FYI: Rob Pyne held a press conference today with Senator Glen Lazerus and Billy Gordon re: stopping coal seam gas and Adani.
(If you didn’t already know)
Hi Guys,

If you don’t already know, Rob Pyne held a press conference today with Senator Glen Lazarus and Billy Gordon re: stopping coal seam gas and Adani.

Cheers
Audio recording of Rob Pyne on ABC Cairns this morning
Audio of Rob Pyne on ABC Cairns
Scott Forbes

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Tuesday, 1 March 2016 1:57 PM
To: Brendan Connell; Kerryn Manifold; @Premiers Media
Cc: Lindsay Marshall; Neva Woolmer
Subject: RE: How to issue joint release?

Just spoke with Rob.

He said he’s trying to ‘change his brand’ and would be happy to be left out of this one.

From: Brendan Connell
Sent: Tuesday, 1 March 2016 1:49 PM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Lindsay Marshall Neva Woolmer
Subject: RE: How to issue joint release?

Just a thought but any views about seeing if Rob Pyne wants a quote? Unique thing to have an MP in a wheelchair..

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Tuesday, 1 March 2016 1:33 PM
To: Kerryn Manifold
Cc: Lindsay Marshall Neva Woolmer
Subject: RE: How to issue joint release?

Yep, 1st of March. It’s in its 8th year

http://wheelchairsteve.com/international-wheelchair-day/

From: Kerryn Manifold
Sent: Tuesday, 1 March 2016 1:31 PM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Lindsay Marshall Neva Woolmer
Subject: RE: How to issue joint release?

Is International Wheelchair Day today?

Kerryn Manifold
Deputy Director-Government Media Unit
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7023
Queensland Government
Executive Building 100 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002
The information contained in the above e-mail message or messages (which includes any attachments) is confidential and may be legally privileged. It is intended only for the use of the person or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the addressee any form of disclosure, copying, modification, distribution or any action taken or omitted in reliance on the information is unauthorised. Opinions contained in the message(s) do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Queensland Government and its authorities. If you received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your computer system network.
From: Scott Forbes  
Sent: Tuesday, 1 March 2016 1:07 PM  
To: @Premiers Media  
Cc: Lindsay Marshall Neva Woolmer  

Subject: How to issue joint release?

Hi Guys,

We’re trying to put out a joint release with Minister O’Rourke’s office, but when I log into the Ministerial Statements system it only allows me to select the Treasurer’s name.

Can you let me know how to do a joint release? Or issue for us if we don’t have the administrative powers to do this? (Release attached and below)

Wheelchair Day highlights benefits of a National Injury Insurance Scheme

International Wheelchair Day is a time when wheelchair users celebrate the positive impact a wheelchair has on their lives.

It’s also a poignant reminder of the critical need for Queensland to introduce a new insurance scheme for Queenslanders catastrophically injured in road crashes.

Treasurer Curtis Pitt said there are tens of millions of people around the world unable to acquire the wheelchairs they need, including Queensland.

“An average of three Queenslanders a week sustain a catastrophic injury, like spinal cord injuries, and require assistance in their everyday life,” Mr Pitt said.

“Tragically, about half of all people who sustain catastrophic injuries on Queensland’s roads are not covered by compulsory third party (CTP) insurance because they were found to be at fault or no one was at fault for the crash.

“The physical, emotional and financial strains on an individual and their family can be utterly devastating and we know a new insurance scheme is needed that will cover the ongoing care of Queenslanders in this circumstance.

“Under the National Injury Insurance Scheme (NIIS), drivers who are not covered by CTP will have greater certainty that their reasonable and necessary care and support needs will be met across their lifetime.”

Disability Services Minister Coralene O’Rourke said the NIIS would complement the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) by providing lifetime care and support for people with catastrophic injuries.

“On International Wheelchair Day I think it’s important to remember that a person’s care needs change over time and as technology advances, a wheelchair that suits an individual now may not meet their needs in 10 or 20 years’ time,” Mrs O’Rourke said.

“Together, the NDIS and NIIS will provide greater certainty for people with disability and their families that their reasonable care and support needs will be met over their lifetime,” she said.

“This is about providing peace of mind for every Queenslander who has, or might acquire, a serious disability.”

Australian Paralympic Swimmer Marayke Jonkers said the scheme will help individuals cope with the significant emotional and financial costs of living with life-changing injuries as a result of a road crash.
“You may think needing to use a wheelchair is terrible, but needing one and not being able to afford it is far worse,” Ms Jonkers said.

“The right wheelchair gives you independence and access to the community.

“For individuals not covered by CTP, the National Injury Insurance Scheme will help them achieve their personal goals and get back into the community.”

An all-party parliamentary committee is currently examining the most suitable model for implementing the National Injury Insurance Scheme and is due to report back in late March.

For more information about the National Injury Insurance Scheme proposed for Queensland, visit qld.gov.au/niis or call 1300 302 568.

Media Contact: 0419 945 546

Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
P 07 3719 7213 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email: 
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001
Scott Forbes

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Thursday, 25 February 2016 12:24 PM
To: Jan Martin
Subject: FW: Building our Regions: far north Queensland
Attachments: 160218BuildingourRegionsRD2FNQMPs.docx; 160218BuildingourRegionsFactSheet.docx

Out of scope

From: Stephen Johnson
Sent: Thursday, 25 February 2016 12:03 PM
To: Scott Forbes
External - Cairns Electorate Office
External - Barron River Electorate Office
External - Mulgrave Electorate Office
Cc: Jan Martin Wendy Bourne
Subject: Building our Regions: far north Queensland

Scott and the Cairns, Barron River and Mulgrave electorate offices,

Here is a joint Building our Regions media release for far north Queensland and a factsheet on round two of the Department of State Development’s program.

Below is a link to Minister Lynham’s announcement last week that $70 million in funding for regional Queensland had been brought forward by six months.


Kind regards,

Stephen Johnson
Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
P: 07 3719 7369
Level 17, QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street, Brisbane, QLD, 4000
PO Box 15216 City East, Queensland, 4002
Please see attached
Righto, two secs

From: Jason Humphreys
Sent: Thursday, 25 February 2016 8:44 AM
To: Bart Mellish
Cc: Lindsay Marshall, Lachlan Smith, Curtis Pitt
Subject: Exempt Sch.3

Scott - we'll get Rob Pyne to

Regards

Jason Humphreys
Chief of Staff
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP Treasurer
Phone: (07) 3719 7206
Mobile: CTPI - Personal Informatic

On 25 Feb 2016, at 8:37 AM, Bart Mellish wrote:

Since Turnbull he hasn’t released it yet though (expected to be some time this morning), I assume we are doing a rehash of the arguments as to why the feds should back it in etc

From: Lindsay Marshall
Sent: Thursday, 25 February 2016 8:22 AM
To: Jason Humphreys
Cc: Bart Mellish, Lachlan Smith
Subject: Exempt Sch.3(6)(c)(i)

See below.

From: Kerryn Manifold
Sent: Thursday, 25 February 2016 7:53 AM
To: Lindsay Marshall
Subject: Exempt Sch.

Exempt Sch.3(6)(c)(i) Infringe the privileges of Parliament
Exempt Sch.3(6)(c)(i) Infringe the privileges of Parliament

Kerryn Manifold
Deputy Director-Government Media Unit
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7023  CTPI - Personal Info
Executive Building 100 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002
This is my take on it:

**Cairns Convention Centre Roof Contract**

Around 100 local jobs will be supported in the Cairns community after the awarding of the $13 million contract to restore and rebuild parts of the Cairns Convention Centre roof.

Treasurer Curtis Pitt said Paynter Dixon had been awarded the contract as part of the Government’s accelerated works program.

“Having a renowned company such as Paynter Dixon ready to engage 100 local workers is a win for the Cairns community,” Mr Pitt said.

