

Queensland Labor's election policy commitments

November 2017

This Occasional Paper will outline Queensland Labor's policy commitments made by the Queensland Premier, Annastacia Palaszczuk, ahead of the Saturday 25 November 2017 general election.

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Relevant policy commitments of a re-elected Palaszczuk Government across portfolio areas include:

The economy, tax, jobs and consumer protection

- A new 15 per cent point of consumption tax on the net wagering revenue of betting and lottery companies offering services in Queensland. This tax will apply to bets placed in Queensland with companies based in the Northern Territory, but won't apply to the Tatts Group wagering arrangements in place to 2044.
- Establishing a new land tax category for properties worth \$10 million and above, at a rate of 2.25 per cent for individuals and 2.5 per cent for trusts, companies and absentee landholders. Farms will be exempt from this new category.
- Increasing the transfer duty surcharge for foreign property buyers to seven per cent.
- Increasing the luxury motor vehicle duty by \$2 per \$100 of dutiable value on the transfer of new motor vehicles valued at more than \$100,000.
- Extending the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program with an additional \$20 million annually over the next three years.
- Changing consumer protection regulations of motor vehicles by increasing the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal limit on motor vehicles from \$25,000 to \$100,000, and classifying motorhomes and caravans as vehicles under consumer protection laws.

Infrastructure and projects

- Delivering Cross River Rail to boost capacity on the South East Queensland rail network and allow for faster journey times.

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- Completing the proposed 'Brisbane Live' multi-purpose arena and an accompanying entertainment, commercial and residential precinct at Brisbane's Roma Street. The Cross River Rail Delivery Authority will oversee the project in partnership with AEG Ogden to ensure it is effectively integrated with the rail network.
- Funding for the planning and design of three new rail stations on the Gold Coast to be located at Pimpama, Helensvale North and Worongary/Merrimac to begin next year.
- \$200 million in additional funding to extend the Works for Queensland Program out to 2020-21. The program provides funding for regional councils to support local job creating infrastructure projects.
- Continuing the \$200 million Jobs and Regional Growth Fund package which helps facilitate private sector projects in regional areas.
- Committing \$70 million in funding for Building our Regions Round 4 to support regional infrastructure projects.
- Funding for a feasibility study for the Quarry Gardens proposal in Toowoomba.

Manufacturing and industry

- Establishing Defence Jobs Queensland as a statutory body dedicated to growing the state's defence manufacturing industry.
- Delivering defence supply chain logistics hubs in Townsville and Ipswich.
- Establishing manufacturing hubs in the state's regional centres to generate job creation in these local economies, initially in Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton.
- Establishing Manufacturing as a new standalone portfolio with a responsible minister in cabinet.

Energy

- Unlocking additional gas tenements exclusively for the domestic market.
- Creating a third state owned power generation company - 'CleanCo', with a mandate to deliver 1,000MW of new renewable energy projects.
- Committing \$50 million towards the development of a state-owned baseload solar thermal plant with storage capacity.
- Progressing the development of hydro generation.
- Investing \$97 million to install solar and energy efficiency measures in Queensland state schools.

Transport

- Funding for upgrades to the M1 motorway including:
 - \$206 million to upgrade the southern section of the M1 between Varsity Lakes and Tugun to widen the motorway to three lanes in both directions.



- \$25 million to upgrade the Oxenford (Exit 57) interchange on the Pacific Motorway.
- An additional two-lanes from Eight Mile Plains to Exit 19 at Rochedale.

Tourism

- \$48 million for an Attracting Tourism Fund to incentivise new airline routes and cruise ship to Queensland.
- \$36 million for a Regional Tourism Infrastructure and Experience Development Program to support the development of tourism infrastructure and programs in regional communities.

Environment

- Establishing a \$500 million Land Restoration Fund to directly support land sector carbon projects.
- Introducing legislation to restrict large scale land clearing, including improved mapping of protected vegetation.

Housing

- Information on the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027 which would be continued under a re-elected Palaszczuk Labor Government is available in the Hawker Britton Occasional Paper [here](#).

Agriculture

- \$10 million funding for a business case and initial capital works for a pilot export distribution centre.
- Establishing an Agricultural Ministerial Advisory Council (AgMAC) to improve collaboration between government and industry.
- Investigating the feasibility of abolishing stamp duty on agricultural insurance products.
- \$10 million Rural Economic Development Grant program.
- Extending the Rural Jobs and Skills Alliance and Queensland Agricultural Workforce Network (QAWN) with \$3 million in additional funding.

Advance Queensland

- \$93 million in additional funding in the existing \$420 million whole-of-government Advance Queensland initiative for new programs including:
 - a Regional Start-up On-ramp Program to support regional innovators;
 - a grant provide program to support female innovators and researchers remain connected to their industries and maintain their career momentum while on family leave; and
 - Deadly Innovation, a program designed to create more pathways for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander innovators commercialise their ideas.



- \$20 million in additional funding to Screen Queensland to attract international and domestic film and TV productions.
- \$20 million to the Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund to encourage interstate and international companies to move their manufacturing activities to Queensland.

Training and Education

- Delivering four Professional Learning and Wellbeing innovative centres, including at Mt Isa and Roma initially.
- Delivering Digital Technologies– including coding and robotics, as part of the curriculum in all state schools.
- \$808 million to deliver ten new schools and \$235 million to upgrade and refurbish an additional 17. The ten new schools include:
 - primary schools at Springfield West and Ripley Valley;
 - a special school at Caboolture; and
 - high schools at North Lakes/Mango Hill, Coomera, Yarrabilba, Calliope (West of Gladstone), Fortitude Valley (Brisbane), Inner City Brisbane south and Ripley Valley (Ipswich).
- Funding to plan new primary schools at Palmview, Logan Reserve, Shaw (Townsville) and Mount Peter (Cairns), new special schools at the Northern Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast, and a new secondary school at Caloundra South.
- \$180 million over three years to extend the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program which support community-based not-for-profit organizations to provide training programs.
- Focusing on re-engaging disengaged, at-risk youth and youth with a disability in school and alternative education.
- Delivering virtual STEM academies.
- Employing an additional 3,700 new teachers over four years, and providing free Playgroup Membership and better access to kindergarten for young children.

Health

- Committing \$679 million under a south-east Queensland- Planning for Growth program for upgrades to the Logan hospital maternity ward, Caboolture hospital and Ipswich hospital.
- Investing \$154 million in a Specialist Outpatient Strategy, which will include the creation of more outpatient appointments.
- Employing an additional 3000 nurses, 400 nurse navigators and 100 midwives over the coming four years.

Further information

Further information on Queensland Labor’s policy commitments are available [here](#).

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