




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Jobs

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (3.41 pm): I am pleased to follow the member for Indooroopilly, the shadow Treasurer. It was great to be at the Goprint offices this morning with the Premier and the Deputy Premier, because we were talking about Cross River Rail, a fantastic project costing \$5.8 billion that will be a brilliant piece of kit. Of course, what is used in terms of drilling? They use twin boring machines. Those opposition have twin boring machines also—the member for Indooroopilly and the member for Nanango, who prop up the member for Clayfield.

I find it entirely embarrassing that the member for Indooroopilly and those on that side of the House attack this government on our jobs record. We have a fantastic jobs record in terms and we are not ashamed of it. Yesterday was unashamedly about a jobs budget and predictably of course with those opposite who are in their fifth year of negativity it is no surprise that the LNP does not understand what a jobs budget is, because it has never delivered a jobs budget. We only need look at its job creation record in government. The most recent ABS figures show that we created 59,200 net new jobs in this state since coming to office. How does that compare to the previous government? We reached those 59,200 jobs in 27 months. Those opposite were in government for 34 months. How many jobs did they create? They created 28,700. Effectively, we created double the jobs in less time but they have the audacity to come in here and attack our record on jobs!

Of course, who can forget the member for Clayfield's first budget? Some 14,000 people were out the door. No budget I deliver will ever have 14,000 people going out the door, because that is not the Labor way. We provide the services and the people who have to provide those services, and that means employing more people, including front-line staff. The additional staff hired over the past year were 90 per cent front-line support staff or in front-line services. It is very simple. We know that is exactly what people in Queensland need to repair the damage of those opposite.

Let us look at how well those opposite did in terms of growing the Public Service. In their last budget in 2014-15 public sector FTE growth was at 3.7 per cent. What was it under our government last year? It was three per cent in 2016-17. Of course across the forward estimates we have a very ambitious FTE fiscal principle to meet. We will beat it if we can because that is our task. We said that we would keep a lid on expenses.