




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Queensland Economy

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.33 am): I have very good news for Queensland. Our state's economy—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr Seeney interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Thank you, member for Callide, for your interjection!

Ms PALASZCZUK: They do not want to hear the good news.

Mr SPEAKER: Oh, no, we have to. I call the Premier.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Our state's economy continues to bounce back. Deloitte Access Economics has reported this morning—

Slowly but surely, Queensland's economy is returning to comfortable positive territory. Compared to this time last year, Queensland's State Final Demand edged up 0.4 per cent over the June quarter. This growth has been driven by increases across three of the four major components of Final Demand including household consumption, housing investment and public final demand.

Deloitte Access Economics confirms that Queensland exports are up to \$47.4 billion over the year to August 2016; international overnight visitor spending is up, growing by 10.6 per cent to a record high of almost \$5.1 billion; and housing investment remains strong and housing construction continues to grow. In terms of Queensland's economic growth, Deloitte Access Economics is emphatic and reports—

Queensland has a solid growth outlook of 3.8 per cent each year on average across the forecast period to 2019. This rate of growth sees Queensland outpace the national average—outperforming the southern states of Victoria and New South Wales, and moving well ahead of the West.

Deloitte Access Economics highlights that the economic strength in South-East Queensland was not being enjoyed in parts of regional Queensland. This is why through the meetings of the Working Queensland Cabinet Committee across the state prior to the budget we developed specific programs and initiatives to support the regions. Our Back to Work program targets jobs in regional Queensland by offering assistance of up to \$15,000 for employers in regional Queensland taking on an unemployed worker. Almost half of our \$10.7 billion Capital Works Program is devoted to regional Queensland. Our support for the growth of key industries in regional Queensland, including tourism, agriculture and resources, is essential to promote more job opportunities in our regions. Significantly, our determination to develop new industries such as biofuels, large-scale renewable energy and advanced manufacturing will support jobs in regional Queensland.

I have called together the Working Queensland Cabinet Committee to meet in Brisbane Friday week to stocktake on the progress of major projects and our job-generating programs. My government is determined to grow Queensland and to create new job opportunities for Queenslanders. The Deloitte Access Economics report confirms that our government's economic plan is working and that more Queenslanders are working as a result.

Ms Jones: Just like you said you would.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I will take that interjection.