“We’ve stipulated in the contract that both skilled and unskilled labourers from the Far North are to be given priority and employed wherever possible.

“There will be 100% local employment in the painting, concreting, demolition, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, waterproofing and crane operating teams.

“Additionally there’ll be 20 local roofers, 10 local scaffolders and two local roof safety experts employed to work alongside specialists from Brisbane.

“I was disappointed when the only tendering company headquartered in Cairns withdrew its tender but know the best bid has been given this contract.”

The Queensland Government had previously invited two Cairns-based firms to apply for the tender, but they declined.

Cairns MP Rob Pyne said he looked forward to seeing workers out on site.

“The roof replacement and refurbishment is needed after 20 years of exposure to the elements and cyclones,” Mr Pyne said.

“Other key elements of the upgrade include a new arrival zone featuring lighting that has the ability to change colour to suit client requirements, LED signage stretching the length of the zone and new sliding glass doors.”
Barron River MP Craig Crawford said the Palaszczuk Government was committed to continuing the Convention Centre's success as a focal point for sport, entertainment and business tourism in Cairns.

"This is a leading international convention venue and these works will certainly enhance the visitor experience," Mr Crawford said.

The project will support 150 Queensland jobs in total.

---

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 3:23 PM
To: Kerryn Manifold
Cc: Lindsay Marshall, Kirby Anderson, Alex Chamberlain, Jason Humphreys
Subject: REVIEW: Cairns Convention Centre Roof Release
Importance: High

Hi All,

I've drafted the attached release to accompany this story.

Can you please provide feedback and then I can liaise with Cairns and Barron River.

If you don’t want a release, that’s also fine.

Let me know.

Cheers,
-Scott

---

From: Kerryn Manifold
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 3:16 PM
To: Alex Chamberlain
Cc: Lindsay Marshall, Kirby Anderson, Jason Humphreys
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

Minister should raise with DG.
From: Alex Chamberlain  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 3:00 PM  
To: Scott Forbes  
Kerryn Manifold  
Cc: Lindsay Marshall  
Jason Humphreys  
@Premiers Media  
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

FYI - That non-tendering announcement is a problem I’m currently experiencing with my department – many conversations have already been had about this.. it will be SORTED very soon!

From: Scott Forbes  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 2:57 PM  
To: Kirby Anderson  
Kerryn Manifold  
Cc: Lindsay Marshall  
@Premiers Media  
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

I think we’ve missed that boat. We didn’t even have a chance to announce that the Tender had been awarded. Either an unsuccessful tenderer or Advance Cairns must’ve contacted The Cairns Post to complain that the contract wasn’t awarded locally.

It’s been pitched to Nick Dalton as a story about Cairns missing out.

We’ll throw together a release now.

From: Kirby Anderson  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 2:55 PM  
To: Kerryn Manifold  
Cc: Lindsay Marshall  
@Premiers Media  
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

Do we get out in front of it and welcome the 150 local jobs? Sorry I haven’t been in the email conversation, so might be missing the point. Kirby

From: Kerryn Manifold  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 1:58 PM  
To: Alex Chamberlain  
Scott Forbes  
Cc: Kirby Anderson  
Lindsay Marshall  
Jason Humphreys  
@Premiers Media  
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

How about something like this. Will that work?

Paynter Dixon has been awarded the contract as part of the Government’s accelerating works program and this will support 150 local jobs sooner.
The only company with its primary presence in Cairns to apply for the tender withdrew its tender.

The Government had previously invited two Cairns based firms to apply for the tender but they declined.

Having a company such as Paynter Dixon ready to engage 150 local workers is a win for the Cairns community.

Kerryn Manifold  
Deputy Director-Government Media Unit  
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP  
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts  
P 07 3719 7023  
Executive Building 100 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000  
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002

From: Alex Chamberlain  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 1:51 PM  
To: Scott Forbes  
Cc: Kirby Anderson Kerryn Manifold Lindsay Marshall Jason Humphreys @Premiers Media

Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

Hey Scott,

See draft below – it explains how the tender process worked. Note that the only Cairns BASED company withdrew their application before the tender process finished.

Please attribute to spokesperson for the Department of Housing and Public Works

The contract was put through a select tender process involving pre-qualified contractors, a focus in forming the contractor list for these projects were for contractors to have a presence in the North of the State.

Initial expressions of interest were sought through the Queensland Government’s list of tier one pre-qualified contractors, which included two firms with Cairns offices. However, none of the tier one firms were interested in submitting tenders.

The next approach was to offer the contract to tier two pre-qualified contractors who had relevant experience and had offices in North Queensland.

The four companies approached included Paynter Dixon Queensland, (Townsville Office) and (Cairns Offices) and was the only primarily Cairns based company, however it withdrew its offer before the tender closed.

Based on criteria used for major government projects like this one, the tender evaluation panel assessed the submissions and Paynter Dixon was awarded the contract.

One of the requirements of the contract is for the contractor to utilise local labour to the fullest extent possible, as per the Queensland Charter for Local Content.
While the contractor is still sourcing sub-contractors for the work, so far there are 85 Cairns based workers among the 150 workers already selected for the project.

From: Scott Forbes  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 12:56 PM  
To: Alex Chamberlain  
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

If you guys answer the technical aspects, I’ll propose for the Treasurer to answer with a local angle to the effect of:

“I looked into this as soon as it was brought to my attention and I’ve been reassured that a tender evaluation panel assess the submissions to ensure this was a fair process and outcome.”
“T’ve also looked for a guarantee that wherever Cairns has skilled labourers, that those local contractors and subbies are to be used first.”
“A total of 150 people will be employed on this project, two thirds of which will come from North Queensland.”
“There will be 100% local employment in the painting, concreting, demolition, electrical, plumbing, cleaning, carpentry, waterproofing and crane operating teams.”
“Additionally there’ll be 20 local roofers, 10 local scaffolders, and two local roof safety experts hired to work alongside specialists from Brisbane.”

From: Alex Chamberlain  
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 11:59 AM  
To: Kerryn Manifold Scott Forbes  
Cc: Jason Humphreys Tim Linley Lindsay Marshall Peter Clarke Matt Lawrence  
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

Info below – Am seeking exact reasons why contract was awarded to Paynter Dixon.. Will let you know as soon as I know.

• Who was the contract awarded to?  
  Paynter Dixon QLD PTY Ltd

• Are they Cairns based?  
  Not Cairns based – locations as below –  
  Level 3, 299 Coronation Drive, Milton QLD 4064  
  Parklands Mackay Business Hub, 239 Nebo Road, West Mackay Qld 4740  
  12 Ingham Road, Townsville Qld 4810

• How was it awarded?  
  The contract was awarded through a select tender process, with 4 tenders invited to submit tenders.
  • Paynter Dixon Queensland Pty Ltd – Townsville Office
  • Cairns Office

The submissions requested were to contain priced and non-priced criteria. Weighting was:
• Priced Criteria 80 weighting
• Non Priced Criteria 20 weighting.

The non-priced criteria were Programme, Methodology, Value Adding Strategy and Resourcing Strategy/Capability and Capacity.
Three submissions were received from:

- Paynter Dixon Queensland Pty Ltd

  withdrew from the tender prior to closing.

A tender evaluation panel assessed the submissions.

The submissions were evaluated initially on non-priced criteria and the on the combined non priced and priced criteria.

Ranking of Contractors provided by Procurement at the end of evaluation – 1 - Paynter Dixon,

- How many local workers will be used and what provisions are in place for local employees etc? Local is Cairns based and sourced in list below.
  - Roofers: 20 local, 30 Brisbane
  - Scaffolders: 10 local, 10 central Qld
  - Painters: 8 local
  - GJames: 10 local
  - Concreters: 10 local
  - Birdmesh: 16 Brisbane
  - Demolishers: 6 local
  - Electrician: 2 local
  - Plumber: 2 local
  - Roof Safety: 4 Brisbane, 2 local
  - Cleaners: 4 local
  - Crane hire: 3 local
  - Carpentry: 4 local
  - Waterproofing: 3 local
  - Paynter Dixon: 3 Townsville, 1 local, 2 Mackay.

