




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

Record of Proceedings, 9 November 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Science in Parliament

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (2.34 pm): I would like to thank my parliamentary colleagues who came to our Science in Parliament event earlier today and give an overview of the event for those who missed this great occasion. In Queensland, Science in Parliament is a regular feature on the science calendar. The event provides an opportunity for scientists and innovators to talk to parliamentarians about Queensland science and innovation.

Today our focus was on the relationship between science and sport and how science can improve the wellbeing and performance of our athletes and the community more generally. Given we have recently celebrated the efforts of our 2016 Olympic athletes and we are now gearing up for the Commonwealth Games in 2018, sport and science was the obvious choice of topic for our Science in Parliament event.

Today, in conjunction with the Treasurer and the Minister for the Commonwealth Games, I launched the Advance Queensland Sport Science Challenge to help give our athletes the upper hand at the forthcoming Commonwealth Games. The Sport Science Challenge has three awards of up to \$100,000 each for the best sport science innovations. It is very important that the innovations not only have application for our elite athletes but also encourage more Queenslanders to be active. We all know some Queenslanders are not as healthy as they could be and may be prone to disease. Becoming more active could definitely help.

I am looking forward to hearing about the innovations that come from this challenge, whether they are new sensor technologies, new fitness apps, brain training, machine learning, virtual or augmented reality learning or new sports clothing technologies. It will be exciting to see how Queensland will benefit, how these innovations will help our athletes to perform at their best and how they can help everyday Queenslanders be more active and enjoy sport. I look forward to updating the House about the successful innovations following the application process early next year.