




Speech By
Hon. Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Law Courts Site, Sale

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works) (2.23 pm): The LNP went to the last election with a clear commitment to achieve a vibrant, dynamic and sustainable property and construction industry, which would once again be the jobs powerhouse of Queensland. I am pleased to say that yesterday's announcement of the sale of the old Supreme Court site in Brisbane's CBD to the Shayher Group will help achieve this commitment. It will also provide a major boost for the tourism industry via the building of a five-star hotel on the site. As construction and tourism are two of the Queensland government's four pillars of economic growth, Minister Stuckey and I welcome this development with open arms.

This is a fantastic opportunity to continue major renewal in this part of Brisbane's CBD. The development involves the construction of three towers. The largest is a 70-storey residential and serviced apartment building, along with a 39-storey office tower and the previously mentioned 18-storey five-star hotel with at least 190 rooms. This development is a great outcome for the local construction industry and is expected to create over 5,700 direct and indirect jobs. This site is in a fantastic location, being just a short walk from Suncorp Stadium, the cultural, arts and convention centre precinct, South Bank parklands, the Queen Street mall and the casino. This development will add to the renewal of that end of George Street which has seen the building of the new Queen Elizabeth II courthouse, the Magistrates Court and private development like the Santos tower and 400 George.

The Shayher Group has a number of development sites around Brisbane. It has bought a site in the Northshore Hamilton development area, and in 2011 it won the federal Labor government's tender to buy the old CSIRO site at Indooroopilly. Internationally the Shayher Group has undertaken several major development projects. These include a 300-apartment tower with significant commercial and retail space in Vietnam, along with a number of towers in the group's homeland of Taiwan—such as one with 276 apartments over 19 levels.

Construction on the old Supreme Court site will start in late 2015. The hotel component should take approximately three years to deliver. When considered along with the development of 1 William Street, this government is really driving the stimulation of the construction industry. This shows how serious the Newman government is about attracting investment to Queensland which will secure local jobs and the economic development of our great state.