



Speech by

# Hon. Campbell Newman


MEMBER FOR ASHGROVE

Hansard Tuesday, 30 October 2012

---

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Death of Soldier in Afghanistan, Motion to Take Note

 **Hon. CKT NEWMAN** (Ashgrove—LNP) (Premier) (9.42 am): It is with much regret and sadness that I rise to acknowledge in the House the recent death on active service of Corporal Scott James Smith on operations in Afghanistan on 21 October 2012. Corporal Smith was serving with the Special Operations Task Group when an improvised explosive device detonated during a clearance operation in southern Afghanistan.

Corporal Smith was born in the Barossa Valley, South Australia, in 1988 and is survived by his partner, Liv, his parents, Katrina Paterson and Murray Smith, and his sister, Roxanne. Corporal Smith was from the Special Operations Engineer Regiment based at Holsworthy Barracks in Sydney, having joined the Army in 2006. Corporal Smith's commanding officer has described Corporal Smith as an exceptional soldier who will be remembered as genuine, honest and dedicated.

Following the death of this fine young Australian, 39 members of the Australian Defence Force have tragically lost their lives in Afghanistan since 2002. This is again a terrible reminder to all Australians of the dangerous conditions our soldiers are operating under in Afghanistan.

On behalf of the House, I place on record our deepest regret for the death of Corporal Smith. I thank him and his family for his service to our nation. I also take this opportunity to extend my sympathy and that of this House to Corporal Smith's family and friends. I move—

1. That the House take note of the statement; and
2. That the House acknowledges agreement by observing one minute's silence as a mark of respect.