

Question on Notice
No. 810
Asked on 17 August 2022

Mr S Andrew asked Premier and Minister for the Olympics (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

Will the Premier advise (a) if the Premier was aware that her colleague on the National Cabinet, Scott Morrison, had secretly appointed himself to other ministries within the Federal Government, (b) since 2015, has the Premier held any other Ministry portfolios within the Queensland Government, whether temporary or ongoing, apart from role as Premier and Minister for the Olympics and (c) If yes, provide details of all such appointments?

ANSWER:

I was not aware of the former Prime Minister's secret ministerial appointments until they became publicly known.

All of my ministerial appointments since February 2015 have been publicly reported in the *Queensland Government Gazette* on the dates that the appointments were made. The details of the appointments are as follows.

On 14 February 2015, the Governor appointed me as Premier. In accordance with a precedent often followed in Queensland and other jurisdictions when there is a change of Government, on 14 February 2015, the Governor also appointed me, the then Member for South Brisbane and the Member for Mulgrave, to the offices to which persons may be appointed as Ministers of the State. These appointments applied until arrangements for the appointment of the full ministry could be put in place.

As such, from 14 February 2015 to 16 February 2015, in addition to being Premier, I also served as Minister for Education, Training and Employment; Attorney-General and Minister for Justice; Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Minister for Energy and Water Supply; Minister for Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts; and Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games.

On 16 February 2015, the Governor accepted my resignation from these offices and then appointed me as Premier and Minister for the Arts.

On 12 December 2017, the Governor accepted my resignation as Premier and Minister for the Arts and then appointed me as Premier and Minister for Trade.

On 7 October 2021, the Governor accepted my resignation as Premier and Minister for Trade and then appointed me as Premier and Minister for the Olympics.

I also formally reported the appointments to the Parliament on the next available sitting day and tabled copies of the gazettes. Please find links to the gazettes from the Parliament's Tabled Papers Register as below.

<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2015/5515T31.pdf> (Refer to pages 365 and 366 and pages 369 and 370)

<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2018/5618T103.pdf> (Refer to pages 631 to 633)

<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2021/5721T1693.pdf> (Refer to pages 165 and 166)

On 9 May 2020, the Governor appointed me to act in another ministry in addition to my then duties as Premier and Minister for Trade. This acting appointment ended on 11 May 2020. The details of this acting appointment were published in the *Queensland Government Gazette* on 9 May 2020 which is available at the link below. This acting appointment was not required to be reported to the Parliament as the Parliament was not meeting at that time, and the acting appointment had ended by the time that the Parliament next met.

<https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/ckan-publications-attachments-prod/resources/c0724fda-db8d-4b28-8986-cf4aae0cf3d0/15.05.20-combined.pdf?ETag=ff90934f6bbb9c307315ecc4a66b8939> (Refer to page 73)

In addition, following my appointment as Premier in February 2015, I issued media statements in relation to my further appointments, as another way of informing Queenslanders of them in an open and transparent way.