcomes for Queenslanders right across this state. It really truly is a budget that delivers so much for us right across Queensland. In terms of delivering good jobs, better services, this is what Queenslanders expect of their government. They want good jobs. They want a government in Queensland that has their back, and they want to continue this great lifestyle that we all enjoy right across Queensland.

It is no wonder that people from right across the country are moving to Queensland in droves. Over 50,000 people moved to Queensland in the 18 months between June 2020 and September 2021 quarter, and we are seeing so many people moving to Queensland which is putting all sorts of pressure on our education systems, on our schools and on our hospital services. However, this budget delivers and responds to those pressures, particularly at a time when we are experiencing a global pandemic as well.


I congratulate the Minister for Education, Grace Grace, on delivering another record education budget. It is the eighth time I have been able to stand in this place and talk about a record education budget that this Palaszczuk Labor government is delivering. I am just so proud to be part of a government that is so dedicated to delivering quality education to students right across Queensland no

matter where they live. That is what those of us on this side do. We care about giving all children a great start, engaging young people in learning, creating safe and inclusive workplaces, and investing in communities for a stronger Queensland.

I am particularly proud that under the education budget the Department of Education will continue to employ additional wellbeing professionals, mostly GPs and psychologists, supporting 50 state schools to provide free GP services to secondary students at schools over three years from 2021-22 through the \$106.7 million Student Wellbeing Package. That includes a number of psychologists as well. We have made a lot of progress through the Youth Engagement Strategy by investing almost \$50 million over four years for a range of initiatives to re-engage children and young people who have disconnected from study or work, and we are continuing to invest in delivering world-class educational facilities under the \$3 billion Building Future Schools Program with new schools to open each year from 2023 to 2026. That is in addition to the continuation of the delivery of additional and renewed infrastructure in Queensland state schools.

Wherever I go in Queensland there are schools that have new classrooms, new halls, new multipurpose facilities, new amenities and new tuckshops. I am proud that that is as a result of the Palaszczuk Labor government delivering record education budgets but particularly investing in capital infrastructure. In my electorate of Keppel I am very pleased to have been able to tell the principal of Keppel Sands State School recently that they will receive \$458,000 to construct additional specialist classrooms. Sam Conway, the principal there, is incredibly pleased about that. Rockhampton North Special School will receive almost \$10 million and Yeppoon State High School, \$9.6 million for a new applied learning centre.

There is a whole range of initiatives in this budget that will deliver for the people of Keppel as well as for people right across Queensland. That is what good Labor governments do: we deliver for the people of Queensland no matter where they live. I look forward to celebrating and rolling out these projects as this budget comes to fruition over the next 12 months. I commend the bills to the House.

 **Mr O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (12.21 am): Representing the community I call home is a great honour and I am forever grateful for being given the opportunity to serve in this place. Few more important things can happen in this parliament than the budget because it is our chance for the state government to change the lives of so many Queenslanders through the actions they take. Disappointingly, the opposite has happened for my part of the Gold Coast.

At the high level, the cost-of-living relief will barely be noticed by most people with the price of so many things going up and up. Housing affordability and accessibility is one of the biggest issues for the people I represent. Around 46 per cent of homes in Bonney are rentals and it has never been tougher for many of those tenants. The most recent data from 2021 showed that even around a year ago 2,620 people from my area were on the social housing waitlist. That is a more than 70 per cent increase on the number of people waiting in 2018 and around half of those people, 1,351, were classified as very high need. Over that time, the number of bedrooms available did not just stay stagnant; it actually went backwards, and this budget did not include a single new cent to build social housing. That impacts everyone looking for somewhere to live because if our most vulnerable Queenslanders are not able to find a place, it will flow on to the rest of the available properties, which creates even more pressure.

In terms of other projects in my electorate, all our area received was the next phase of funding for ongoing projects. There was nothing new. The biggest two projects, the second M1 and the new hospital at Coomera, will not be delivered for at least half a decade. We cannot wait that long. Our livability is massively under threat due to the simple fact that it takes longer and longer to get anywhere and due to the huge pressures being placed on the Gold Coast University Hospital, which already has the busiest emergency department in the nation. It should not take nearly an hour to drive through our suburbs, to drive from Parkwood to Coomera, to go from Labrador to Pacific Pines and from Arundel to Ormeau. The only way to fix that is by building another road option to the M1 for Gold Coasters to use.

