



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

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Hansard 2 December 1999

## STATE GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE

**Hon. P. D. BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (5.16 p.m.): I move—

"Delete all words after ', that' and add the following words:

'After only 17 months of the Beattie Labor Government, we have delivered, by way of illustration only:

In my own portfolio:

We have created more than 40,000 jobs in our first year of Government.

Our September Budget was designed to create at least another 41,000 new jobs in this financial year.

A record Capital Works Program of \$5.2 billion.

Initiated a 10-year strategy to make Queensland the Smart State and a leading hub for bioindustry development in the Asia-Pacific region with \$270 million earmarked for biotechnology research facilities in the State.

We have engendered record levels of business confidence and last month the Yellow Pages small business index showed that a net 20 per cent of the State's small business proprietors reported increased sales revenues for the three months to the end of October—second only to the record established under my Government in January this year.

Given Government back to the people by holding 15 Community Cabinet meetings throughout Queensland every year where anyone can walk in off the street and raise issues with any of the 18 members of Cabinet.

State Development and Trade:

1. We have established a viable long-term timber hardwood industry through the South-East Queensland Forest Agreement which has been widely supported throughout the timber industry and in communities based on the timber industry.

Treasury:

1. Delivered a balanced budget with record \$5.2 billion Capital Works Program.
2. Announced reforms to compulsory third party insurance which will make the scheme fair and affordable.
3. Maintained Queensland's AAA credit rating.
4. Presided over 4.75 per cent economic growth—a full percentage point ahead of the rest of Australia.
5. Maintained low tax status.

In Communication, Information and Local Government and Planning:

1. We have developed and launched a 5 year Communication and Information Strategic Plan which will foster growth and development in our multi-billion dollar information technology and telecommunication industries, and deliver world standard services to the people of Queensland.

2. Established the regional communities program with quarterly ministerial regional community forums conducted in eight regions throughout Queensland.

In Tourism, Sport and Racing:

1. In July 1998 we secured Queensland to host the 2001 Goodwill Games which will create almost 2000 jobs, generate almost \$170 million in economic activity, and create over half-a-million extra visitor bed nights from tourists.
2. In September 1998, the department received a budget allocation of \$35 million over four years to build or upgrade multipurpose community sport and recreation centres throughout Queensland, delivering on a 1995 election commitment scrapped by the Borbidge Government.
3. In February this year Queensland Events poached Australia's biggest V8 motor racing event, the Sandown 500, from Victoria.
4. In August, the member for Bundamba and I announced Lang Park as the preferred site for a new Brisbane stadium development.
5. In November the TAB shares appeared on the Australian Stock Exchange raising \$304 million for taxpayers.

Employment Training and Industrial Relations.

1. Introduced the Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative creating 24,000 apprenticeships, traineeships and job placements over 4 years.
2. Introduced new industrial relations legislation to restore balance to the Queensland workplace giving workers and employers a template for a fair and equitable industrial relations system for the 21st century.
3. Announced a \$30.8 million rescue package for the TAFE network.

In Justice and The Arts:

1. We have given women a fair go in judicial appointments.
2. Boosted funds for victims of crime counselling and support by \$1 million.
3. Enhanced access to legal aid with a \$5 million funding boost.
4. Introduced a public art policy based on 2 per cent on costs of new Government buildings.

In Police:

1. We have continued to deliver record police numbers since coming to power. In 1998-99 there were 363 more police on our streets exceeding our target by 46 officers.
2. We have delivered 12 new Police Beats across Queensland— exceeding our election promise of 10 new Police Beats a year over three years.
3. Delivered 6 new Police Shopfronts.

In Corrective Services:

1. We have delivered \$1 million worth of equipment for prison officers.' "

Mr Speaker, I move that the rest of this amendment be included in the Hansard record so that the amendment is, in fact, on the record.

Leave granted.

2. Established the general manager's drugs task force to tackle the drugs problem in prisons.
3. Conducted a review of corrective services in Queensland.