150 total

100 Local/Townsville/Mackay - 66.6%
50 Brisbane based – 33.3%

Pre award discussion were held with the preferred tenderer, Paynter Dixon, and in those discussion it was requested that the tender acceptance would be premised on the contractor utilising local labour to the fullest extent possible. The Contractor agreed to this premise.

The specific information within the contract is 29(1b) Queensland Charter for Local Content. A copy is below for information.
29.1B Queensland Charter for Local Content

This Clause applies if specified in the Annexure.

The Contractor must, and must ensure its subcontractors, in carrying out the work under the Contract:

(a) comply with the principles of the Queensland Charter for Local Content (Charter) and any requirements under the Contract in this regard;

(b) comply with any Statement of Intent or equivalent local content statement under the Contract;

(c) complete and submit a Charter for Local Content - Project Outcome Report (available from www.dsdlp.qld.gov.au/local-content) to the Principal at Practical Completion and at such other times as reasonably requested by the Principal, with a copy to gates@dsgip.qld.gov.au.

From: Kerryn Manifold
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 10:29 AM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Alex Chamberlain, Jason Humphreys, Lindsay Marshall, Tim Linley
Subject: RE: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

Surely they'll use local labour... they won't fly people from Brisbane to Cairns and pay for accommodation.

Need to get that detail then get ahead of the paper.

Let us know once you have a clear idea of how local employment will be leveraged....

It might be a line like: The project will be managed out of Paynter Dixon's Cairns office and is expected to support X local jobs.

Kerryn Manifold
Deputy Director-Government Media Unit
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7023
Executive Building 100 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 - City East QLD 4002

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2016 10:21 AM
To: Premiers Media
Cc: Alex Chamberlain, Jason Humphreys, Lindsay Marshall
Subject: Accelerated Works: Cairns Convention Centre Roof

Hi Guys,

The $13 million contract to replace and refurbish the Cairns Convention Centre roof has been awarded to Brisbane-based company Paynter Dixon.

It's part of our accelerated works program, so I'm expecting the paper will do a weekend splash about the hypocrisy of the State Government's spin about driving local jobs when the second largest contract for FNQ has been awarded to a Southeast Queensland company.
Alex Chamberlain’s looking into it with Public Works now.

Apparently Paynter Dixon has an office in Cairns but they’re headquartered in Milton and their only contact point on the website is in Brisbane.

So I expect this one will play out badly for us after the positive coverage associated with the accelerated works program.

Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
P 07 3719 7213 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email:
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001
Just spoke with journos in Cairns. They’re expecting Turnbull to announce the PPBR has been awarded to the Cairns bid.

Sent from my iPhone

On 11 Feb 2016, at 2:31 PM, Brendan Connell wrote:

Hi all,

See below some lines from the Premier to the Cairns Post ahead of the PM’s visit to Cairns on Sunday.

Any questions feel free to give me a ring.

Thanks
Brendan

From the Premier:

It’s about time we saw some action from the Federal Government when it comes to northern Queensland. This weekend’s visit by the Prime Minister must deliver investment and jobs or it will be a waste of everyone’s time.

I want to work together with our Federal colleagues to get good outcomes for the region, but the time for action is now.

I would urge the Prime Minister to immediately sign off on the ADF Patrol Boat tender to be based in Cairns.
It would mean long-term opportunities, much needed economic activity in the region, and cement Cairns’ reputation as a regional leader when it comes to shipbuilding.

Myself and Treasurer Curtis Pitt, as well as Craig Crawford and Rob Pyne, and the Council, have consistently and vocally called on the Federal Government to award Cairns this tender and I reiterate that call again today.

It’s also crucial that the Prime Minister unlocks his $5 billion Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund to deliver much needed economic infrastructure.

The money is sitting there, so why can’t the legislation be passed urgently so the money can start flowing?

It’s beyond belief that we have Federal funds allocated for the region being blocked because the Government hasn’t passed the appropriate legislation.

We need a little less conversation from the Prime Minister and a little more action so we can secure more jobs for northern Queensland.
Hi Guys,

Attached is my draft media plan for the release of the Smallbone Report and Tabling of the FRC Report in Parliament on Thursday.

Let me know your feedback or if you think I’ve missed anything and I’ll have to spend tomorrow starting to draft this material to make the plan a reality.

Cheers,
-Scott
From: Scott Forbes  
Sent: Thursday, 11 February 2016 3:35 PM  
To: Lachlan Smith  
Subject: FW: patrol boats and infrastructure  
Attachments: SIGNED VERSION OF DOC15158573.pdf; SIGNED VERSION OF DOC15197487.pdf; SIGNED VERSION OF DOC15197623.pdf

---

From: Brendan Connell  
Sent: Thursday, 11 February 2016 2:32 PM  
To: External - Cairns Electorate Office  
Cc: Lindsay Marshall  
Cc: Kirby Anderson  
Cc: Kerryn Manifold  
Subject: FW: patrol boats and infrastructure

Hi all,

See below some lines from the Premier to the Cairns Post ahead of the PM's visit to Cairns on Sunday.

Any questions feel free to give me a ring.

Thanks
Brendan

---

From: Brendan Connell  
Sent: Thursday, 11 February 2016 2:25 PM  
To: 'kimberley.vlasic  
Subject: patrol boats and infrastructure

From the Premier:

It's about time we saw some action from the Federal Government when it comes to northern Queensland. This weekend's visit by the Prime Minister must deliver investment and jobs or it will be a waste of everyone's time.

I want to work together with our Federal colleagues to get good outcomes for the region, but the time for action is now.

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We need a little less conversation from the Prime Minister and a little more action so we can secure more jobs for northern Queensland.

Brendan Connell
Principal Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7024
Executive Building 100 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002
Hi Guys,

Can you check on the status of the Cairns Special School.

I think it'd be a good opp to get Rob Pyne out on site for a sod turning when that gets underway.

Cheers,
-Scott
Attached is the HIB I'd drafted... I think the wording was probably too strong for your liking.

Below is a transcript of what the Treasurer said to Cairns Post on January 29 at the Rob Pyne presser...

- I've said on numerous occasion, we have at this stage not received any formal proposal from Cairns Regional Council for funding
- In order for any funding to be forthcoming from the Queensland Government, we would need to consider that and it would need to be considered under the appropriate program
- We haven't had that from the Council
- As far as it goes, if a funding application was to be put forward to the State we would give that its due consideration
- Clearly the performing arts centre in its current form, there are freely available FAQs online and in those FAQs it states clearly that this project can be fully funded by council because it has funding certainty
- If that's the case, then at this stage it's clear that there is no need for state funding
- But as I say we would consider an application if it was to be brought forward
- This is not the first time we've seen a performing arts centre on the table
- The State has previously had money on the table and of course that previous project fell by the wayside, so of course the state has shown in the past that it's been keen to contribute in our local economy, particularly when it comes to the arts and entertainment
- But without a formal proposal we can't give anything consideration

Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
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P 07 3719 7213 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email: Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
Queensland Government

GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001
Russ Morgan

Thanks again for spending some time with Russ Morgan at our first Last Friday Forum yesterday.

As you could tell, Russ is a person of great integrity, experience and enthusiasm. Working with him is one of the highlights of my life.

For me, some of the key messages from our conversation with Russ were:

- our work is very important and carries great responsibility – our role is to help tell the people of Queensland what the Government of Queensland is doing on their behalf (most often with their money)
- localised stories (not matter how small) are the difference in the regions and the suburbs – so take the time to localise a centralised announcement
- there is no more important stakeholder than the local MPs and giving them material to get the message out locally
- we are professionals and we need to respect the professionalism of those in the media we work with (he said there were some exceptions to this during the Goss Government and he presumed there would be some exceptions today) but there should never be exceptions in how we work with the media. If we are courteous and responsive, the journalist is more likely to call us to guide them through a pile of information the Opposition and others might have given them — it is about forging a relationship beyond the next edition or radio/TV bulletin.