I heard the main roads minister in his contribution say he is fast-tracking the Coomera Connector. He has been the main roads minister since 2015 and the budget has confirmed we will not be driving on the completed stage 1 until after 2026, a ridiculous time frame. We found out 80 per cent of the second M1 funding will not even be coming until after July next year. We needed this road years ago and our city deserves better.

It is also a real issue for people who live right next to where the Coomera Connector will go. In my area that is everyone in The Surrounds and Arundel Springs. They are living in limbo because we have not seen any plans released, only glossy artist impressions. We need to see what this road is going to look like and get a guarantee that it will include the best possible sound barriers and environmental offsets. There is no excuse because the detailed business case was finished long ago.

Even when another level of government puts up a portion of the funds for a project, the state government has not stepped up to put their own on the table. The Pine Ridge Road-Captain Cook Drive-Gold Coast Highway intersection has over \$5 million in funding from the City of Gold Coast committed, but the budget shows this vital upgrade has completely disappeared from QTRIP. Not a cent has been put up by the state after it was listed last year. This intersection is nothing short of a nightmare. It has not been touched in decades and the slip lanes and turning lanes are nowhere near the standard they should be at. I urge the transport minister to at least release the plans and costings of this upgrade so we know what we need to advocate for.

The only school in my area receiving any funding was Coombabah State High School. This project is an important one and one I have long advocated for to make sure our students there can ditch their old demountables and have proper learning environments, but it is nothing new. This is just the next part of the project funding. In terms of the other high school in my area, Southport State High School, I will keep advocating for funding for a bigger indoor sports area which can house the whole school for assemblies.

I wrote to the education minister a few weeks ago with my wish list of projects that I wanted to see funded—all the things I have heard from our local P&Cs and principals and all on their respective school infrastructure plans. Disappointingly, every single request was ignored. We received no funding for the Arundel State School master plan to deliver new classrooms, nothing to get the toilets fixed at Labrador State School and no investment from the state government to build a new early years precinct at Musgrave Hill State School.

Moving to the other areas I cover in terms of the environment portfolio, climate change is the greatest challenge our environment is facing and nowhere in Queensland is more at risk than the Great Barrier Reef. The other issue we are facing is a loss of biodiversity. Action on climate change will mean nothing if we do not practically protect the precious ecosystems of Queensland. Since I became shadow environment minister I have been calling out the government's inaction on conservation. In the last two budgets protected areas have increased by just 0.01 per cent each year. At this pace environmental stakeholders estimated it would take the state government a thousand years to reach the 17 per cent target they announced in 2015. Clearly, they have shamed the government into action. You cannot just set targets because they sound good and not have a plan to deliver them. That does nothing for our environment.

The percentage of Queensland that is protected is the lowest of any state in the nation and the Service Delivery Statement shows it has actually gone backwards in the last year to just 8.21 per cent. I will be generous to the minister about that. It is a bit of a technicality due to the classification of two reserves, but this would not be an issue if the government had actually achieved a meaningful increase in their more than seven years in power. The fact that the status of just two reserves can send the government's performance back to the level they reached four years ago is telling too.

Conserving our environment is a fundamental value of the Liberal National Party. We believe in a sustainable environment, balancing the need to be productive while preserving our natural assets to be enjoyed by future generations. We have consistently called for the government to deliver on this and to focus on management hand in hand with expansion.

Conservation and tourism groups deserve praise for their huge effort over many years to achieve the result we have seen in this budget. They went so far as creating an alliance earlier this year, the launch of which I was honoured to attend, to try to push the government to act. I want to pay tribute to the hard work of those organisations: the Queensland Conservation Council, the Wilderness Society, the National Parks Association of Queensland, Pew Charitable Trusts, WWF, Ecotourism Australia, the Queensland Industry Tourism Council and the Queensland First Nations Tourism Council. This is a great win for them all and I will be following the government's progress closely to make sure this funding is actually delivered.

Where did this sudden action come from? At the beginning of this month at a press conference the Premier had a light-bulb moment. She was in a national park and the thought suddenly occurred to her that maybe the government she leads might actually need to do something to achieve a target that it set for itself. The Premier said—

... of course we're in the beautiful Daintree, and you know it made me really think that as the leader of this state and I know my colleagues would also agree that now's the time that we should think about expanding our national parks estate, we've had some small programs in the past to look at purchasing land adjacent to some of our world heritage areas that have high conservation value but it's something that we're going to give some serious consideration to.

