



Speech By  
**Mark Robinson**

**MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND**

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## **MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

### **Cleveland Electorate, Economy**

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Cleveland—LNP) (2.40 pm): Since the LNP formed government in March 2012, Cleveland has been open to business. We have worked hard to grow the four-pillar economy in Cleveland. Tourism, construction, agriculture and resources sectors are all important and progressing locally. We are supporting the 4,400-plus local businesses, 98 per cent of which are small businesses with less than 20 employees. They create most of the local jobs in Redland City. As the local MP and as part of the LNP government, I have been working hard for businesses in four major ways. The first is running and supporting business events. We are running a series of interactive small business breakfasts with local traders. There have already been two at Main Road in Wellington Point and Bloomfield Street in Cleveland, with others to be rolled out. I will also attend the launch of a new small business next week in Wellington Point. We are also working closely with the chambers of commerce in Redland City and Straddie headed by presidents Garry Hargrave and David Thomson respectively. The second is busting red tape and compliance. The LNP government is making life easier for businesses by reducing government red tape by 20 per cent. We have already reformed fair trading regulation; reduced green tape, saving businesses over \$6 million in annual fees; and just announced that businesses with an annual payroll tax liability of less than \$20,000 need only lodge payroll tax returns twice per year instead of every month.

The third is funding and facilitating projects, big and small. Large projects like the Toondah Harbour PDA development will create large numbers of local jobs and opportunities in construction, tourism and hospitality and downstream jobs in retail and other small business. The government's decision to save sandmining jobs on North Stradbroke Island in a carefully planned transition and to work with the Quandamooka people to create Indigenous opportunities are also significant. However, I take this opportunity as a matter of privilege to correct a figure from my MPI speech on 26 August when I inadvertently said that the number of Indigenous jobs on North Stradbroke Island was 150. The figure that I meant to use was 50 Indigenous jobs, and I now correct the record. The government's decision to save Straddie means up to 600 direct and indirect jobs in Redland City have been saved. We are also partnering with the Redland City Council in small projects that help local businesses, like the \$200,000 towards the revitalisation of Penny Lane shopping area in the Cleveland CBD. The fourth is that we are keeping the cost of doing business down in Queensland. We have reduced payroll tax impacts by increasing the threshold from \$1 million to \$1.1 million. We have abolished Labor's \$300-plus million commercial waste levy. We have required government departments to pay their bills to small businesses in a timely manner and supported the repeal of Labor's carbon tax, saving businesses and consumers millions. In conclusion, Cleveland's businesses and job creation under the LNP government are back on track under our strong plan for a bright future.