The other thing it reminded me of — and it’s a good reminder for all of us — there’s a lot of Queenslanders who want/need us to do well.

The North

Please see attached the front page of today’s Cairns Post.

Thanks so much to Scott Forbes (Treasurer) for bringing this together, including the press conference with the Treasurer and our local MPs Rob Pyne and Craig Crawford to make the announcement at the site for the Cairns Special School.

Think about the Cairns Special School – the LNP promised it in 2012 only because Labor had already pledged to build it. The LNP didn’t fund or build it. The Palaszczuk Labor Government is; and we are accelerating the build and the 70 FTE jobs that goes with it. Cairns will no longer will be a major provincial city without a dedicated Special School thanks to the Government we are all working in.

The story wasn’t possible without Matt Jutsum (Education), Tim Shipstone (Energy and Roads) and Peter Clarke (Public Works) and their offices.

BTW I sent the front page to Russ (who is a northerner) this morning. His response: “rolled gold”.

The apology
This week, I prepared a media statement for our hard-working Member for Mackay Julieanne Gilbert on the Accelerated Works Program in her region.

The announcement was correct, but I had not asked Minister Bailey’s office to check it. One of the items in the release referred to works at Abbot Point, and while it was not related to the Adani Carmichael Coal project, the lack of detail in the release I prepared led some stakeholders to misinterpret the Government’s action.

This created a lot of traffic and push back, particularly for Minister Bailey’s office. The Minister had to take time out of his schedule to remedy the situation with a video message and clean up media reports based on stakeholder group’s comments. It was my mistake not to liaise with Minister Bailey’s office prior to the release and created a distraction for a lot of people.

It’s was a lesson for me – the Minister’s office is the domain expert and we need to consider the stakeholder/industry association reaction.

I let down the team. Please accept my apologies.

If you’re in Gladstone tomorrow, I will see you there. If not, I hope you have a good weekend. As discussed, will schedule our weekly Ministerial Media Advisers Meeting for next Friday – keen to discuss preparations for Parliament.

Kirby

Kirby Anderson
Deputy Chief of Staff – Communications and Engagement
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7013
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002
Rob Pyne just spoke with media in Cairns and I can provide journos with that audio.

All TVs were here, so they have that.

Sent from my iPhone.

On 29 Jan 2016, at 10:31 AM, Stephen Johnson wrote:

The Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce is about to break for morning tea in the Primary Industries Building, concluding public hearing segment, which means a media conference will begin shortly.

Minister Donaldson is staying in her office during that time. Jim Madden to address Seven and Nine TV crews in foyer. Minister will visit taskforce when private session of hearing resumes and media have left.

But in case TV crews catch her, are there any HIBs or lines on Rob Pyne?

Kind regards,
Hi Guys,

We’ve confirmed $13 million will be allocated to the Cairns Convention Centre roof. Half will be spent this financial year to accelerate those works and the other half will come online in 2016-17. So the total accelerated works in Cairns is now $60 million. Please see updated release below and let me know your feedback. I’ll issue through the Ministerial Statements site at 10am.

Cairns scores $60M in accelerated works as part of State-wide jobs drive

Site works will start next week on the brand new $25 million Cairns Special School as the Palaszczuk Government’s $60 million accelerated works program kicks off in the Far north.

Treasurer and Member for Mulgrave Curtis Pitt visited the site today with Cairns MP Rob Pyne and Barron River MP Craig Crawford.

“We had Hutchinson Builders out here last week and signed off on the contract a few days ago so works can get underway here as soon as next week if it’s dry enough,” Mr Pitt said.

“Our accelerated $60 million pipeline of works will support more than 150 full-time equivalent local jobs across the Far North.

“This is about fast-tracking jobs and economic activity by getting projects like the $25 million Cairns Special School underway as soon as possible.”

Member for Cairns Rob Pyne said the Cairns Special School was an important addition to education offering in the far north.

“The need for this critical project has been known for years and although the LNP promised they’d get this done when they won the 2012 election did nothing, so I’m proud to be here to get this started,” Mr Pyne said.

“I’d like to thank the steering committee for their work on developing the design, amenities and detail and working with the stakeholders reference group to achieve an optimal outcome.

“We’ve decided to move the location of the school from the Alberta Drive side to where the oval currently is so that all three schools – Woree Primary, High and Special Schools – will all be aligned for ease of access for students.

“It means the long jump pits and javelin area will be moved and a new football field built near the swimming pool closer to Alberta Drive.”

Barron River MP Craig Crawford said this was a win for the entire Cairns region in terms of both jobs and education outcomes.
"Cairns is the only major regional centre in Queensland that does not have a Special School which is unimaginable," Mr Crawford said.

"Soon that will no longer be the case, construction will be completed this year and the school will be ready to accept its first intake of students in 2017.

"In the interim, the construction work at the school will support more than 70 full-time equivalent jobs here in the Far North and there's more to come."

Other projects to be fast-tracked under the AWP in the Cairns region include:

- $13 million to repair and replace parts of the Cairns Convention Centre roof
- $12 million upgrades of Ergon depot at McLeod Street and Lake Street offices;
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"I urge the Federal Government to work with us to accelerate projects across the Cairns region and the rest of Queensland," Ms Palaszczuk said.

"I pay tribute to Curtis, Rob and Craig for their strong advocacy for projects and jobs in their communities."

Contact: 0419 945 546
In relation to the article on pg7 of today's The Cairns Post

I've taken the "FAQ" below from The Cairns Post's website which is presented in the same format and font as their "news" section, but it's actually a paid advertisement. It explicitly states that Council believes the Mayor's scaled-down vision for a performing arts centre is better than the previous fully-funded waterfront project because it doesn't rely on State or Federal funding (which seems counter-intuitive):

Council is committed to creating a state-of-the-art regional performing arts centre that will meet the needs of the Cairns community for the next 50 years. As such, The Precinct will be funded from Council's capital works budget over the next 3 years giving the community certainty that the project will proceed. Previous proposals for a performing arts precinct have been dependant on contributions from other levels of government. Council will continue to work with State and Federal Governments with a view to entering into a funding partnership for the project which, if forthcoming, will allow Council to redirect some of its funding allocation to other works.

Pages 36 through 39 redacted for the following reasons:
---------------------------------------------
Access by inspection only - copyright
Hi Treasurer,
I'm waiting on advice about the spend on the convention centre roof. I'd seen $7m but the list says $4m... So I'm having it double checked

Tomorrow morning radio:
ZincFM @ 6.27am
SeaFM @ 6.55am

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"I pay tribute to Curtis, Rob and Craig for their strong advocacy for projects and jobs in their communities."

Contact: 0419 945 546

Sent from my iPhone
So I can include the roof and boost the $47million figure to $54million?

Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Jan 2016, at 7:31 PM, Kirby Anderson wrote:

Sorry I didn't add Convention Centre roof

Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Jan 2016, at 7:25 PM, Scott Forbes wrote:

Hi Guys,

Can I please get a double fact check on this... Is there $7 million missing from this for the Convention Centre roof replacement?

I’ve written in a caveat that works will start next week if its dry (the ground could actually be wet, it’s been raining like mad up there) WE’re boarding shortly, so I’ll get back to emails after 10pm.

Friday 29 January 2016

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Contact: 0419 945 546

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From: Kirby Anderson  
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2016 6:44 PM  
To: Scott Forbes  
Cc: Matthew Jutsum, Jason Humphreys, Tim Linley, Tim Shipstone, Brendan Connell, Kerryn Manifold

Subject: Re: URGENT -- Cairns AWP release DRAFT

Fantastic -- can he say that tomorrow?

