




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 30 August 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Achievements

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (10.26 am): The Palaszczuk government has seen 18 months of decision and delivery under the leadership of the Premier—18 months of landing the big reforms; changing the culture and working for every Queenslander regardless of who they are or where they live; 18 months of delivering more jobs across the state and supporting and attracting businesses to support even more jobs into the future; 18 months of listening, deciding and delivering.

The Palaszczuk government is delivering the single largest cut and restructure to public transport fares in the state's history. We have supported getting more freight off the road and on to rail, lowering the Toowoomba tunnels and improving the north coast line. We have increased choice and services in personal mobility, putting pressure on point-to-point fares. We are building the public transport infrastructure of the future, duplicating the Gold Coast line and delivering stage 2 of the Gold Coast Light Rail. We are boosting the number of train services by rolling out 21st century signalling technology for the very first time in Queensland. We are putting the Gold Coast on show in 2018 for the Commonwealth Games, delivering our new world-class venues on time and on budget, leaving a legacy of a world-class events city here in Queensland.

The Palaszczuk government is backing up its words with actions right across the state. We are seeing government investments on the Gold Coast supporting strong property prices, stimulating business development and boosting confidence off the back of the games, and also off the back of the tireless work of the Minister for Tourism and the huge investments being made in diversifying our services economy.

I am thrilled that the Minister for Main Roads and I have been able to contribute to a State Infrastructure Plan for the first time in five years thanks to the Deputy Premier. We are working for our regions, whether it is freight improvement projects and sensible heavy vehicle rulings in my portfolio or supporting regional councils through the Minister for State Development's Building our Regions fund.

The Minister for Agriculture has been advocating for greater and even more efficient movements of freight across our transport network to support trade and jobs, and our achievements to date show that we are serious about the task. There is no greater sign of our passion for the north than the Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland championing the Townsville stadium and working with me to finally get federal funding for the Townsville eastern access corridor business case.

In the last 18 months we have restored accountability to government and through the parliament, driven by the Premier and the Attorney-General. We are also driving change on how we deliver government services. As the deliverer of so many front-line services, my department is working closely with the Minister for Innovation and the Minister for Public Works on the task of how to better connect Queenslanders quickly and easily with government, and supporting our hardworking employees as well.

There can be no greater silent scourge in our state than domestic violence. The Minister for Communities is delivering on the Quentin Bryce report and I am pleased to say that my department, the Department of Transport and Main Roads, has achieved full White Ribbon accreditation as our part of this task.

The Treasurer's back-to-work package that doubled the payroll incentives for apprentices showed how serious we are about strengthening our skills base for new workers. Across my portfolios we are leading by example, engaging approximately 60 apprentices on our Commonwealth Games venues and village construction works alone.

This has been a busy 18 months for the Palaszczuk government. We have listened, we have decided and we have delivered. We will continue to do so and we will do so in the best interests of Queenslanders right across the whole of this state.