



## Speech By Hon. Cameron Dick

## MEMBER FOR WOODRIDGE

Record of Proceedings, 18 June 2021

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

## **Jobs, Labour Force Data**

Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Investment) (10.51 am): There can be no better endorsement of our job-creating budget and our government's economic settings than the latest ABS labour force data released just after question time yesterday. That data showed that Queensland's economic recovery plan is working, and our budget continues that good work. Yesterday we found out the unemployment rate in Queensland had fallen to 5.4 per cent. That 0.7 per cent drop was the biggest improvement in the nation. The last time the unemployment rate was 5.4 per cent was in April 2012, and everybody knows what happened right after that.

The 84,900 jobs our government has created since March last year are the biggest labour force growth in the nation. Our labour market performance takes the number of jobs created under the Palaszczuk Labor government to 337,400. That is 12 times more jobs created under the Palaszczuk Labor government than under the Newman LNP government.

What makes our current labour market performance even more remarkable is that unemployment has fallen while the participation rate has increased. The share of people in work or seeking work rose to 66.6 per cent in May, almost half a percentage point above the national average. The recovery in the Queensland labour market is attributable to the willingness of Queenslanders to stick with our health response which has made us the envy of the world and is a reflection of the COVID-19 economic recovery plan that is putting more Queenslanders in more jobs every single day.