Sent from my iPhone

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Exempt Sch.3(2)(b) Consideration of Cabinet or would otherwise prej
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Mr Pitt said Pakaszcuzk Government was determined to drive jobs through our $10.1 billion capital works program for 2015-16.

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Mr Pyne said the Cairns Special School was an important addition to education offering in the far north.

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Media Alert: 10.00am
Treasurer Curtis Pitt will join Cairns MP Rob Pyne and Barron River MP Craig Crawford at the Woree Special School site to unveil the list of accelerated works for Far North Queensland. The first projects are ready to get underway as soon as next week.
Where: Windara Street, Woree. At the fence near Woree State High School’s long jump pits.
Contact: 0419945546

Still need your media alert for tomorrow

Kerryn Manifold
Deputy Director-Government Media Unit
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts
P 07 3719 7023
Executive Building 100 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002
From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2016 3:55 PM
To: Curtis Pitt
Subject: Accepted: 10am Accelerated Works Program Announcement with Craig Crawford MP & Rob Pyne MP
Scrap that.

Craig will be doing a tour of Munroe Martin Park from 8am-9.45am

So we can do media at Woree at 10am, leaving at 10.45am so Craig and Curtis can get to the Envision thing at Wharf St in the CBD (possibly just Craig)

---

Hi Guys,

9am-10am tomorrow we can do a stand up for media at The Cairns Special School site. Works there can start next month, whether depending.

I'm drafting a release now. Craig Crawford says this works for him, I’ll call Rob Pyne. It also means that the Treasurer can get along to the Tech event that he’d asked Craig to represent him at.

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Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport

P 07 3719 7213 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email:
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001

Queensland Government
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I’ve just been contacted by The Cairns Post about Rob Pyne’s former electorate staffer threatening to sue the Government for unfair dismissal. I explained that so they will need to ask the Parliamentary Clerk for comment.

I saw this earlier this week...
Hi Guys,

The Treasurer was asked about Rob Pyne by The Cairns Post earlier today at a photo for a local story. Craig Crawford was just hit up at Australia Day event by Ch7, Cairns Post and ABC. Neither have recordings of the audio from those interviews.

Treasurer said:
The Member for Cairns neighbours my electorate, so we are in regular discussion
I’m happy to discuss Rob’s concerns with him
...He wouldn’t be drawn on whether or not Rob’s actions were ‘appropriate’. Saying Rob’s factional concerns were an internal matter

Out of scope
Tuesday
White Rock 9.45am. Promote crossing supervisors. The Cairns Post will be there as an exclusive.

Wednesday
White Rock 10.15am. Promote $150 vouchers. All media will be there. I will issue an alert.

Radio to promote the $150 vouchers on Indigenous Radio:
- Charmaine Miller - 4951 2979 – Radio MA105 in Mackay
- Jackie Tim - 4052 1155 – Bumma Bippera in Cairns
- Robert Burns – 4654 1112 – Radio 4RR in Cherbourg

He should promote the opening of the pharmacy in Yarrabah at the Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service and say:
Having a pharmacy now based in Yarrabah now means people can have access to their Medicare straight away rather than putting in their scripts in the morning and waiting for it to be delivered later in the arvo around 3pm when the medication came over from Edmonton pharmacy.

Out of scope

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Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
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Minister for Sport

Queensland Government

P 07 3197 2131 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email:
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001
Hi Jason,

I’ve just had a call from Barron River. They’re not sure what to say if Craig is asked about Rob Pyne’s comments in The Australian newspaper today and I understand Wendy is away.

Barron River hasn’t been able to get in touch with the Premier’s office, so I’ll draft lines to run past them

Something like?...

- I speak with the Member for Cairns regularly about local issues – but I don’t know what conversations Rob’s had with the leadership team
- Evidence over the past year shows that despite being a minority Government Labor has worked with all stakeholders to deliver significant achievements in our first 11 months.
- I think it’s important to remember where we’ve come from
- This time last year tens of thousands of government workers had been sacked by the LNP, our economy was struggling and state funding for local projects had been stripped from the Far North to support Campbell Newman’s ego-tower in Brisbane – like $57 million of state funding for the $140 million Cairns Entertainment Precinct and $38 million Cairns CBD revamp.
- Labor has stopped rising unemployment levels in the Far North, which ballooned under the LNP and now we’re working to get locals skilled and into work to start to bring unemployment down
- That’s a level of consultation and understanding we didn’t see at any time under the LNP
- The perfect local example of that consultation and engagement is having passed the Sustainable Ports Development Act to allow Ports North to continue to grow while protecting the reef and the 70,000 jobs it supports.
- I think the Far North is back on track after the uncertainty of the LNP years and we’re now poised for future success with a resurgent tourism industry
- We’ve worked hard to right the wrongs of the LNP and restore business and consumer confidence in our state.
- In fact, Queensland is now forecast to have the highest growth rate of any Australian state this financial year
Hey Scott

Can you please look over the speech and let me know if ok to send to Craig Crawford MP?

Kind regards

Hayley Lockyer
Executive Assistant/Office Manager
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
P 07 3319 7200 | Email: Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001

Kim Lory
Ministerial Coordinator
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
Phone: 3035 1918
Email: Jason Humphreys
Web: www.treasury.qld.gov.au
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OPP631 Part 2_RTI Document No.67
Will do

From: Curtis Pitt
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2016 11:23 AM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: External - Mulgrave Electorate Office
Subject: Re: Local release

Looks good - should it say 'Far North' instead of 'Far Northern' in header?

Might pay to invite Rob Pyne and Craig Crawford as well to the 10.15 presser at White Rock. Rob and I both started working on the crossing issue together when Rob was still a Councillor (before act Zeiger was appointed) and help make it look less like me simply doing something with the Councillor.

CP

Sent from my iPad

On 20 Jan 2016, at 8:29 PM, Scott Forbes wrote:

Hi Treasurer,

Can you let me know your feedback on the attached release about the voucher scheme.

I’m hoping to have you stand up at White Rock on the 27th for TVs so you can talk locally about:
   1. The White Rock school crossing supervisors, following The Cairns Post’s exclusive
   2. The $150 Get Playing Vouchers (attached)

We have organised with the school to have you playing sport for TVs to film. The kids have approval from their parents to be on screen.

Cheers,
-Scott

<image003.png>Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport

P 07 3719 7213 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email: 
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001

<270116_Get Playing $150 Vouchers.docx>
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P 07 3719 7203 | Mob 0419 945 546 | Email:
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001

<270116_Get Playing $150 Vouchers.docx>
Hi Treasurer,

I'm trying to work ahead of schedule on some upcoming releases.

I'll get Minister Byrne to do two of these before you get back:
11 Jan – Mareeba Drought Taskforce
12 Jan – Ingham and Ayr Drought Taskforce

The Innisfail Drought Taskforce meeting’s on the 13th, Coral’s put a note in your diary. Let me know your feedback on the attached release and I’ll send it to the Innisfail Advocate to get it in an advance edition.

Bribie Island’s new netball courts open on the 23rd, unfortunately you won’t be able to attend. There’s no speaking role but we’re seeking if local MPs are available. Let me know your feedback on the release.

Attached is a release on the White Rock crossing to be issued on the 27th after your photo on the 26th with The Cairns Post. Let me know your feedback.

We’re also chasing Minister Lynham’s office for a Behana update and if that’s good to go I’ll line up a day/time for a photo with The Cairns Post and Emily Rossi before you head back down here.

Cheers,
-Scott

Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport

QUEENSLAND
Government
Hi Jason,

Can you let me know your feedback on the attached?

The Treasurer will have a photo taken with The Cairns Post on January 26 for print in the edition on January 27, then the Electorate Office will issue this release to Cairns media on the 27th. Curtis is also standing up for media in Cairns on the 27th.