These comments came seven years after the Palaszczuk government first set their target for protected area expansion. It should not have taken so long. The LNP welcomes the \$262.5 million for land acquisitions and capital works, but we want details on when it is allocated so we can be sure it will actually be spent over the next four years, and we want to see more resources put into management. It is not good enough to declare an area as protected and say 'job done'. We need to back that up with better management so these conservation estates are world-class and so their biodiversity is protected from feral animals, weeds and bushfires.

The government has form in announcing environmental policies and failing to deliver. Since 2017 we have heard about the government's flagship \$500 million Land Restoration Fund. Yesterday the Premier said it had been delivered. I think we have very different definitions of the word 'delivered'. Not only was the fund barely mentioned in the budget papers; the minister confirmed in answer to a question on notice earlier this month that only \$3.19 million of the \$500 million has actually been spent and that it would be at just \$10 million by the end of the next financial year. Of course, many of these projects are long term, but not even one-fifth of the fund has been allocated to specific projects. Again, it is announcement versus delivery. They cannot come out and say they are delivering \$500 million in an effort against climate change when so little has actually been delivered.

In Budget Paper 2 last year we saw the Carbon Reduction Investment Fund. In a footnote it said that the returns generated would be used to meet the costs of the Land Restoration Fund. There is no mention of this fund in this year's budget papers—no mention of any returns generated.

Funding to protect our koala population became even more urgent this year when their classification was escalated to endangered; however, the Queensland government's funding is just a fraction of the \$193 million that New South Wales has put on the table—barely a fifth. I encourage the government to increase the funding in the forwards. If we are going to reverse the trend of declining koala population it will take serious investment and action, and it is shameful that New South Wales is beating us by so much. With the Olympics coming in 2032, we cannot risk having one of our most iconic native animals becoming extinct in the wild just as our state is being put on the world stage.

In December the minister allayed concerns of local governments and residents by providing clarity on waste levy payments. We do not have a clear path for the future of waste and recycling in this state. This budget gives no clarity. Our waste industries need that certainty. They are willing to build the infrastructure that we need, but they need this government to show direction. I implore the minister to outline that, work with industry and provide a clear road map for how we will reduce what goes into landfill and increase our resource recovery rates.

Last year through estimates it was made clear that the state government is spending half of what the federal government does on the Great Barrier Reef. That money only increased from the federal government this year—so much so that they are now outspending the state three to one. The budget has provided very little new funding for the health of our reef. What is more concerning is that the tiny amount of funding for Smartcane BMP is likely coming to an end. The SDS effectiveness measure has been discontinued for BMP programs. The funding for these programs is due to expire at the end of this year, so I worry it will not be renewed.

BMP programs have been confirmed by the minister to meet or exceed the government's own regulations. Why would the government want to stop backing them and the farmers who are undertaking them? They need increased support, not a cut. The farmers I have visited taking part in these programs use every innovation available to them to reduce their run-off and any other broader environmental impacts. They want the nutrients they use to stay on their properties and they do not want to hurt what is around them.

Mr Power interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Member for Logan.

Honourable members interjected.


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. Members, I will wait for silence. It is getting very hard to hear the member for Bonney's contribution. I would ask all members to keep the level of discussion between each other to a very quiet level and please limit your interjections.

Mr O'CONNOR: In estimates last year the minister made it clear there had been no plans or seemingly any consideration to make the environment department carbon neutral or to reduce the emissions of their operations. Of all the parts of government, the environment department need to lead by example. They need to show that they can take measures themselves to reduce their own emissions.

I was at K'gari just recently and I saw the ranger station at Eurong running on dirty diesel generators. This is the largest ranger station for one of our most important national parks, and it would make sense to run this through solar and batteries.

Finally on the environment, I again call on the minister to provide some clarity on the next round of single-use plastic bans. Queenslanders have strongly supported the ban and have been trying to reduce these unnecessary plastics, but businesses and community groups need time to plan for the next phase. Without that planning time we will end up with large amounts of unused stock going to landfill, completely defeating the purpose of the ban. There is no need for this to be a secret. Just come out and tell people what is happening so they can get on board.

