




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR NUDGE

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ADJOURNMENT

Nudgee Electorate, Small Business; School Safety

 **Ms LINARD** (Nudgee—ALP) (1.17 am): Small business makes up over 97 per cent of all Queensland businesses, making them the engine room of the state's economy. There are over 4,000 small to medium sized business enterprises across the Nudgee electorate operating in industries as diverse as manufacturing, construction, service, hospitality and retail—all significant contributors to the local economy.

Last week I dropped in to see Des, who operates the local hardware store in Banyo and has done so for over 20 years. He is well known for his calm, expert advice. Des is retiring from his shop in two weeks, and I wish him well. Brian, who along with his family opened Banyo Meat Service 28 years ago, is another dedicated and hardworking small business owner. Crowned 2016 'Queensland Regional Sausage King', he has just taken the leap and moved into a significant new development in the heart of Banyo, and I know he will do well there. From experienced small business operators to new, I would like to mention Sarah at Hey Junior in Northgate. Sarah is a bright, innovative young woman who is taking her cafe to the community in new and creative ways.

Last week's Small Business Week included a range of events for small businesses, focusing on identifying and seizing opportunities, collaboration and innovation. The Palaszczuk government's Advance Queensland package is about helping to kickstart Queensland's next wave of start-ups. We want to create more SMEs that can grow into business powerhouses, the profit makers and job generators of tomorrow.

I move from small business to road safety. Last week I dropped by to see Jim, crossing supervisor extraordinaire, Principal Peter Gordon and students at St Pius primary. Jim was very appreciative of his latest road safety tool—flashing school zone signs. This week I was delighted to receive the news that Boondall State School will receive flashing school zone signs. It has been a pleasure to work side by side with school Principal Kim McNamara, the P&C, parents, teachers and their hardworking crossing supervisors to see this and other additional road safety measures installed at the school in response to road safety concerns. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleague the Minister for Main Roads and Road Safety and his department for prioritising both of these schools. Both sites have challenging road dynamics, and the minister, his office and department have been very patient with my repeated meeting requests, emails, letters, and phone calls raising these sites.

In the time remaining, I would like to update the House on an initiative I am very passionate about as a mum with two young children, and that is the Triple P Positive Parenting Program. The funding in the last state budget of \$6.6 million to enable parents of children from birth to 16 access to the program free of charge was a brilliant initiative, and I commend the Premier and Minister for Communities. Next week I will run my third Triple P seminar, this time with a focus on raising teenagers. Already 400 local

families who attended my first two seminars have benefited from this program that gives parents access to strategies to build the skills and confidence they need to give their kids the best start in life, because we all know that children who grow up in a safe, loving, consistent and low-conflict environment are more likely to succeed at school, in relationships and in life.