Cheers,
-Scott
Scott Forbes

From: Chris Fardon
Sent: Monday, 21 December 2015 12:19 PM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Bart Mellish; Khiraan Kumar
Subject: Facebook Stars of the Get in the Game funding...
Attachments: Out of scope

Out of scope

Rob Pyne
Out of scope

Chris Fardon
Caucus Liaison Officer
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
P 07 3719 7200 | Email
Executive Building 100 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 611 Brisbane QLD 4001
Cool, I'll leave you to put out a release through the official channels on Monday.

I've edited the attached and will give it to The Cairns Post on Sunday.
From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Attachments:

Scott Forbes

Lachlan Smith

Thursday, 17 December 2015 4:28 PM

Curtis Pitt; Scott Forbes

Cairns Innovation Centre - potential lines for discussion

Cairns Innovation Centre.docx
Scott Forbes

From: Scott Forbes
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2015 10:14 AM
To: Jan Martin
Cc: Anton Gallacher
Subject: RE: REVIEW: Building our Regions announcement

Both Craig and Rob have confirmed their availability to stand up on Monday 21.

Once you’ve approved the release I’ve drafted I’ll send that to The Cairns Post as an exclusive for print on Saturday 19, since the Treasurer’s on leave on Monday 21.

Thanks

From: Jan Martin
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2015 5:18 AM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Anton Gallacher
Subject: Re: REVIEW: Building our Regions announcement

Hi Scott

We were planning to hold all of these until Anthony returns from leave on Monday 21 December to do the whole state at once.

The rough plan was to drop to Cairns Post on the Sunday and back up with the FNQ trio standing up for other media on Monday 21.

I will call u

Rgds

Jan Martin
Senior media advisor

Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

T: 07 3719 7360
QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002

On 9 Dec 2015, at 10:07 PM, Scott Forbes wrote:

Hi Guys,

Is there any way of being more specific with the jobs figures for this announcement? Like number of jobs for FNQ?

I’ve attached my amended draft release for the Cairns area.
Can you please have it fact checked and let me know of any changes needed tomorrow. Hopefully I can organise Rob and Craig to stand up on Friday for Saturday’s paper.

I have to admit to not really understanding these two sentences:
“This project is just one of 42 critical infrastructure projects receiving more than $70 million from our $200 million Building our Regions program.
“The government’s $70 million contribution is attracting a further $159 million investment from council and other organisations.

So I re-worded it to say:
“The first round of the $200 million Building Our Regions program has invested more than $70 million in 42 projects around Queensland, with an additional $159 million in co-contributions from Councils and other organisations.”

Is that still accurate?

Cheers,
Scott

From: Anton Gallacher
Sent: Wednesday, 9 December 2015 1:04 PM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Jan Martin
Subject: Building our Regions announcement

Scott,

I know your min is on leave...

There are a series of projects being announced in FnQ some of which he may be interested in.

Attached is a draft media plan and shell release.

Failing the your mins attendance,

I’m also seeking your guidance for what would be best for local MP’s (Pyne and Crawford)

Rgds

<image003.png>Anton Gallacher
Media advisor

Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
T: 07 3719 7360
QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002

<111215_Building Our Regions FNQ Group Release.docx>
Hi Guys,

The Treasurer has approved the attached — I understand there are concerns with the wording, so please let me know changes needed.

I propose to have Rob and Craig standup at the bridge on Collins Avenue in Edge Hill on Monday 21. It’s actually near the border of their electorates, which is perfect.

I will give The Cairns Post the story exclusively on Friday 18 to run in the weekend edition — since most of the projects are in Cape York and they won’t have photos to run.

I will need a talking points for MPs of what’s wrong with the Collins Avenue Bridge, estimates of its useful life, why this upgrade was needed, why Council prioritised it, details of co-contributions, etc. Same for projects in Craig’s electorate.

If I can get a description of the works to be undertaken on each project that would be ideal (but don’t want to push my luck)

Thanks,
-Scott

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Media advisor

Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP  
Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines  
T: 07 3719 7360  
QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000  
PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002
Hi Treasurer,

I’ve put the attached release together with info from DSD. If you’re ok with it, I’ll run it past Craig and Rob for their approval. I was thinking they might be able to stand up in Edge Hill at the Collins Avenue Bridge to talk about this on Friday for TV’s and Saturday’s paper? Because your next electorate day isn’t until Dec 18.

Far Northern infrastructure scores $16.4 million for Christmas

Christmas has come early for a range of infrastructure projects across Far North Queensland, with $16,416,221 to be pumped into projects including aviation facilities, wastewater treatment plants and fibre optics.

Treasurer and Mulgrave MR Curtis Pitt said regional communities were the backbone of the Queensland economy and the Building Our Regions program would deliver almost 700 jobs in this first round alone.

“The economic uplift of infrastructure investment is critical up here and I want to commend Far Northern Councils for collaborating with the Department of State Development to get these projects off the ground,” Mr Pitt said.

“I visited Cape York last month as Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships so I’m very pleased to see so many practical projects in this region getting the investment they need to be competitive.

“The headline project is a $1.9 million optical fibre link to connect Doomadgee to Burketown which will enable the Cape and Western Queensland to do business at city speeds.

“We’ve also funded essential projects like the $1.54 million upgrade of Weipa’s water and sewerage mains, the $281,500 needed for Stage Two of Evan’s Landing boat ramp and Kowanyama will benefit from a $100,000 mechanical workshop upgrade.

“I look forward to flying into Cooktown in the future with its Airport Aviation Park receiving $500,000 and the Lockhart River Waterpark got $400,000.”

Projects across the Tablelands and Northern Beaches were gifted funds for much needed upgrades.

Barron River MP Craig Crawford said the Far North’s $16.4 million allocation was a big win from the $200 million regional infrastructure fund.

“I’m very happy to announce that Labor is working to fix water security in the Far North,” Mr Crawford said.

“Kuranda’s Water Security Project will get $650,000, Mareeba’s Wastewater Treatment plant receives a $1.5 million injection and $2.5 million will be spent upgrading Ravenshoe’s Wastewater Treatment Plant.

“The $5 million to be invested in the Port Douglas Water Supply Reservoir is absolutely critical and I’m sure it will be welcomed by the Shire Council, as will the $544,000 for Mossman’s Enabling Aged Care Facility.”
Cairns MP Rob Pyne said this investment in critical regional infrastructure demonstrated the Palaszczuk Government’s commitment to sustainable regional Queensland communities.

“The Collins Avenue Bridge is absolutely in need of renewal, so we’ve allocated $1.5 million to fixing this before it becomes a problem,” he said.

“The first round of the $200 million Building Our Regions program has invested more than $70 million in 42 projects around Queensland, with an additional $159 million in co-contributions from Councils and other organisations.

“Unlike the previous LNP Government, we have accepted the independent assessment of the Department of State Development in approving funding.

“The recent Queensland Audit Office report of the LNP’s regional infrastructure program found that former Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney ignored departmental advice in approving funding, didn’t document his reasons for doing so and consistently favoured projects in LNP electorates.

“Obviously the Far North’s LNP members were completely ineffectual, since we actually lost project funding over the last three years while funds were being pork-barrelled to the LNP’s favoured electorates.”

Treasurer Curtis Pitt has referred the report to the Crime and Corruption Commission for consideration and appropriate action.

Applications for the next round will open next year.

For more information on Building our Regions visit: http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/regional-development/building-our-regions.html

Media contact: 0419 945 546

Cheers,
-Scott

Scott Forbes
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Curtis Pitt MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport

Queensland Government

Hi Guys,

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Is that still accurate?

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Scott Forbes

From: Anton Gallacher
Sent: Wednesday, 9 December 2015 1:04 PM
To: Scott Forbes
Cc: Jan Martin
Subject: Building our Regions announcement
Attachments: Media plan.docx; 151207.

