




Speech By
Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Record of Proceedings, 2 November 2016

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Queensland Rail, Interim Timetable

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Minister for Transport and the Commonwealth Games) (2.30 pm): During this morning's peak, we achieved an on-time running result of 97 per cent against the interim Queensland Rail timetable. That result is a testament to the hardworking train crew going above and beyond to deliver for customers. However, what is painfully clear to me is that there is still not enough consistency in the interim timetable. The former CEO and former chair said the interim timetable would work. It is not working for enough people with enough consistency. The timetable needs to be the timetable. As the Premier and I said yesterday, we have instructed QR and TransLink to implement a permanent timetable for the rest of the year. I met with the acting CEO and the acting chair last night and made it clear that this is their measure of success. We lifted the LNP recruitment freeze after the LNP's devastating cuts. We are training drivers and training guards right now.

Opposition members interjected.

Ms Palaszczuk: They're laughing at the cuts.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Mr Speaker, I can assure you that most Queenslanders do not think that these cuts are a laughing matter.

Mr Seeney interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Callide. I can hear you.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: We are training drivers and guards right now. We will open external driver recruitment. We are actively speaking to retired drivers, including those who were axed by the former government, to come back to Queensland Rail. We are fixing the new trains ordered and designed by the LNP. There is no excuse for QR not briefing and alerting to the dangers that some clearly knew were coming through multiple reports. The independent investigation established by the Premier will handle those matters and will all be subject to the scrutiny that follows. My task is clear: fix the timetable and deliver for commuters.