



Speech By  
**Hon. Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2017

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Back to Work Program; Further Answer to Question**

 **Hon. G GRACE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (7.41 pm): I rise to update the House on a matter arising in question time this morning which was referred to the Premier but which comes under my portfolio. I can confirm to the member for Kawana that Townsville based company Strantics has not received any funding under the Back to Work program. I can also confirm that all Back to Work applications are assessed according to strict eligibility criteria. No promises are made by government to any company nor any funds paid out unless they meet these criteria.

There are robust checks and balances in place. Back to Work applications require a range of evidence to support any funding claim. We also have 16 Back to Work officers visiting workplaces in every region to ensure the program operates as intended. Ongoing audit, program monitoring and compliance processes are built into the program because we understand that strict accountability is required where public money is involved. I can assure all those opposite that accountability and best practice will always be integral to the Back to Work program.