



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 November 2016

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

**Red Tape Reduction Advisory Council**

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (2.27 pm): I would like to thank the Treasurer for his earlier statement to the House regarding the work undertaken by the Red Tape Reduction Advisory Council and the Palaszczuk government's actions in relation to the recommendations from the report. This not only delivers on an election commitment but also illustrates this government's commitment to delivering tangible benefits to small business in our state. At the outset I would like to place on record my thanks to Minister Jones, who initially chaired the Red Tape Reduction Advisory Council, and to the members of the council for their advice and contribution to the report. It is the first step in helping to reduce the regulatory burden for small businesses so they can grow and employ.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce the outcomes of the recent evaluation of the Red Tape Reduction Advisory Council and the Queensland Small Business Advisory Council which the Treasurer touched on. As a result of the evaluation, the councils are being reformed into a single council with a Better Regulation Taskforce to be established as a subcommittee of the Queensland Small Business Advisory Council. This change will help the council to focus on identifying the red-tape hotspots impacting on small business growth and productivity and to champion new regulatory models and reforms to make it easier to do business in Queensland.

This is not the only way the Palaszczuk government is providing important support for Queensland small businesses right around the state. Last week at the incredibly successful DestinationQ forum, I opened the Accelerate Small Business Grants Program. The grants will provide \$3 million over the next three years to help innovative high-growth businesses to grow and employ. The Accelerate Small Business Grants Program will provide up to \$10,000 in matched funding to provide small, high-growth businesses with the opportunity to engage an expert business adviser or an advisory board for a period of between six and 12 months.

High-growth small businesses are a vital part of our economy and a major driver of employment and economic growth. The Accelerate Small Business Grants Program is part of our government's \$22.7 million Advancing Small Business Queensland Strategy to help small business in our state to start, grow and employ. The Palaszczuk government understands the important role small business plays in our economy which is why we are providing targeted support to give them the best opportunity to succeed.