



Speech By  
**Charis Mullen**


**MEMBER FOR JORDAN**

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**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Ipswich Region, Jobs**

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (2.52 pm): The jobs boom in the Ipswich region is well and truly underway. Around 2,000 new jobs have been created or are in the pipeline across the Ipswich region as a result of new major construction projects commencing or completed this year. According to labour market predictions released by the federal department of jobs and small business, Ipswich will be among the top two regions in South-East Queensland leading jobs growth over the next five years. What the data shows is that Ipswich will have an additional 18,200 jobs by 2023, a growth rate of 11.3 per cent. This is phenomenal news for the growth areas within my electorate of Jordan like Greater Springfield and Greater Flagstone, where families are choosing to create homes and wish to work closer to them.

The city is already meeting the challenge of creating new jobs through a collaborative approach between industry, the Ipswich City Council and the Queensland government. The Ipswich region is recognised as a major growth region with compelling advantages relating to workforce, connectivity, available land and supply chain services. The industrial sector is certainly showing increased interest, with many companies choosing to invest in the region. Australia Post has transitioned their operations to a purpose-built 50,000 square metre distribution and sorting centre, capable of handling 700,000 parcels per day, bringing with it about 500 jobs. Coles is well advanced on their main distribution centre for Queensland in a new, purpose-built 75,000 square metre warehouse, with another 500 jobs coming on line in 2020.

Of course, as part of the Queensland government's defence strategy, we are seeing strong investment from that sector with Ipswich advanced defence manufacturing company TAE Aerospace upgrading to a 15,500 square metre facility to service Super Hornets, strike fighters and tanks. Around 200 jobs will be based on that site. The Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence being established by Rheinmetall is well underway as part of a \$5 billion defence contract awarded last year. When completed, it will be home to 400 new jobs as Rheinmetall begins rolling out the first of its 200 Boxer combat reconnaissance vehicles.

Of course, there was much excitement with the opening of Costco in our region. I have my membership. As important as those savings are, it is the 280 new jobs created that I am mostly interested in. Today's jobs figures that were released are even more welcome news, with more than 200 jobs added every day in September 2019 in Queensland. This massive increase in job creation means more than 226,800 jobs have been created under the Palaszczuk government. This shows our economic plan is working, creating nearly eight times as many jobs as the previous LNP government.

Outer metropolitan regions of South-East Queensland like Ipswich, Logan and Moreton Bay have some clear advantages in attracting industry. The advent of more technology means the ability of businesses to locate in places that suit them, their workers and customers. Importantly, in growing areas like mine, affordable land for businesses and housing will increasingly make these regions a compelling choice for Queensland's ongoing job creation.