Scott,

I know your min is on leave...

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I'm also seeking your guidance for what would be best for local MP's (Pyne and Crawford)

Rgds

Anton Gallacher
Media advisor

Office of the Hon. Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
T: 07 3719 7360
QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15216 City East QLD 4002
I've spoken with the Barron River EO and Craig Crawford’s spoken with Bob Manning about this story in The Cairns Post. Apparently Manning was furious on radio this morning...

Cairns Mayor branded “climate sceptic” by Cairns MP Rob Pyne

CAIRNS Mayor Bob Manning and two councillors have been branded “climate sceptics” in State Parliament.

Speaking about the climate march that took place in the city on Saturday, Cairns MP Rob Pyne last night said every level of government, including local councils, should be addressing climate change and sea level rise.

“Councils have responsibility for planning, and they should base their planning scheme around climate change and sea level rise,” he said.

“Of course, it is very hard when your council consists, as it does in Cairns, of a group of people who are climate sceptics.”

The Labor MP, a former two-term Cairns councillor, said people such as councillors Terry James, John Schilling and Mayor Manning either “completely denied climate change or say ‘the climate always changes. It’s not really a problem, is it?’”

“Of course, Mayor Bob Manning had his heyday in the 1970s,” Mr Pyne said.

“That is fine, but he wants to take our city back there.

“We cannot be going back to the 1970s.

“We need to address the problems now and the problems of the future.

“Climate is just one of those.

“We need to be creating the jobs for the economy of the future, not looking for jobs in the industries of the past.”

Comment is being sought from Crs Manning, Schilling and James.
FNQ councils urged to seek building funds

Labor MPs from far north Queensland are urging regional councils to identify shovel-ready infrastructure projects after the Palaszczuk Government brought forward by six months $70 million in funding for regional areas.

The Cairns, Carpentaria, Mareeba, Cassowary Coast, Etheridge Shire, Cook, Aurukun Shire, Croydon Shire, Burke Shire, Mount Isa and the Aboriginal shire councils have a chance to benefit from the second round of Building our Regions funding.

Treasurer and Member for Mulgrave Curtis Pitt said the new funding round would now open on 4 April.

“Previously, councils were successful in gaining more than $23 million in funds for critical infrastructure in far north Queensland,” Mr Pitt said.

“The Local Government Association of Queensland was consulted about streamlining the process for second round applications to deliver even better results.

“I strongly urge all councils in far north Queensland to consider the critical infrastructure their communities most need to grow.”

Member for Barron River Craig Crawford said this was a real opportunity for councils to support local jobs and stimulate economic growth.

“Round one of Building our Regions will deliver almost 190 jobs for people in far north Queensland and this second round is an opportunity to build on that,” he said.

“I’m delighted about Kuranda having an increase in water supply as a result of the first round and I’m hopeful council’s new proposals will deliver more critical infrastructure for the far north,” he said.

Member for Cairns Rob Pyne said the Collins Avenue Bridge upgrade was a good start for Cairns but more could be done to further develop the region.

“This program is about generating jobs and boosting our region’s capacity to grow,” Mr Pyne said.

“I would like to see Cairns Regional Council apply for new funding to build the infrastructure of the future.”

For more information on Building our Regions visit http://statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/buildingourregions
BUILDING OUR REGIONS

The $200 million two year Building our Regions Regional Infrastructure Fund (Building our Regions) is a targeted infrastructure program for local government projects. The primary purpose of the Building our Regions program is to provide funding for critical infrastructure in regional areas of the state, while also supporting jobs, fostering economic development and enhancing the liveability of regional communities.

The program forms a key element of the Queensland Government's overarching economic strategy - Working Queensland.

Funding for round 2 has been accelerated by six months to stimulate jobs and economic growth in regional Queensland.

Applications for the second funding round will now open on Monday 4 April and local councils are being encouraged to start thinking about eligible projects before next month’s local government elections.

We have listened to the Local Government Association of Queensland and streamlined the application process for round 2.

Councils will only initially need to prepare an expression of interest. This reduces the amount of information councils needs to provide in the first instance saving them time and money. Following assessment, those projects that are shortlisted, will then require a detailed business case for their project which councils will have four weeks to prepare.

The Department of State Development has a network of regional offices which work with councils to assist them in preparing their applications, providing councils with the best chance of success.

Details of the application process will be available closer to the opening date.

In round 2, Councils can apply under 1 of 3 funds for $70M:

1. Regional Capital Fund $35 million
2. Royalties for Resource Producing Communities Fund $27.5 million
3. Remote Communities Infrastructure Fund $7.5 million

Under round 1, $70.8M worth of projects were approved throughout regional Queensland.

Separately $60M funding is also available over 2 years under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS), which is managed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.
Smallbone Report Release and
Family Responsibilities Commission Report Tabling

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<th>Timeframe</th>
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Public release of redacted report

| Friday 19 | Press Conference in West Cairns | Treasurer and Cairns MP Rob Pyne to visit West Cairns and thank the local taskforce Member for their involvement in the committee |

Exempt Sch.3(2)(1)(b) Consideration of Cabinet or would otherwise prejudice Cabinet considerations or deliberations
Exempt Sch.3(6)(c)(i) Infringe the privileges of Parliament
11 January, 2016

Mareeba hosts the Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce team

The Palaszczuk Government’s Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce will hold a public hearing in Mareeba tomorrow to give those people on the frontline of Queensland’s drought a chance to tell the Government firsthand the impact of the drought and their debt levels.

Acting Treasurer Bill Byrne said the Taskforce was established in October to help identify and recommend solutions to address the debt issues faced by Queensland’s primary producers.

“The agricultural sector makes a substantial contribution to our economy, so it’s important we hear firsthand about the difficulties faced by drought-affected farmers,” Mr Byrne said.

“The Taskforce will recommend solutions for Government’s consideration which will complement the Government’s existing $52.1 million drought package announced in the State Budget in July.

“Together with $154 million in financial assistance from the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority in the last financial year, initiatives such as this provide some relief to farming families.

“The Rural Debt Taskforce will play an important role in informing the ongoing support and assistance Government can offer to drought-affected farmers."

The Taskforce is chaired by the Member for Mount Isa, Rob Katter and includes both a Government and Opposition MP, mayors, representatives from the agricultural sector and economists.

Information on the Taskforce is available at www.daf.qld.gov.au/ruraldebttaskforce/about-us/taskforce-members

Mareeba’s meeting will be held at the Department of Natural Resource Management’s building at 28 Peters Street from 1pm on January 12.

A closed session will follow each public forum, where people can talk about their submissions or other matters in private with members of the Taskforce.

People who would like to request a private discussion can contact the Secretariat on 07 3224 6415 or via email at ruraldebtsecretariat@daf.qld.gov.au

Media Contact: 0419 945 546
12 January, 2016

Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce team meets in Ingham and Ayr

The Palaszczuk Government’s Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce will hold a public hearing in Ingham tomorrow before heading to Ayr on Thursday.

Acting Treasurer Bill Byrne said the meeting would give regional Queenslanders a chance to tell the Government firsthand about the impact of the state’s drought and their debt levels.

“We established the taskforce in October to help identify and recommend solutions to address the debt issues faced by Queensland’s primary producers,” Mr Byrne said.

“The agricultural sector makes a substantial contribution to our economy, so it’s important we hear firsthand about the difficulties faced by drought-affected farmers.

“The Taskforce will recommend solutions for the Government to consider which will complement the Government’s existing $52.1 million drought package announced in the State Budget in July.

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The Taskforce is chaired by the Member for Mount Isa, Rob Katter and includes both a Government and Opposition MP, mayors, representatives from the agricultural sector and economists.

