




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Financial Management and Payroll Services

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (10.01 am): It gives me great pleasure to update the House on the delivery of financial management and payroll services and solutions to Queensland government agencies. The Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation, through its business area Queensland Shared Services, known as QSS, is responsible for this important service delivery. Each week QSS provides finance and HR services to 25 customer agencies. QSS supports millions of successful transactions every year, thanks to the dedication of its staff. To assist community recovery efforts from Cyclone Debbie, QSS processed over 56,000 additional payments, putting over \$23 million in the hands of people affected by this natural disaster.

QSS has a successful track record of project delivery, and the Palaszczuk government has invested in this capability. Since 2015 QSS has upgraded finance systems for eight agencies as well as four payroll systems. For public safety agencies, the transition from Lattice, an out-of-date payroll system, is well and truly underway. As part of the Human Resource Information System, HRIS, one agency—Inspector-General Emergency Management—has already successfully moved on to the new Aurion system, and transition for Queensland Corrective Services is near completion. Another two agencies are due to come online by the end of next year. The transition for corrective services officers follows an independent assessment by a team of experts who delivered seven findings, all giving the go-ahead for the new payroll system to proceed.

Let us be clear on this: funding—all \$100 million for the HRIS—was approved by the Newman-Nicholls LNP government in 2012. The former government's appetite for outsourcing was, as we all know, huge. Those opposite completely mismanaged the rollout of this payroll program from day one. Not only did they allocate the \$100 million for the HRIS system; they also subsequently poured more than \$18.5 million into it—more than half the total spend to date—all without ever actually signing a contract to deliver it.

We will not be taking any shortcuts. We are on track and on budget. I take this opportunity to thank all of the incredibly hardworking public servants in my department who are transitioning what is a complex system. We are applying due diligence to ensure security continues around payments to public servants.