



Speech By  
**Shane King**


**MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH**

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Record of Proceedings, 27 May 2021

## ADJOURNMENT

### Kurwongbah Electorate, Small Business

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (6.06 pm): It is my pleasure tonight during Queensland's Small Business Month to speak in this place about some of the great small businesses across the Kurwongbah electorate. We know that small businesses are the backbone of the economy. We know that the impacts of COVID-19 have put pressures on this backbone like never before. That is why we have delivered millions of dollars in small business adaptation grants to help operators adjust their business models in the face of the pandemic. In my electorate alone, around half a million dollars has helped over 50 local businesses with grants of up to \$10,000 each.

I would like to thank those businesses who took the time to show me around their operations and have a chat with me about how these grants would help them to stay afloat last year. Thanks go to: Yoga with Trudy; Little Fishes Swim School; Eckersley Printing; Outback Insulation; SolarEast; Hello World Burpengary; Mot Mot Cafe at Petrie—they were very lucky as they opened right next to the university and railway station just as COVID struck which meant no university students or commuter so \$10,000 really helped Dan; Choice of India in Narangba, a plug for them and their great curry; and Car Tune Mechanics.

In celebration of Small Business Month I was delighted to have the opportunity to invite some local small business people here to parliament for a special reception with our Minister for Small Business, the Hon. Di Farmer, during the last sitting week. We welcomed representatives from Kurwongbah based businesses: the award winning Chilli Coffee; and Old Petrie Town's Copper and Cane Distillery. Thanks to Jimmy—the other Jimmy Sullivan, the Chilli Coffee man—Christine, Shelley and Guy for coming in. I also ran into Cameron and Felice from Kallangur based business Dragon Speed Creations and we caught up on old times when I was their member of parliament.

There is more good news for small businesses with three new state government grants programs specifically targeted to small businesses. There is Business Basics delivering grants of up to \$5000 for new and emerging businesses. Guidelines are now available and applications open on 31 May. The Business Growth Fund has grants of up to \$50,000 for evolving and fast-growing small and medium sized businesses to buy highly specialised equipment. There is the Business Boost with grants of up to \$15,000 to support established small businesses.

Finally, I just want to mention that I have been running a small business promotion on my Facebook page this month asking followers to tag in a local takeaway business to go in the draw for a \$70 voucher towards their next visit. It is not too late to enter. For any Kurwongbah constituents listening, head to my Facebook page at ShaneKingMP and get tagging before the end of May.

With the few seconds I have left, I would like to put in another plug for the Redcliffe Dolphins NRL bid. There is a home game this weekend against the PNG Hunters. I suggest all members come along and hear the roar at Dolphin Stadium. You will really enjoy yourself.