I will finish off on innovation, but there is not much to report. Gone are the days of Kate Jones and Peter Beattie. Advance Queensland has reached the end of its funding, yet this government has so little aspiration that it has not worked out the next phase. We have a mention of developing a road map, so there clearly are plans for a plan, but no further detail could be found anywhere in the budget. I asked for clarification from the minister's office and they told me that apparently it will be announced in a week or two. Why is it being delayed? Could it be because over the weekend former premier Peter Beattie urged the Palaszczuk government to adopt a new innovation agenda? Is the announcement delayed to get some clear air from these comments, so it does not look like they are following his lead? It is even more concerning because the budget is the chance to genuinely fund this. If it is not there, they are not serious about innovation. Again, with the Olympics on the horizon, now is the time to build our innovation ecosystem. This budget was the chance to do that and there was nothing to be seen.

 **Ms PUGH** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (12.36 am): It is budget week and I will give you one guess what I want to talk about first. Of course, it is the Jindalee bridge on the Centenary Motorway. It is good to see lots of fans of the Centenary Motorway in the House tonight. This project is one of the most complex in Queensland's history. Since this time last year, the department has become well advanced in selecting the right proponent to build this vital infrastructure.

This project will soon be getting underway. We have come a long way since my budget pitch to get the funding across the line with the Treasurer. I went into my pitch meeting with a few options. The first was the project as we see it in the budget papers today: a wonderful bridge, brilliant active transport facilities and a brand new merging lane at the dreaded Jindalee onramp. The second proposal was much cheaper. I proposed a boom gate under the Sumners Road overpass on the Centenary Motorway which I surmised would really reduce congestion in my electorate. I did, however, hold grave concerns that my good friends the members for Ipswich, Jordan, Bundamba and Ipswich West would never speak to me again because, while it would have fixed the traffic in my electorate, it probably would have completely ruined the traffic in theirs.

Mr McCallum: Your concerns were founded.

Ms PUGH: Indeed, member for Bundamba. I was joking, of course, but the point I made was very clear: this bridge is of regional significance and it desperately needs an upgrade. I got my point across and we got the money in the budget. I thank the Treasurer very much for that.

The good news does not stop there for the south-west corridor. I thank the members for Ipswich, Bundamba, Jordan and Ipswich West for working with me as a team to secure federal funding for planning from Darra to Toowong along the Centenary Motorway and from Darra to Yamanto, alongside our hardworking federal MP Milton Dick. This motorway has sustained a dramatic increase in traffic over recent years due to the growth in the south-west, and it is the No. 1 issue that people raise with me in my community. But wait, there's more! We also secured money for planning for the Ipswich Motorway Darra to Oxley stretch. This is all about future planning for our community, and it is so great to see.

There are also some amazing classroom upgrades and new builds happening in my local schools. Corinda State High School has been allocated \$200,000 for tennis courts in this year's budget and Darra will be getting a total of \$7 million for additional classrooms, which is really exciting for this small but growing school. Oxley State School is getting \$675,000 for equity upgrades like ramps and other amenities. It is all good news in Mount Ommaney.


Ms Grace: A great local member!

Ms PUGH: Thank you very much, Minister for Education, I will take that interjection. One of the things I am most excited about in this budget has to be the allocation of funds to build the Corinda State High School STEM lab. The students in my community have spoken with me about the strong focus that this school has on STEM—it is a STEM school of excellence in our community—and how their

current STEM labs are actually some of the oldest buildings in the school. I understand some of them are pretty close to being as old as the school itself. I thank and place on the record here in the House tonight my thanks to the current and former P&C presidents, Stefano and Jenise, and the current school captains and principal of the school, Helen, who have advocated really hard for this upgrade alongside the school community.

A few years ago the STEM lab at Centenary State High School—which my daughter now attends—was completed. It is really fantastic for me as the local member to say that in a few years both of my fantastic state high schools will have state-of-the-art STEM facilities for our students to learn in. Over the coming year we will see planning works underway at Corinda State High School. I know that with the input of the school community the buildings will not just be state-of-the-art; they will be full of heart too.

Finally, can I mention how happy I am to see that my Vietnamese Community Centre has received an increase to their funding. This year it is \$126,220. They do a great job looking after our significant Vietnamese community in my neck of the woods and I know that every single dollar will be spent wisely, just like in this cracker of a budget. With those few words I commend the bill to the House.

