



Parliament Update



As with each year the handing down of the 2024/2025 State Budget lead the way into Estimates Hearings which is our opportunity as opposition to question the Government on how it plans to ensure our services have the resources and funding they need to best serve Queenslanders.

Having the shadow ministries of Mines and Natural Resources, Fire and Emergency Services and Corrective Services, there was plenty to prosecute.

Each year we see the emphasis on how valued our volunteers are, particularly those that are called upon in emergencies.

Estimates revealed this year we have 200 less men and women in orange across our state while our marine rescue volunteers in VMR and Coast Guard are left to navigate through a scrambled process during the creation of Marine Rescue Queensland.

It wasn't just the floundering when it came to our volunteers that was brought under the microscope this week, with confirmation Labor simply don't get it when it comes to supporting our firefighters in Ayr. More on that below.

[Have your say in my survey](#)

What are the issues that matter most to you?

I'm here to listen and I want to know about the issues affecting you.

Scan the QR Code or click the link below to have your say.



[Click here to fill in the survey](#)

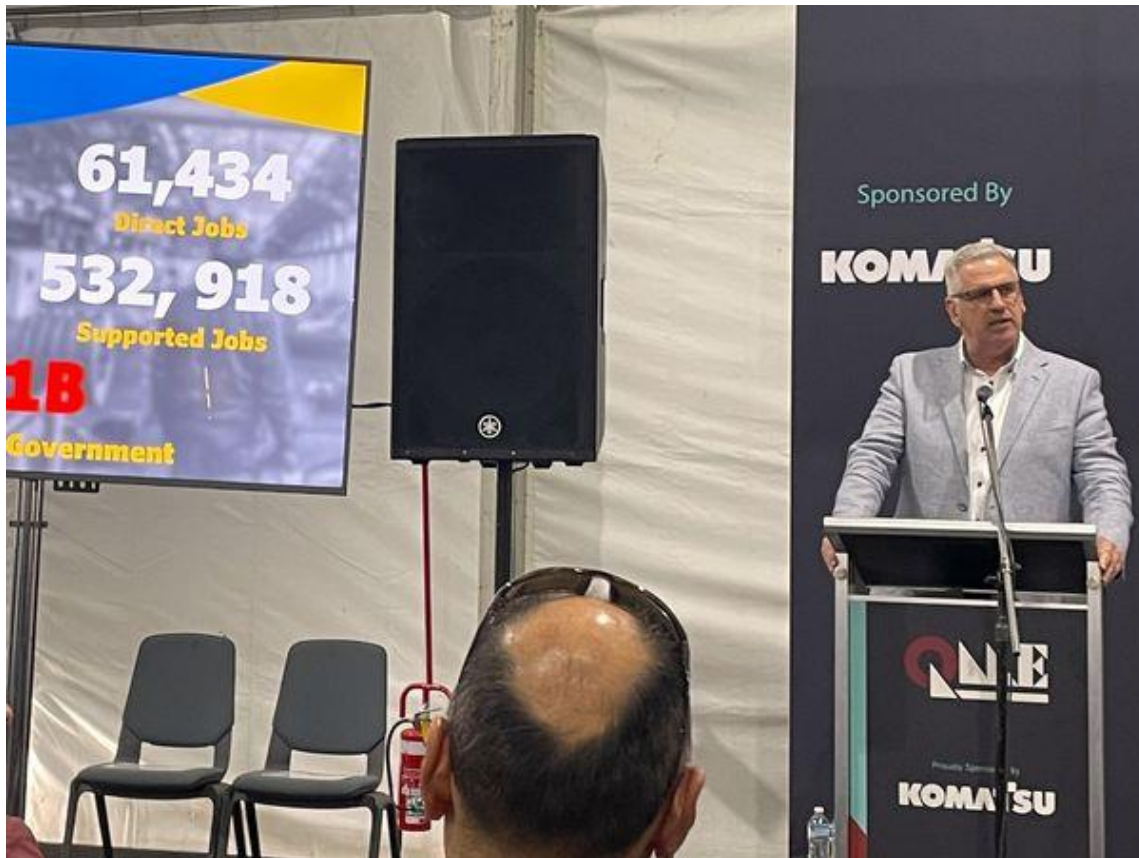
Industry needs collaboration for sweet future



As I write this, unions representing Mill workers and Wilmar recently engaged in the next stage of mediation over wage negotiations. Recent weeks have highlighted the need for all stakeholders in our sugar industry to be able to work collaboratively to ensure that the industry has a strong future. We know that our community relies on this industry to be productive and efficient from the moment planting operations begin to the day that cane is crushed at the mill. If any aspect of that process is not meeting the expectations of other parties then they should be held accountable.

Everyone has a responsibility to uphold, in order to secure the success of the sugar industry in the Burdekin and with the clock ticking it is imperative a successful resolution to the current dispute is found sooner rather than later

QME an exhibition of industry strength



It was fantastic to be able to speak at the recent Queensland Mining and Engineering Exhibition as the Shadow Minister for Mines and Natural Resources. A great opportunity to hear from all areas of an industry that is an absolute powerhouse to the state's economy.

