



Speech By Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 27 February 2019

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Police and Corrective Services Portfolio, Jobs

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.02 am): The Palaszczuk government has a clear economic plan to drive growth and, most importantly, create jobs for Queenslanders. We stand for jobs and it is jobs that we are delivering. I will give some examples. We have invested over \$46 million in building a new Counter Terrorism and Community Safety Centre in Wacol, which will be a world-class use-of-force, weapons and counterterrorism training facility. Today, I am pleased to announce that the project is currently in its final stages of tender and an announcement will be made very soon. During construction, this project will support over 130 jobs.

Further, the refurbishment of the heritage listed building Silky Oak House and the new warehouse facility at Wacol are already well underway and will support a further 60 jobs during construction. These projects are creating local jobs and also offer a range of opportunities for local businesses thanks to our Buy Queensland procurement policy. Our government is also funding the front line, with 85 new counterterrorism specialists to be embedded statewide, with that rollout already underway.

Also, our \$241 million expansion of the Capricornia Correctional Centre is delivering much needed jobs for the wider Rockhampton community. More than 140 jobs will be delivered during the construction phase. I am also very pleased to announce today that, as a result of our Buy Queensland procurement policy, to date 91 per cent of the project's workforce has come from the region—local jobs—and that \$53 million has already been injected into local industry, supporting local businesses. The Palaszczuk government delivers opportunity for all Queenslanders, no matter where they live in our state.

Once construction is complete on this project, an additional 115 full-time jobs will be delivered for the correctional centre. Since being elected, we have boosted the corrections front line in the Rockhampton region by 55 staff. Queensland Corrective Services is now one of the region's biggest employers, with over 300 staff committed to keeping that community safe. Labor governments build the infrastructure, we provide the training, we invest in new and emerging technologies but, most importantly, we invest in Queenslanders—providing jobs for Queenslanders and opportunities for Queensland businesses.