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Oodgeroo—LNP) (12.41 am): I rise to address the 2022-23 Queensland budget. This is the 14th budget that I have replied to on behalf of the northern Redlands Coast area and North Stradbroke Island, Minjerrabah, in the seat of Oodgeroo, formerly Cleveland. While there are good measures in this budget, it is characterised by broken promises, wrong priorities and missed opportunities from a government that cannot be trusted and will not deliver any time soon. As such, it is a budget of disappointment, delay and deceit, of let-downs and lags. Labor promised a budget of no new or higher taxes, then imposed no less than three of them. It promised to upgrade the Redland Hospital, then dragged out critical construction. It announced a rail revolution and delivered more nothing on the Cleveland misery line. Labor promised some 26 times that there would be no new or increased taxes, then slugged Queenslanders with new and higher taxes in a move that will increase cost-of-living pressures on all Queenslanders, including Redlanders. This deception undermines the integrity of the entire budget. How can Queenslanders trust any commitment in terms of funding and timing when the government will do and say anything to win and hold onto power and given the budget is founded on a mistruth.

The context of this budget is crisis management. It is a budget in a time of several crises—crises that exist right now: a health crisis, a housing crisis, a youth crime crisis, an infrastructure blowout crisis and Labor's integrity crisis. This budget does not deal with these crises right now, it does not fix them any time soon, but defers them. For example, none of the new hospital beds that are needed yesterday, according to the AMAQ president, will be available in the financial year of this budget. Labor's health crisis is being experienced now. Labor's homeless crisis is now. Labor's youth crime crisis is now. Its infrastructure blowout crisis is now. The integrity crisis is definitely now. Instead of substantially dealing with these crises now through this budget the government prefers to blame everyone else for its ineptitude—Campbell, COVID, Canberra, the sick and seniors—but as the shadow Treasurer said, there is no-one and nothing left for the Palaszczuk government to blame. It is a tired, third-term government plagued by broken promises, wasteful spending, the wrong priorities and integrity failures.

In terms of clear local commitments in the budget for the 2022 financial year for the Cleveland district and broader Redlands Coast, while there are some good measures in this budget, and I acknowledge that, we did not receive anywhere near our fair share on infrastructure and most of the measures will not help in this financial year. Many opportunities are being missed due to wrong priorities. In terms of health, the Leader of the Opposition, David Crisafulli, is on the money when he says budgets are not just about record spends; budgets are about delivering for Queenslanders. For seven years the state government has spoken about a record health budget and every year health services have got worse. Queenslanders deserve better. The Leader of the Opposition went on to say that it is your record on health, not your record spending, that counts. Truer words could not have been spoken about the government's dismal record at Redland Hospital over the last seven years. No intensive care unit at all in seven years, not a single new bed, not even a blow-up li-lo. Despite community campaigns, petitions and surveys, this government has ignored doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, Metro South HHS recommendations, hospital administration and external ED experts and, worst of all, ignored the cries of Redlanders themselves for better services at Redland Hospital.

Redlanders have suffered some of the worst ambulance ramping in Queensland and Australia. At one stage Redland Hospital under this government's management had Queensland's worst ambulance ramping at 64 per cent, when Queensland was about the worst in Australia. That is a record

that this government does not want to talk about and the local MPs do not want to be accountable for. Redland Hospital has one of the worst car parking situations and still no new car park seven years later. You can drive around for five minutes to find a space and have to park hundreds of metres away—a long way away and too long for chronic patients, the disabled and seniors. It is unacceptable. It is unacceptable that it took seven to eight years of community campaigning and a pandemic for them to do anything about it. Still all we have to date is a partly built car park and a misleading billboard with government false advertising.

The government has had wrong priorities at Redland Hospital, a focus on an overpriced car park and a glorified public medical centre in Redland Bay first earmarked for Cleveland. Wrong priorities means instead of real new buildings to house a real ICU and real new beds we got zero expansion except for a makeshift COVID tent in the car park. Labor rolled out a tent rather than a building. They built a car park and then put a temporary tent there, and now they are working on a medical centre with no overnight real beds and they are doing it ahead of an ICU and 32 more beds, which is what is really needed. If the government's priorities were not twisted we would have invested more dollars in the LNP's palliative care services that we opened at Redland Hospital to a full palliative care unit like the expansions of palliative care that are being rolled out in New South Wales.

In terms of education there is some welcome news but nothing spectacular. I certainly welcome in Wellington Point State High School the upgrade of the hall that we have been calling for for some time. In terms of chaplaincy, our chappies in our state schools do a great job. They are like the first responders to children at risk at school and families at risk.

Mr Brown interjected.

