



Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2016

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Goldoc, Appointment

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (10.20 am): Last week I had the great honour of joining the Premier on the Gold Coast when she announced that the former premier of Queensland Mr Peter Beattie will be appointed the new chair of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation Board. As the Premier stated on the day, this appointment will mean that we take the next step to be games ready for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. The games will showcase Queensland to an audience of more than 1.5 billion across the world. That is a great opportunity for our athletes, but it is also an important opportunity to strengthen business, trade, tourism and jobs, both before the games and securing a lasting benefit for Queensland.

As I have said already this morning, the games have been delivering great benefits for jobs in our economy. Mr Beattie is pre-eminently qualified to be able to take the role as chair of Goldoc. We are in the final leg of the planning race and, with only two years to go to the games, Mr Beattie is the perfect candidate to take on the role of chair of Goldoc and promote Queensland to the world at this crucial point. Frankly, you could not ask for a more tireless or passionate advocate for Queensland and setting him into delivering the games will mean Queensland reaps the rewards.

Mr Beattie's appointment complements the role of former premier Rob Borbidge as the chair of the Embracing 2018 Advisory Committee, a great leader who works very closely with the community on the legacy benefits for the games through that role. I know the two will work very closely together to ensure these games provide a lasting legacy for Queensland. Bruce Robertson, Vice-President of the Commonwealth Games Federation and also Chair of the CGF Coordination Commission, which is responsible for overseeing the progress of the games, was on the Gold Coast all of last week as part of CoCom's work to review the games readiness. On Friday on the Gold Coast I was able to join him when he had a few things to say about the change in Goldoc chair. He said—

It's not unusual to have turnover at certain of points of time and this is a good point. So Nigel's skill set brought us to an incredible foundation ... and I think Peter's skill sets and connections and outward looking view to Australia and most importantly the Commonwealth and the world is something that will be a real asset.

So Peter's actual skill set fits the job description, so from that perspective I think it's a good time for change because he brings a certain skill set that absolutely augment what the strengths are of the organising committee ... to take us much more broadly than just the Gold Coast and Queensland.

Further, Kevin Gosper, the former vice-president of Sydney's 2000 Olympic Organising Committee, said Mr Beattie's appointment was a very good selection. The government is pleased to have Mr Beattie on the Goldoc team and we look forward to the work that we will all do together over the next 680 days to make sure that we deliver a very memorable games that will deliver not only a bright and shining period and experience for the state of Queensland during those 11 days in April 2018 but also lasting and enduring legacy benefits.