In Families, Youth and Community Care:

1. We held the Forde inquiry into the abuse of children in institutions.
2. Introduced new child protection legislation.
3. Committed \$30 million to the provision of services to people with a disability.
4. Created the first ever disability services portfolio.

In Public Works and Housing:

1. We have been working closely with industry to ensure the building Capital Works Program runs as smoothly as possible.
2. We have defended the Government's maintenance and minor works arm, Q-Build, against groundless Opposition political attacks.
3. We have kept a commitment to use the public sector to provide employment and training opportunities for young Queenslanders.

4. The 1999 Budget earmarked \$55.8 million for refurbishment of existing dwellings—a rise of \$12 million on the previous year.

Transport and Main Roads:

1. We have launched the Brisbane to Rockhampton and Brisbane to Bundaberg tilt train services and signed a contract for construction of the Brisbane to Cairns diesel tilt train.
2. Secured funding and signed a contract for construction of the Port of Brisbane Motorway.

In Health:

1. We have continued the Statewide rebuilding program worth \$2.8 billion that was initiated by Labor in 1992 and peaked last year with spending of \$632 million.
2. We are creating a sustainable health system by delivering services such as positive parenting programs worth \$3 million a year.
3. Introducing school nurses at a rate of 25 a year.

In Primary Industries:

1. We have introduced landmark legislation for the sugar industry.
2. We have created a new world standard research agency to be known as the Agency for Food and Fibre Sciences.
3. Cabinet has endorsed a fisheries management plan for Queensland east coast trawl fishery.

In Mines and Energy:

1. We have restructured the electricity industry to provide better service in line with community expectations and ensure greater reliability of the State's electricity system.
2. Introduced new legislation designed to prevent accidents and safeguard the health of the thousands of Queenslanders working in the mining industry.
3. We have given the go-ahead for Tarong Energy to expand its power station and pursue the development of new gas-fired generation at Wivenhoe.
4. Established an Office of Sustainable Energy to encourage the development of energy efficient technologies and the use of energy sources such as gas and renewables to reduce greenhouse emissions.

Emergency Services:

1. We have introduced fully funded free ambulance services for pensioners, seniors card holders and their dependants from January 1 this year delivering on an election commitment which affects up to 850,000 Queenslanders.
2. Implemented the Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority rescue package saving the QFRA from bankruptcy and at the same time boosting the safety of communities across the State.
3. We established a State Mitigation Committee to prioritise natural disaster mitigation need across the State.
4. Allocated record funding to Emergency Services. More than \$100 million extra in two budgets to boost service delivery to communities across the State.

In Environment, Heritage and Natural Resources:

1. Established the Environmental Protection Agency.
2. Produced the Queensland State of the Environment report, the first comprehensive assessment ever undertaken of the condition of our natural and cultural environment on a Statewide scale.
3. Streamlined the water allocation and management plan (WAMP) process to enable key decisions affecting catchments to be made sooner and provide more certainty to communities throughout Queensland.

In Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy, Women's Policy and Fair Trading:

1. We have tabled a report into domestic violence in indigenous communities and will provide a response early next year.
2. We have allocated \$25.4 million over three years to compensate former Government employees who suffered wage discrimination as a result of their race, between 1975 and 1986.
3. We have passed legislation making retirement villages fairer for residents and more attractive to investors and set up a new Retirement Villages Tribunal for settling disputes.

In Education:

1. We have kept our promises to increase spending on cooler schools.
2. Special education, behaviour management and school maintenance.
3. Abolished the unfair Leading Schools program.
4. Consulted with education and related communities in regard to Queensland's State Education—2010.

**Mr BEATTIE:** In this amendment, I have shown that this is a can-do Government which is delivering, and we are going to deliver, because this Government is going to give Queenslanders the sort of future that they deserve. And what do we get from the Opposition? We get the wreckers who want to destroy Queensland's future. Let me make it absolutely clear: we will deliver, they will whinge, and we will still be in Government.

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