Dr ROBINSON: I acknowledge all of the chappies—even if the member for Capalaba does not want to as he interjects while I am talking about chappies—in the schools in my electorate and throughout the Redlands. I want to thank them for their faithful, professional, caring service of children and the school community. Chaplains are at the heart of the National Chaplaincy Program. This program is at risk of being watered down to being provided by any form of wellness worker instead of the specific pastoral care program it was set out to be.

I say to every hardworking and faithful chappie that I will not idly stand by in the Redlands while Labor puts your jobs at risk and while Labor attempts to replace you. Anthony Albanese is a disgrace to claim before the election that he is different to other Labor leaders such as Julia Gillard, that he is not an enemy of people of faith and that he is, in fact, a friend of people in faith communities, whether Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist or others, but then after the election to change the chaplaincy program in a sneaky sleight of hand so that current chaplains can be replaced. It is clear that he cares more about his own job than protecting the jobs of our hardworking, faithful and dependable chappies. He seeks to replace chappies with someone else. We know the Labor left's phobic attitude to people of faith means that chappies have been replaced in the past and Labor will sack more if no-one stands up to those schoolyard bullies.

I say to every school chappie in the Redlands coast: your jobs are not at risk from the LNP and we have no plans to replace you. I call on the state education minister to stand up to the federal minister and stand with Queensland chappies, who do a great job helping at-risk children. Will the minister do the right thing by Queensland chappies and help save their jobs by making representations to the federal Labor education minister? Will she call on him to guarantee the jobs of current chappies?

In terms of roads and transport, in the Cleveland district and Redlands coast Labor's approach to transport and the upgrade of state roads has been woeful and there is no sign of improvement any time soon. The situation with the state government's investment in rail, road and bus projects over the next 12 months could be described as nothing but miserable. In the Redlands we have a massive underinvestment in rail, road and bus. The Redland rail line, known as the 'misery line' under the Palaszczuk government, has been forgotten by Labor for many years and there is little tangible in this budget to change that soon.

Labor's so-called rail revolution is more like a rail rip-off for Redland commuters who use the Cleveland line. Labor says there are dollars for a study. Really? Another study! If I had a dollar for every study on the Cleveland line that goes nowhere—well. How can you spend so much money just looking at a rail line for over a decade? They are looking at the line again. This government does not seem to be serious about progressing the Cleveland line duplication. It is so slow. We have had rail fail and now we have rail snail.

Redlanders have been stranded at the station when it comes to public transport in this budget. The budget fails to address the worsening traffic congestion on the Redlands coast, with little progress on the Cleveland line duplication, the Eastern Transitway in recent years and Redlands roads, which

are choking with congestion as road improvements and duplications are stuck in the slow lane. Apart from certain sections of the Cleveland Redland Bay Road in Labor electorates, there is little being spent on Redlands coast roads.

I want to acknowledge former LNP federal member Andrew Laming, the new federal member for Bowman, Henry Pike, and the Redland City Council Mayor, Karen Williams, for their good work in terms of road improvements, duplication and investment in the Redlands coast area, particularly the Panorama Drive and Wellington Road areas of Thornlands. The waste from transport infrastructure blowouts, like the \$2-billion-and-growing blowout on Cross River Rail, means Redlands rail, road and bus projects are being held back.

Over the past seven to eight years of the Palaszczuk Labor government, the number of homeless people on the social housing waiting list has ballooned to 50,000. Homelessness is on the rise and there is little in this year's budget to bring that figure down. One solution is more, and more effective, engagement with the non-government community housing sector, especially agencies with a track record of success. That is why it is difficult to understand why this government discontinued funding Homeless United, a social housing initiative of the Redlands Community Centre based in Capalaba. Sadly, Labor members of parliament have colluded with the housing minister to white-ant that local service, which reduced homelessness so effectively in the Redlands that it was defunded. They have stripped and cut funding for homelessness in the Redlands.

If results, outcomes and achievements meant anything to this Labor government they would have increased the service's funding, but they did the opposite. Why did Labor reduce the direct funding into that Redlands organisation? No-one has suggested any valid reason other than the politics of the local member, the member for Capalaba. It is thought that because that nonpartisan and independent agency would not kowtow to the member for Capalaba he worked to have them defunded. The sins of Homeless United appear to be remaining apolitical, having strong independent women in its leadership and actually getting great results to reduce homelessness with little state funding. Those women will not be dictated to by the member for Capalaba. How sad it is that the Minister for Housing has rewarded such politicking and misogyny by cutting funding to an effective on-the-ground community homelessness group.

