

Question on Notice

No. 141

Asked on 16 February 2017

MS A LEAHY ASKED THE TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT (HON C PITT)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise what was the Queensland - Outback SA4 statistical region's youth (15-24 years) unemployment rate as at January 2015 and December 2015, and has this region's youth unemployment rate ever been at a higher level?

ANSWER:

Labour market statistics are freely available from the websites of the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Queensland Government Statistician's Office.

The Government is committed to supporting young Queenslanders to get a job, particularly in regional Queensland, and that's why we have implemented a range of programs including:

- \$200M Jobs and Regional Growth Package which includes a range of youth employment and training initiatives aimed at assisting young people find and secure work;
- \$100M Back to Work package including the \$20,000 Youth Boost payment, which is available to employers who hire a young jobseeker in regional Queensland between 1 December 2016 and 31 October 2017 (inclusive);
- \$240M Skilling Queenslanders for Work including the Get Set for Work program, Ready for Work scheme and the Youth Skills program;
- Payroll tax rebates for apprentices and trainees;
- The Youth Employment Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people;
- The \$10.7 billion capital program, supporting 31,000 jobs;
- \$375 million Building Our Regions program supporting more than 600 jobs across 51 projects funded in the second round, including:
 - \$17.5 million in Central Queensland for waste water, sewerage, recreation, air transport and communications infrastructure.
 - \$7.9 million in Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday for water, cultural and recreation infrastructure.
 - \$7.9 million in North Queensland for water supply, flood mitigation, aerodrome upgrades and pedestrian safety; and
- Extension of the Building and Construction Training Policy.