




Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 18 June 2021

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (4.00 pm): Queensland continues to lead the nation in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our ongoing response is one of strength, solidarity, determination and commitment. It is typical of our great state, and these very same characterises shine bright in our 2021-22 budget.

This budget delivers a fair go for our local community of Bundamba both now and into the future. New schools, healthcare upgrades and major infrastructure investments will support thousands of new secure local jobs at a time when we need them most. We have delivered a record \$22.2 billion health budget that delivers record services and frontline health staff for our local community. It means \$750 million for local Ipswich health services—an increase of \$59.45 million from last year's budget alone and a whopping 64 per cent increase since the Palaszczuk Labor government was elected. It includes \$101.2 million for construction projects to expand and improve facilities at the Ipswich Hospital precinct, including a new acute new mental health unit and \$1.6 million for The Park—Centre for Mental Health.

This budget also commits \$7.2 million towards the 26-bed expansion at Ipswich Hospital and \$5.3 million to secure additional bed capacity. There is also initial funding towards a brand new dedicated alcohol and drug rehabilitation centre.

In a huge boost for our local community, South Ripley will be home to the brand new Ipswich satellite hospital at Barrams Road. A business case is now being prepared for the 2.7-hectare site for community health care including ambulatory and low-acuity day therapy like renal dialysis, chemotherapy, complex wound management, and urgent care for minor injury and illness. Our local community will also be supported by \$177 million for a 174 public-bed expansion at Springfield Hospital. This means more world-class health services closer to home in our community. The budget also delivers \$3 million to progress a new ambulance station and police facility in Ripley.

We have a record \$15.3 billion education budget which will see new schools open in Ripley and Augustine Heights by 2023, along with two new schools in the Bellbird Park, Collingwood Park and Redbank Plains areas by 2024. Our existing schools will benefit from a further \$39.8 million, supporting the expansion and upgrade of schools in Bellbird Park, Goodna, Redbank Plains, Redbank and Ripley Valley. We are also backing training and apprenticeships, with \$3.3 million to expand the metal trades centre and deliver a new manufacturing and robotics centre at the Ipswich TAFE campus at Bundamba.

We are investing a massive \$2.9 billion for social housing through \$1.9 billion over four years to increase social housing stock and a new \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund to support current and future housing need. Through this, we are fast-tracking more supply of almost 10,000 social homes over the life of our Housing Strategy—that includes almost \$52 million in this budget for Ipswich. We recently opened facilities at Bellbird Park and Redbank, with an additional two sites at Redbank currently under construction.

Cheaper, cleaner energy is what Queenslanders need to get ahead as we continue our focus on the post-COVID economic recovery. This budget commits a record \$2 billion record energy investment to continue powering our economic recovery. Our commitment to publicly owned power assets and home-grown Queensland renewables continues to keep power prices down for local homes and businesses.

We are investing \$15.2 million in our local Swanbank E Power Station, publicly owned by CleanCo, to support a major overhaul that will deliver local jobs. We have installed 536 solar panels at Bundamba State Secondary College, joining 270 panels at Kruger State School, as part of our landmark \$97 million Advancing Clean Energy Schools program. Our nation-leading \$2 billion Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund will drive local supply chains and advanced manufacturing jobs.

We have the skills and workforce to manufacture the components and new technology Queensland needs to meet our renewable energy target. Solar panels, electrolyzers, wind turbines and batteries can and should be made right here in Queensland. This budget delivers the investment our publicly owned energy companies need to support our 9,500-strong energy workforce, supercharge job creation and put Queensland jobs front and centre of the renewables revolution.

This is a budget for the Bundamba community and all Queenslanders that continues our great state's strong recovery by delivering more health care, education, community services, housing, roads, infrastructure, renewables and, most importantly, jobs.

The Deputy Speaker has reviewed and approved my speech on the budget for incorporation. As such, I ask that the remainder of my speech be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*.

The speech read as follows—

We have a huge boost for local roads and public transport.

Sections of River Road and Moggill Ferry Road at Riverview will be upgraded to the tune of \$1.14 million; \$1.13 million will improve safety along the Cunningham Highway between Redbank Plains Road and Ripley Road and \$38M Bundamba train station upgrade will start with \$461,000.

There is also \$50,000 to progress the park 'n' ride business case at Redbank station.

We're also supporting Ipswich City Council with \$3.35 million under the South-East Queensland Community Stimulus Package; \$1.77 million in COVID Works for Queensland funding; more than \$1.1 million for our libraries; and almost \$100,000 in Advance Queensland grant funding.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of communities right Queensland and employ nearly one million people.

Our new Small Business Strategy, which outlines how \$140 million of support for small business alongside a new Workforce Summit that will take place later this year.

The strategy includes a \$100 million Business Investment Fund, \$30 million to increase small business skills and capability, and \$10 million to make it easier to do business with government including making the Queensland Small Business Commissioner role permanent.

The Back to Work initiative has been extended with \$140 million over four years for targeted employer payments to help businesses recruit and retain young people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with a disability or the long-term unemployed.

We're also investing \$31.2 million to extend the 50% payroll tax rebate for apprentice and trainees to June 2022.

We are home to some of the world's oldest continuing living cultures, and I'm incredibly proud to be part of an inclusive, respectful and forward-thinking government that has established the \$300 million Path to Treaty Fund.

The returns from this fund will progress our Path to Treaty and support our response to the Treaty Advancement Committee report.

This is another step forward in our treaty journey as we work to acknowledge and address past injustices and create a new future between First Nations and non-Indigenous Queenslanders.

We're also investing almost \$6 million towards language, education, culture, and reconciliation initiatives across the state, supporting efforts to Close the Gap for better economic, employment, health and housing outcomes.

A further funding boost of \$4 million to the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation continues our commitment to provide educational opportunities for more First Nations Queenslanders.

These important scholarships give families increased educational choices and life opportunities and recognise the importance of language, culture and identity and their impact on the health and wellbeing for current and future generations.

There's also \$1 million in increased funding over four years and \$300,000 ongoing to continue reconciliation initiatives across Queensland in communities like Bundamba.

We're a diverse, vibrant and proud local community, and this budget represents a huge investment in our area as all Queenslanders continue our safe and strong economic and employment recovery from the COVID pandemic.

This budget recognises the importance of language, culture, and identity, and its impact on the health and wellbeing for current and future generations.

Speaker, in conclusion, this budget represents a huge investment in our local Bundamba community as Queenslanders continue our safe and strong economic and employment recovery from the COVID pandemic.

I commend the bills to the House.