



Speech By
Hon. Samuel O'Connor
MEMBER FOR BONNEY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Procurement

 **Hon. ST O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (9.57 am): I rise to update the House on one of the most significant economic reforms undertaken by the Crisafulli government—the launch of our new Queensland Procurement Policy, the biggest shake-up to government procurement in decades. Under Labor, the government procurement system involved more than 700 pages of red tape, spread across nearly two dozen duplicative, confusing documents, documents so complex and inconsistent that many small and family businesses did not even bother trying to get government work. Labor's procurement approach meant higher costs, fewer local jobs and slower project delivery. That is why we have delivered a complete overhaul. I will table a copy of our new Procurement Policy, which comes into effect on 1 January 2026.

Tabled paper: Queensland Government: Report titled 'Queensland Procurement Policy 2026' [1791](#).

The QPP 2026 is a complete reset of how government buys goods and services. That matters because every year that value totals more than \$35 billion. We have replaced hundreds of pages of duplication with a single, 50-page, plain-English central policy that puts results ahead of red tape and opens more doors for Queensland businesses than ever before.

Under QPP 2026, it will be easier than ever to do business with government in Queensland. We put small and family businesses at the heart of our approach. Through QPP 2026, we have embedded our target for 30 per cent of government spend to be with small and medium enterprises into our central policy, not off to the side as an afterthought. We are driving outcomes with our new purposeful public procurement approach, allowing agencies to allocate clear portions of major tenders to economic, environmental and social outcomes, including opportunities for First Nations businesses, social enterprises and suppliers employing people with disability.

I want to highlight one of the most important and nation-leading reforms that we have included in our new government procurement approach: our commitment to Queensland's veterans. Queensland is home to more veterans than any other state in the nation. They bring with them unique skills: proven leadership, discipline, problem-solving abilities and the ability to perform under pressure. They are exactly the qualities that can help us deliver high-quality projects and services for all Queenslanders.

For the first time anywhere in Australia, our QPP 2026 allows government agencies to allocate five to 10 per cent of a major tender's evaluation criteria directly to veterans outcomes. That means taxpayer dollars will be able to support businesses owned by veterans, businesses that employ veterans and help them transition to civilian life, and businesses that support veterans and veterans organisations. It is a practical way to help those who have served.

There is one thing that is not included in our new Procurement Policy: BPIC—Labor's CFMEU tax. We have permanently removed Labor's costly BPICs from government procurement to restore fairness, competition and productivity to our construction sector. Declining productivity since 2018 cost

Queensland 77,000 homes, led to billions of dollars in blowouts and locked out tens of thousands of tradies and subbies from competing for government projects. Scrapping BPICs means Queensland contractors, especially regional contractors, are back in the game.

Finally, our new Queensland Procurement Policy replaces the punitive and duplicative ethical supply mandate with the new procurement assurance model. It is all about rewarding good performance and lifting standards across the supply chain instead of punishing minor administrative errors. QPP 2026 delivers a procurement system that respects taxpayers' money, backs Queensland businesses, restores productivity and ensures Queensland is ready to seize all of the opportunities ahead.