



Speech By
Lance McCallum


MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 24 June 2022

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (2.15 pm): What a great budget for Queensland and what a great budget for Bundamba! This is a bumper \$1 billion Bundamba budget that delivers a fair go now and into the future. It delivers on the Palaszczuk government's steadfast commitment to good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle for Queenslanders.

Budgets are about values, vision and delivery, and this is a great Labor budget that is built on a rock-solid foundation of delivering for Queenslanders—delivering more jobs, more world-class health care, more world-class education, more infrastructure and more services for our local community. It stands in stark contrast diametrically opposite to the LNP, who in their budget speeches have shown that they have no vision, no plan and no idea—no plan other, that is, than to sack staff, cut services and sell assets.

We know this because they have said not one word to support the revenue measures that are contained in this budget. They have had their chance to back in more hospitals, houses, roads, schools and services, but they have deliberately and wilfully refused. They have been big on criticism, complaint and hyperbole but non-existent on positive ideas, plans or vision that will ensure a prosperous future for Queenslanders. They choose to hide their plans from Queenslanders, refusing to reveal the details of what they would do if in government, so the question is: what will they cut if they will not back this budget? I challenge them to be up-front, tell this House and tell Queenslanders.

For our local community the difference is crystal clear. When it comes to health care, the Palaszczuk Labor government is proudly delivering: an additional 200 beds at Ipswich Hospital as part of a \$710 million commitment; increased investment for a brand new \$85.4 million satellite hospital in South Ripley; 174 public beds at Springfield; \$4.4 million to progress a new ambulance station in Ripley; and record numbers of frontline health staff.

In their reply to this budget the LNP has not committed to one new health facility, not one new health service and not one new health job. Through their failure to support this budget's revenue measures the LNP has confirmed that they will cut funding in the order of \$1.2 billion from our Queensland Health and Hospitals Plan, which is delivering over 2,200 hospital beds statewide. What that means for our local community is cutting an additional 200 beds at the Ipswich Hospital. It means cutting our brand new satellite hospital at South Ripley, and we know that it means they will sack nurses and midwives. We know that because they sacked 1,200 of them last time they were in government.

It is the same when it comes to housing. Labor builds; the LNP cuts. Under the Palaszczuk Labor government, affordable housing in Ipswich is back in this budget with an additional \$34.3 million for new and improved social housing. Last year alone we opened four new local apartment complexes—three

in Redbank and one in Bellbird Park—and there is already another underway being constructed in Goodna. This budget commits to 1,200 more social and affordable homes through our signature \$1 billion social housing fund.

We are unlocking more land for housing, with \$45 million for the Ripley Valley Priority Development Area, delivering essential infrastructure. That is what Labor represents. That is what Labor will deliver. Under the LNP, there was zero new social housing in Ipswich. In fact, there was zero across the entire state. Under the LNP, there was a reduction in social housing; social housing stock went backwards. There were fewer homes for vulnerable Queenslanders.

The LNP could not resist attacking our publicly owned energy assets as part of their budget reply. They could not resist it because they hate the fact that Queenslanders still own their power assets. They hate it because the LNP are just itching to sell them off and privatise them the first chance they get. They tried to do it the last time they were in government—mothballing Swanbank E in my community and sacking the entire workforce in preparation for sale—but my local community and the vast majority of Queenslanders said no. They said that our power assets are not for sale. They have entrusted the Palaszczuk Labor government to keep our power assets in public hands, and that is exactly what we have done. Queenslanders are continuing to reap the benefits.

We reopened Swanbank E, creating local jobs. This budget includes another \$3.7 million investment in our local power station where we are also looking to bring renewable hydrogen and energy storage to our local community. It is all about good jobs through cheaper, cleaner, renewable and reliable energy. It means we can support our local community and ease cost-of-living pressures with an additional \$175 electricity rebate this year. It means Queensland households have benefited from \$575 in rebates over the past four years. That is only made possible because we own our energy assets.

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're supporting women and girls with \$363 million for safety, health and wellbeing; \$163 million for economic security; and \$2.8M to elevate First Nations women, and we're helping seniors and people with disability with over \$258 million, including the expansion of our local Seniors Legal and Support Services in Ipswich.

Our local youth will benefit from a boost in out-of-home care for vulnerable kids, a continued investment to keep communities safe, and promoting inclusive, accepting and diverse communities.

We're also backing better outcomes for our local First Nations people with over \$74 million to strengthen connection to culture and help our communities thrive.

We're providing increased funding of \$3.1 million to implement initiatives under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, and a further \$3 million will ensure the Office of the Meriba Omasker Kaziw Kazipa Commissioner continues to legally recognise Torres Strait Islander traditional child rearing practice.

We're investing \$16.7 million to address land administration requirements and infrastructure planning in remote and regional communities, with another \$1.9 million to support local economic development plans.

We're also supporting our community with increased funding for the groups that continue to do so much to help so many.

Our local Goodna Neighbourhood House and Riverview Community Centre will see their funding more than double, meaning more services, more support and more programs that provide essential engagement, education and assistance.

This is part of our nearly \$116 million record investment in Queensland's 127 government-funded neighbourhood and community centres.

They are meeting places and safe spaces, and they continue to play an important part in our ongoing flood recovery.

That recovery has received a budget boost of almost \$1.7 billion as we continue to work alongside flood impacted communities like Bundamba to ensure we build back better.

Our nation-leading \$741 million Resilient Homes Fund provides options for the raising, retrofitting or voluntary buy-back of eligible homes, and a further \$721 million in extraordinary circumstances disaster assistance will address broader recovery needs.

Extraordinary assistance is available to help all sectors of our community including individuals, families, small businesses, primary producers, not-for-profits, community and sports organisations.

We are committed to building safer, stronger and more resilient communities, and these investments are testament to that.

This budget also includes about \$20 million for local education and training, along with more than \$57 million for new schools to support ongoing growth.

Goodna Special School will welcome a brand-new building with additional learning spaces, while our investment in training continues with the ongoing expansion of the Metal Trades, Manufacturing and Robotics Centre at our Ipswich TAFE campus at Bundamba.

Schools across our local community will also benefit from more than \$1 million in works and upgrades, and we're catering for current and future growth with new primary schools at Augustine Heights and Ripley Valley.

The budget also includes:

- \$7 million to progress the next stage of the \$34 million upgrade of Bundamba train station.
- \$3.7 million to support CleanCo and our proudly publicly owned Swanbank E Power Station as we continue to move towards our renewable energy target.
- More than \$4 million for safety improvements along the Cunningham Highway.
- \$1 million for progressing plans for the next stage of the Ipswich Motorway upgrade between Darra and Oxley.
- \$2 million to plan a brand-new state-of-the-art Police Academy at nearby Wacol.

This budget represents another huge investment in our local Bundamba community as we continue to deliver more jobs, improved infrastructure and world-class health and education.

It is another huge investment in our local Bundamba community—catering for increased population growth and delivering the good jobs, better services and great lifestyle we all deserve.

I commend the bills to the House.