




Speech By  
**Mark Robinson**  
**MEMBER FOR OODGEROO**

---

Record of Proceedings, 19 September 2019

## PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

### North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Oodgeroo—LNP) (2.49 pm): Reports of fires on North Stradbroke Island are once again concerning. While latest reports are that the fires are not close to townships, I urge all people, residents and visitors, to stay alert and watchful but still plan to make your visit at this stage. Police, fireys, SES volunteers—all our emergency services people—do a great job and we thank them for it.

While these fires are being contained on Straddie, what cannot be contained is this out-of-control Palaszczuk Labor government. Sadly, the hardworking and resilient local businesses and tourism operators have been held back by the politically driven changes and constant bureaucratic bungling of the Palaszczuk government. The local residents are not fooled. They know it is the decisions of the Trad controlled Palaszczuk government. That is why locals continue to call the government's economic transition strategy the 'Trad-broke island plan'.

Locals know it was Treasurer Trad who, one, shut down the resources sector without a real plan for jobs; two, is overseeing the stalling of the economic transition; three, has a plan for her own financial prosperity but not for them—and according to the Crime and Corruption Commission and now the Premier her actions should have constituted a crime yet she continues to be Deputy Premier, Treasurer and minister; fourthly, she widened the gap for Indigenous Quandamooka workers by sacking them as the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, with more Aboriginal workers yet to go this year; fifthly, she botched the rollout of the Workers' Assistance Program to help workers find jobs, with only 10 per cent of the budget being expended—the main transition for workers had been to the unemployment queue; sixthly, removed the chamber of commerce from the economic transition strategy implementation committee. Why move the businesses, the job creators, from the strategic planning for job creation? It does not make sense. Seventhly, they created a greater bureaucracy.

We have not learned from the DERM-DEEDI fiasco with spaghetti messes and multiple ministers and economic and environmental drivers fighting each other and the mess that that created on Straddie. A more streamlined decision-making process is what is needed. To take the chamber representative off the implementation committee is a crazy decision. They have also ignored the Redland City Council's call for additional funds, up to \$100 million, needed for the transition. I table the advocacy document of the council calling for that funding.

*Tabled paper:* Redland City Council document, undated, titled '2019 North Stradbroke Island State and Federal Advocacy Document' [1569](#).

The government has also failed to deliver on replacement jobs. Kate Jones previously promised 400 ecotourism jobs and of the 24 ETS projects, none yet have been built. Labor's plan for Straddie has become a nightmare version of *Survivor* in which it is the island residents being evicted by the government—having to leave the island because there is no work for them.