




Speech By
Hon. Leanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Waste

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts) (10.08 am): Last week I released the report *Recycling and waste in Queensland 2018*. Sadly, the report shows that rates of waste in Queensland are on the rise. In 2017-18 more than 1.2 million tonnes of waste was trucked across the border into Queensland—a 37 per cent increase on the previous year. On top of that, the waste being generated within our state also increased, with reported waste generation now exceeding 10 million tonnes for the first time. These figures are alarming—

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Broadwater, you are warned under the standing orders.

Ms ENOCH: These figures are alarming and are cause for concern. This is why the Palaszczuk government is developing a comprehensive waste strategy that will prevent Queensland from being the dumping ground for other states, create incentives to divert waste from landfill and encourage more recycling and resource recovery. We know that for every 10,000 tonnes of waste disposed of in landfill only three jobs are supported while the same amount of waste recycled would support more than nine jobs. The data is clear: waste to landfill is a lost economic opportunity.

The encouraging news from the report is that Queenslanders increased their recycling effort for household and business waste, with close to five million tonnes of materials being diverted from landfill, but with only 45 per cent of waste being recycled we still have a long way to go. The Palaszczuk government's ban on single-use plastic bags and the introduction last year of Containers for Change, Queensland's container refund scheme, are important initiatives to support recycling and re-use and the jobs that go with it. It is clear that Queenslanders are passionate about improving how we manage waste, and our government's—

Ms Grace interjected.

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister for Education and Leader of the Opposition, this is not a time for a conversation across the chamber.

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I bring your attention to the standing order with respect to anticipation of debate. We are debating the waste reduction strategy today that the minister will be speaking about. I dare say she is anticipating her own debate on waste reduction.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Kawana. As I hear the minister's statement she is talking generally about the issue of waste reduction, not specifically to the bill, but I will continue to listen to her contribution. Thank you for your point of order.

Ms ENOCH: As I said, it is clear that Queenslanders are passionate about improving how we manage waste. Our government's comprehensive waste strategy will provide the backbone for that enthusiasm. I encourage the House to consider the latest report and help fight the war on waste.