Mr BROWN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence at the member's comments and ask him to withdraw.


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Member for Oodgeroo, the member for Capalaba has taken personal offence. Do you withdraw?

Dr ROBINSON: I withdraw. I say to the minister that it is not too late to restore that funding and reverse her funding cuts to the homeless in the Redlands.

Over the years I have said much on the public record about North Stradbroke Island/Minjerribah, especially on the failed ETS known as the 'Trad-broke Island Plan'. What I have said about the need for funding for homelessness and social housing on the mainland also applies to Straddie. One of the broken promises of this government to the Quandamooka people and other residents of Straddie is in relation to the housing they promised the Quandamooka leaders more than 10 years ago, especially around the One Mile area. People such as Uncle Norm Enoch, Dale Ruska, aunties Margaret Imlin, Lyn Shipway and others called out for this funding. Uncle Norm and others continue to lead on this issue. In terms of North Stradbroke Island, much more could be said about what is needed, especially at One Mile.

There needs to be a royal commission into government spending. The Quandamooka leaders are calling for \$37 million to be accounted for. The Auditor-General is looking into that but it needs to be elevated. The Quandamooka leaders have asked for it to be elevated to a royal commission to get to the bottom of the matter. This budget has some positives but it is based on—

(Time expired)

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (12.57 am): This is an historic budget for Queenslanders and the Treasurer should be incredibly proud. It encapsulates the Palaszczuk government's commitment to delivering good jobs and better services and guaranteeing our wonderful lifestyle. At its heart is a record \$23.6 billion investment in Queensland's health system. It delivers the single largest capital investment in health in our state's history.

This budget also delivers for Queensland women and girls. It was the Palaszczuk government that delivered the Women's Strategy after those opposite cut it. It was the Palaszczuk government that delivered a women's budget statement after those opposite cut it. As Minister for Women, I am delighted

to see \$100 million in funding provided for the outstanding Skilling Queenslanders for Work program—a program that we brought back after those opposite cut it. Skilling Queenslanders for Work has now helped over 20,000 women get a job. That is how you get women back into the workforce: you give them the skills and training they need to build a successful career. The member for Broadwater talked about the need for practical solutions. It does not get much more practical than getting 20,000 women into work.

The Palaszczuk government is also continuing to support women into leadership positions. We have exceeded our target for women on boards after those opposite cut it. I noted that in his response the member for Broadwater has set a gender quota for his three-person economic team. Given he is a man, his deputy is a man, his shadow Treasurer is a man and his Manager of Opposition Business is a man, I think it is a good bare minimum to start with. But given how few women are represented on that side, it might be a little hard for him to fill the role. If only he had not knifed the youngest LNP woman to take her seat, Broadwater, maybe he would have more women to choose from.

I was reflecting on the member for Broadwater's commitment to establish this women-led economic team. I was wondering: why does that seem familiar? I realised it was exactly what Scott Morrison did. When he finally realised that he had a bit of a women's problem, he set up this subcommittee of cabinet to look at women's economic issues. Thankfully, the women of this country saw right through that and will see right through the member for Broadwater. I am really pleased that the member has come around to the idea of quotas and now has a quota for his three-member economic team, but it seems there still are no quotas to actually get women on their side of the House into parliament.

Opposition members interjected.

Mrs D'ATH: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. They keep interjecting when out of their seat.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): That is a point of order. Members can only interject from their own seat. Either move or cease your interjections.

Ms FENTIMAN: The Leader of the Opposition said he wants action when it comes to supporting women. If it is so important for him to have women in his leadership team, he could do that now. He does not have to wait. They are the shadow government, allegedly. I am sorry: if women in leadership is so important, do it now. Have a reshuffle and put some women in the leadership team, put some women into economic portfolios. Absolutely, it is more just cheap talk. There is no action, leadership or credibility. Get some more women elected to parliament and then maybe Queensland women will take you seriously when it comes to talking about action for women and girls.

I am also incredibly proud of what this budget will deliver for my community. The wellbeing of the Waterford electorate is always at the forefront of what I do. What is fantastic about this budget is that we heard of another expansion of the Logan Hospital for our growing community—another 100 beds on top of the already 200-bed expansion. Commuters will also be thrilled to know that work is underway to relocate the Loganlea train station and that we have secured funding to the Bethania to Logan Village rail trail, something the member for Logan and I have been fighting for.

