




Speech By
James Martin

MEMBER FOR STRETTON

Record of Proceedings, 17 March 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Stretton Electorate, Businesses

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (2.09 pm): I am proud to be part of a government that is committed to supporting Queensland businesses and local manufacturers. The last few years have been very challenging for small business in Queensland, but they have been resilient and survived, thanks in large part to the strong health response of the Palaszczuk government which allowed our businesses to stay open whilst businesses in other states and countries faced extended lockdowns.

In my local area we are seeing strong signs of growth and the creation of new jobs. Over the last few months I have seen many new businesses start up in my electorate, including Cafe L'Oasis in Calamvale Central, Soba Shimbashi noodle restaurant in Sunnybank Hills, Anytime Fitness in Sunnybank Hills and also Australia's largest Asian supermarket Fresco in Calamvale. Thanks to this government's support and focus on the economy, all of these businesses have been able to make investment in our local area and create new jobs.

I want to recognise some of the fantastic local businesses in Stretton. Firstly, I mention Poly-Tek in Acacia Ridge. It manufactures its own design of soundproof fencing. Recently I met the owner Neil, who was very happy to have received \$50,000 as part of our business growth grants program. Neil's message to the Minister for Small Business is—

... thank you, we are delighted with your support for us, helping us grow and employ ... around 15 more people and look to export overseas.

That is a great example of what we are doing to support our economy and create jobs.

Also in manufacturing I recently visited Burndy Cable Support Systems in Sunnybank Hills. It manufactures cable supports for many large projects and it is very much looking forward to the many contracts and tenders that will be available in the Cross River Rail project, one of the big contracts it is putting together a tender for. This will support its workforce of machine operators and welders. I thank Peter and the team for recently providing me with a tour of its facilities and look forward to attending its 40th anniversary celebrations later this year. This government is supporting local manufacturers just like Burndy by bringing forward investment in job-creating projects like Cross River Rail, the Eight Mile Plains satellite hospital and the Kuraby to Beenleigh rail upgrades and others, supporting our continued economic recovery.

I also want to acknowledge businesses helping families impacted by the recent floods. I give a special mention to local business owner Rob Donald from Pacific Aquatics Pool Care—a great pool care business. Rob recently came to the rescue of local residents Mary and Mike, who are pensioners. Their pool was filled with sediment as a result of the recent floods. I called Rob after visiting and Rob was fantastic enough to offer his services for free to Mike and Mary and now their pool is spick and span. In conclusion, in the face of pandemics and floods, the Palaszczuk government is committed to supporting small business and local manufacturing with grants that promote growth, invest in job-generating infrastructure, support our economy and deliver our promise to put Queenslanders first.