Fire Station commitment smothered

As I said earlier, Estimates Hearings are largely about ensuring that money spent by the state government is able to provide our state services with the resources and infrastructure needed to support Queenslanders.

However right now in the Burdekin there is an example where the the state Labor government has allowed the complete opposite to happen and sadly it's our front line emergency services that will bear the brunt.

The Commissioner has revealed that there is no intent or funding to build Ayr firefighters a new station after it was revealed that the current, 65-year-old

station, would need to be dug up to remediate a toxic chemical compound contamination. Currently our firefighters are unable to undertake vital training activities at the station and, unsurprisingly there is no assurances that following the completion of the works, those activities will be able to commence.

It doesn't stop there either, at the same time as our firefighters in Ayr have been unable to use the station to its full capacity, the state Labor government cut the ribbon on a \$6 million fire station in Brisbane knowing that it would need to be bulldozed within the following ten years to make room for road construction.

It's a slap in the face by Labor for people who sign up to put their lives at risk for the safety of their community and I certainly won't stand by and let our hardworking firefighters put up with a substandard fire station.

School leaders shine across the Burdekin Electorate

It's been fantastic catching up with our school leaders across the electorate. No matter where you look in the Burdekin, our future is certainly in great hands with some great ideas already underway as to how these leaders can improve their school and wider communities.



Roads reap headlines again



It's no surprise that following the horrific tragedy we saw unfold on the Bruce Highway south of the Burdekin recently, the state of our roads has largely held headlines over recent weeks.

As we know both major highways, the Bruce Highway and the Peak Downs Highway in the Burdekin Electorate are plagued with issues and a number of reports have ranked some sections as among the worst in the state.

It shouldn't take a looming election on the horizon for Labor to make serious announcements to improve the safety and standard of our major roads, especially when you take into consideration the power house that this electorate provides for the state's economy.

As the Member for Burdekin I have and will continue to advocate for serious investment in both the Bruce Highway and the Peak Downs Highway which wind their way through this electorate as arteries for our economy.

Clermont, you have an appointment!



When it comes to experiences with a shortage of doctors, it's safe to say Clermont has seen it's fair share over the years, so news of access to an additional two doctors now working alongside Dr Tim is fantastic for the community.

I'd like to personally offer my congratulations and warmest welcome to the new doctors at the practice on behalf of the whole community.

Funding opportunities open now

There's currently a number of grant opportunities available right now for community groups and sporting clubs to assist with projects and programs your not for profit organisation may be working towards.

If you or your not-for-profit organisation is looking for a letter of support for a grant application please contact my office to find out how I can help.

If you are seeking further grant opportunities that may not be listed below you can always visit <https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/List> or <https://www.grants.services.qld.gov.au/>

Women and Change

The 2024 Women & Change grant round will provide a grant of up to \$50,000 to a registered Queensland charity that supports those people in our community who are most disadvantaged. Grants opened on July 1 and expressions of interest close August 23. For more information visit <https://www.womenandchange.com.au/grants/>

QCoal Community Spirit Grants

QCoal's Community Spirit Grants are available for projects up to \$2000 that reflect the spirit and aspirations of the community. for more information visit <https://qcoalfoundation.org/our-initiatives/community-grant-program/>

Bravus Community Partnership Program

Each year, the Community Partnership Program offers four rounds of funding for community groups and not-for-profit initiatives, projects, programs and events. A maximum of \$10,000 per applicant is granted in each round for eligible not-for-profits in select council areas. Round 3 is now open until September 15. For more information visit <https://www.bravusmining.com.au/community-partnership-application-form/>

Champions of our community

Glenden welcomes Amy

I recently had the chance to catch up with the Officer in Charge of Glenden, Sen Const Amy Wade, who was doing the rounds and touching base with the locals.

Amy is doing a great job in the community and we certainly appreciate the work she does in keeping the town of Glenden safe.

Frontline volunteers

We live in a great state and no matter whether you are out on the water or faced with a natural disaster, it is volunteers who are often the first to answer the call for help. No matter the colour uniform you wear, whether you are a skipper at sea or the man or woman wearing orange as you fix a tarp to a roof, you deserve our respect and thanks as Queenslanders. Even more so, you deserve the surety that a government is going to ensure you will have the resources and funding you need to be there for your community.



Until next time, stay safe and well.

Dale

How Dale Last can help you!


**As your State MP
 I am responsible for:**

Agriculture	Sport and Recreation
Health and Public Hospitals	Racing
Main Roads	Energy and Water Supply
Education and TAFE	Transport
National Parks	Public Housing
Disability Services	Community Services
Police and Emergency Services	Tourism
Attorney-General	Planning and Infrastructure
	State Government Land


**Your Federal Member
 is responsible for:**

Aged Care	Telecommunications and NBN
Centrelink	Trade
Child Support	Indigenous Affairs
Aviation	The ABC and SBS
Defence	Environment
Foreign Affairs	Bureau of Meteorology
Immigration and Visas	CSIRO
Medicare	


**Your Local Council
 is responsible for:**

Local Roads	Rubbish Collection
Footpaths	Council by-laws
Animal Control	Water, Drainage and Wastewater
Parks and Recreation	Feral Pest Control
Rates	Local Planning and Building Approvals

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