



Speech By  
**Hon. Tim Mander**

**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

---

Record of Proceedings, 21 May 2014

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **ConstructionQ**

 **Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works) (2.21 pm): This government has a strong plan to deliver a brighter future for Queenslanders, and the newly announced ConstructionQ will do just that, securing the long-term future of Queensland's building and construction industry. Construction is one of the four pillars of the Queensland economy. The industry is a significant employer in Queensland, with more than one-quarter of a million people working in construction across the state. The industry also contributes around \$60 billion annually to our economy. ConstructionQ will set the vision and provide a long-term blueprint to advance the building and construction industry in Queensland now and into the future.

Under Labor, the construction industry was choking behind a wall of red tape and regulation that constricted the industry's growth, slowed approvals and escalated costs. In contrast, we have made a point of slashing red tape, reducing the cost of doing business and speeding up approvals, which generates growth and creates jobs for Queenslanders. Our reforms are already bearing fruit, with Queensland showing 24 months of consecutive growth in dwelling approvals. The total number of dwelling approvals is now 64.3 per cent higher than under Labor in January 2012. In addition, total residential building activity is forecast to increase by a healthy five per cent in 2013-14, and a further increase of 18 per cent is predicted in the following year. ConstructionQ is about building on those gains and putting in place a vision that will unleash the industry's full potential and generate a brighter future for decades to come.

Next Wednesday we will host an industry leaders forum where over 70 industry representatives will come together to establish an agenda for the second and larger forum in September, the ConstructionQ forum. That is likely to involve 300 to 400 industry participants and stakeholders from across the state. Our aim is for the building and construction industry, local and state government and other key stakeholders to jointly develop and implement clearly defined actions deriving from the ConstructionQ forum. ConstructionQ will deliver a plan that will create a strong, competitive and diversified construction industry, which will underpin the state's future prosperity by driving growth and creating jobs for Queenslanders