




Speech By
Hon. Cameron Dick

MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Regional Queensland, Investment

 **Hon. CR DICK** (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Investment) (9.46 am): The attraction and support of more major private investment into regional Queensland is a central focus for our government. That is because we know private investment provides employment for Queenslanders and will support long-term economic growth for the benefit of all communities across our great state. The Palaszczuk Labor government is working closely with industry to encourage this investment through incentives, project facilitation and initiatives like our Jobs and Regional Growth Fund.

Since we first introduced the Jobs and Regional Growth Fund in 2017, it has supported 41 projects that are creating more than 1,800 long-term operational jobs across industries like advanced manufacturing, defence, agriculture, mining and aviation. These projects have seen a whopping \$2 billion in capital investment committed to Queensland. This investment will flow through and benefit our regional communities for decades to come, supporting Queensland's plan for economic recovery now and long into the future. That is because our state's successful health response to the pandemic has meant we are looking towards a post-COVID world in better shape than most other jurisdictions around the globe.

This fact was pointed out to me more than once last week when I was in North Queensland for our government's first regional investor round table in Townsville along with the Minister for Resources and member for Townsville, Scott Stewart; the member for Thuringowa, Aaron Harper; the member for Mundingburra, Les Walker; and the assistant treasurer, Charis Mullen. The event was a fantastic opportunity for government to engage with regional industry leaders, and I thank those leaders who attended for sharing their expert insights and providing valuable feedback on future partnership plans.

Through Queensland Treasury's Investment Facilitation and Partnerships Group, our government will continue to work with business, industry and investors to bring more big projects to life in Queensland. Over the past three years major projects in regional Queensland have resulted in capital investment of almost \$1 billion, creating approximately 2,500 direct jobs for our state.

The work continues to keep building on these numbers, to generate more jobs in our cities, towns and regions and to make sure the world knows that Queensland is open for business.