Of course, there are local schools. I am so proud that we are investing so many millions of dollars in our local schools in Waterford. Thank you to the minister. In particular, there will be a new school hall for Loganlea.

I have sent my speech to the Speaker for incorporation and, as such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated into the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

Mr Speaker, equal access to justice is a fundamental right of every Queenslanders.

And in a digital age, it is more important than ever our courts keep pace with technology.

That's why we have committed \$246.8 million over five years to modernise our courts.

This includes more than \$22 million to replace the Beaudesert courthouse.

We've listened to the community in the Scenic Rim, and this project will replace and transform the current aging building, to deliver efficient and safe services.

This budget will also upgrade much needed technological improvements through our five-year ICT strategy, that will provide for e-files and e-filing—enabling users to interact virtually with the courts where appropriate.

Queensland Law Society labelled it a “bumper justice budget,” noting how the investment in court technology and infrastructure “positively impact access to justice for all Queenslanders regardless of where they live.”

And when this Government speaks of access to justice, that means all Queenslanders, including—indeed especially—those most vulnerable in our society.

That’s why the budget includes an additional \$76.8 million for Legal Aid Queensland over four years to increase essential services such as free access to duty lawyers in court, dispute resolution, and general legal advice.

CEO Nicky Davies has welcomed the “vital funding” which she said will help meet growing demand for legal services.

Additionally, we’re providing increased funding of \$6.9 million over four years and \$1.3 million per year ongoing for the Queensland Human Rights Commission, which has seen growing demand on its services during the pandemic.

We will provide \$5 million over four years to assist the important work of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions’ northern chambers of Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton.

We are also delivering \$7.5 million over four years to strengthen casino regulation, targeting problem gambling and enhancing support services.

Mr Speaker, we know strong Labor governments always invest in health and hospitals—and rightly so.

But it’s a brave government that decides ending domestic and family violence must also be at the centre of its reforms.

This budget backs the safety and economic security of women and girls across Queensland.

We have committed to an historic \$363 million reform package over four years, to implement all 89 recommendations of the Women’s Safety and Justice Taskforce’s Hear Her Voice report.

This landmark investment in our systems, communities, and first responders will increase our ability to understand and identify coercive control.

And most importantly, it will enable us to criminalise this insidious form of abuse.

The budget includes \$164 million to bolster our hardworking and dedicated domestic, family and sexual violence support services this year.

We will ramp up our roll-out of specialist domestic and family violence courts, committing \$60.4 million over 4 years and \$19.1 million annually, to expand this crucial service.

Mr Speaker, this model is ensuring victims of violence are supported through the legal process, instead of becoming lost in it.

Just last week I released the results of an independent evaluation of Queensland’s first domestic and family violence court at Southport, which confirmed the specialist service is helping women successfully navigate what is often a confronting experience.

In fact, the report states that Southport specialist court is “nationally and internationally recognised as a sector-leading response to domestic and family violence”.

Mr Speaker, it is the nature of Budget speeches that they invariably involve a lengthy recitation of financial allocations.

But I can assure Members of this House that behind each of the figures there are real and lasting benefits to the people of Queensland.

We are deeply committed to ensuring all Queenslanders—irrespective of age, gender or financial means—are kept safe and have access to justice services.

As Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Women and Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, I am enormously proud of the investment the Palaszczuk Government is making in empowering women and girls, while modernising the criminal justice system.

I commend this budget to the House.

Debate, on motion of Ms Fentiman, adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT



Hon. YM D’ATH (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (1.03 am): I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Question put—That the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 1.03 am (Friday).

ATTENDANCE

Andrew, Bailey, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Boyd, Brown, Bush, Butcher, Camm, Crandon, Crawford, Crisafulli, D'Ath, Dametto, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Frecklington, Furner, Gerber, Gilbert, Grace, Harper, Hart, Healy, Hinchliffe, Howard, Hunt, Janetzki, Katter, Kelly, King A, King S, Knuth, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Lauga, Leahy, Linard, Lister, Lui, MacMahon, Madden, Mander, Martin, McCallum, McDonald, McMillan, Mellish, Mickelberg, Miles, Millar, Minnikin, Molhoek, Mullen, O'Connor, O'Rourke, Palaszczuk, Perrett, Pitt, Powell, Power, Pugh, Purdie, Richards, Robinson, Rowan, Russo, Ryan, Saunders, Scanlon, Simpson, Skelton, Smith, Stevens, Stewart, Sullivan, Walker, Watts, Weir, Whiting