Information on the Taskforce is available at www.daf.qld.gov.au/ruraldebttaskforce/about-us/taskforce-members

Ingham’s meeting at the TYTO Conference Centre starts at 2.30pm on Wednesday, followed on Thursday by an 11am hearing at the Burdekin Theatre in Ayr.

A closed session will follow each public forum, where people can talk about their submissions or other matters in private with members of the Taskforce.

To request a private discussion contact the Secretariat on 07 3224 6415 or via email: ruraldebtsecretariat@daf.qld.gov.au
Media release
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
The Honourable Curtis Pitt MP

Media Contact: 0419 945 546
MEDIA RELEASE

Curtis Pitt MP
State Member for Mulgrave

12 January, 2016

Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce team meets in Innisfail

The Palaszczuk Government’s Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce will hold a public hearing in Innisfail tomorrow to give those people on the frontline of Queensland’s drought a chance to tell the Government firsthand the impact of the drought and their debt levels.

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Information on the Taskforce is available at www.daf.qld.gov.au/ruraldebttaskforce/about-us/taskforce-members

Innisfail’s meeting will be held at the Con Theatre at 8.30am on January 13.

A closed session will follow each public forum, where people can talk about their submissions or other matters in private with members of the Taskforce.

People who would like to request a private discussion can contact the Secretariat on 07 3224 6415 or via email at ruraldebtsecretariat@daf.qld.gov.au

Media Contact: 0419 945 546

‘Putting the Far North First’
22 January, 2016

**Bribie Netball Club shooting goals with new facilities**

The Bribie Island Netball Club’s $100,000 Queensland Government funded revamp has been completed in time for the 2016 netball season.

Treasurer and Minister for Sport Curtis Pitt said the upgraded Bribie Island Recreation Reserve facilities would be officially opened tomorrow to help the sport continue to grow in the region.

“Local netball players can now enjoy high quality court surfaces under new lighting,” Mr Pitt said.

“The transformation will help grow the sport in the region and attract new Bribie Island Netball Club members.

“Local netball enthusiasts are encouraged to keep an eye out for more programs and activities run by the club, such as coach and umpire development courses, specialist training for representative players and ‘have-a-go’ days.”

Mr Byrne said funding had been provided through *Get Playing Places and Spaces*, one of four programs which form the government’s *Get in the Game* initiative to support grassroots sport and recreation.

“Thank you to everyone who pitched in to make this project a reality, particularly the Moreton Bay Regional Council who also contributed funding,” Mr Pitt said.

“It’s always a pleasure to work with clubs, organisations and councils to help improve club facilities for members and the local community.”

*Get in the Game* is an $82 million funding initiative and provides clubs and local councils with better resources, equipment and facilities, as well as giving children who might not otherwise be able to afford it, the opportunity to play sport.

“The response to these programs is continually overwhelming and it’s been terrific to see *Get in the Game* produce such great results for Queenslanders and local clubs,” Mr Pitt said.


Media Contact: 0419 945 546
26 January, 2016

**Dalby to host the Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce**

The Palaszczuk Government’s Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce will hold a public hearing in Dalby tomorrow, giving regional Queenslanders a chance to tell the Government firsthand about the impact of the state’s drought and their debt levels.

Treasurer Curtis Pitt said the taskforce was established in October to help identify and recommend solutions to address the debt issues faced by Queensland’s primary producers.

“The agricultural sector makes a substantial contribution to our economy, so it's important we hear firsthand about the difficulties faced by drought-affected farmers,” Mr Pitt said.

“The Taskforce will recommend solutions for the Government to consider which will complement the Government’s existing $52.1 million drought package announced in the State Budget in July.

“Together with $154 million in financial assistance from the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority in the last financial year, initiatives such as this provide some relief to farming families.

"The Rural Debt Taskforce will play an important role in informing the ongoing support and assistance Government can offer to drought-affected farmers."

The Taskforce is chaired by the Member for Mount Isa, Rob Katter and includes both a Government and Opposition MP, mayors, representatives from the agricultural sector and economists.


The meeting gets underway at the Dalby Golf Club at 11.30am on January 27.

A closed session will follow each public forum, where people can talk about their submissions or other matters in private with members of the Taskforce.

To request a private discussion contact the Secretariat on 07 3224 6415 or via email: ruraldebtsecretariat@daf.qld.gov.au

**Media Contact:** 0419 945 546
27 January, 2016

Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce team meets in Gympie and Bundaberg

The Palaszczuk Government’s Rural Debt and Drought Taskforce will hold a public hearing in Gympie tomorrow morning before heading to Bundaberg in the afternoon.

Treasurer Curtis Pitt said the meeting would give regional Queenslanders a chance to tell the Government firsthand about the impact of the state’s drought and their debt levels.

“We established the taskforce in October to help identify and recommend solutions to address the debt issues faced by Queensland’s primary producers,” Mr Pitt said.

“The agricultural sector makes a substantial contribution to our economy, so it's important we hear firsthand about the difficulties faced by drought-affected farmers.

“The Taskforce will recommend solutions for the Government to consider which will complement the Government’s existing $52.1 million drought package announced in the State Budget in July.

“Together with $154 million in financial assistance from the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority in the last financial year, initiatives such as this provide some relief to farming families.

"The Rural Debt Taskforce will play an important role in informing the ongoing support and assistance Government can offer to drought-affected farmers."

The Taskforce is chaired by the Member for Mount Isa, Rob Katter and includes both a Government and Opposition MP, mayors, representatives from the agricultural sector and economists.

Information on the Taskforce is available at

Gympie’s meeting at the Civic Centre starts at 8.30am on Thursday, followed that afternoon by a 2.30pm hearing in Bundaberg’s Civic Theatre.

A closed session will follow each public forum, where people can talk about their submissions or other matters in private with members of the Taskforce.

To request a private discussion contact the Secretariat on 07 3224 6415 or via email: ruraldebtsecretariat@daf.qld.gov.au
MEDIA RELEASE

Curtis Pitt MP
State Member for Mulgrave

27 January 2016

White Rock’s new crossing supervisors on the job for the first day of school

The two new crossing supervisors appointed to White Rock State School by the Palaszczuk Government are now on the job, ready for the first day of the 2016 school year.

Treasurer and Mulgrave MP Curtis Pitt said they had been trained at the end of last year to help students cross the Bruce Highway safely.

“I want to help ensure local students have the safest journey possible when they’re leaving their homes in the morning and returning home in the afternoon,” Mr Pitt said.

“My youngest daughter started her first day today so I know exactly how parents feel about wanting to guarantee their kids are safe as they wave goodbye at the gate.

“These two new positions have been fully funded by the Palaszczuk Government.

“I believe the supervised school crossing will ensure a safer journey for students who cross the Bruce Highway.

“It’s an issue I’ve been working on since 2014 with the then local Councillor Rob Pyne and I have continued to raise it with the successive Main Roads Ministers - advocating for this improvement for the safety of our students.

“I’d like to thank Minister Mark Bailey for his willingness to help find a solution and in responding to calls from our local community.

“Speaking with parents and the school’s principal and having tabled a petition in Parliament on their behalf, I know this is an announcement that will be welcomed by the local community.

“We promised to be consultative Government that listens to locals and that’s what we’ve done.

“There is already a signalised intersection at Foster Road, so I’m confident the introduction of crossing supervisors will give peace of mind that all we can do to make children's' safety around the school even greater.

“There are other highway crossing points such as those at Gordonvale that I'll continue to advocate for so we can never be complacent - the safety of our students will require ongoing education and support.”

The Palaszczuk Government is working with White Rock State School to introduce road safety programs and encourages all parents, students and staff to participate.

Media Contact: 4056 3175

‘Putting the Far North First’
Pages 105 through 107 redacted for the following reasons:
Exempt Sch.3(6)(c)(i) Infringe the privileges of Parliament
Dear Prime Minister

I am writing to you to convey the Queensland Government’s full support towards the Cairns-based consortium’s tender, notionally titled ‘The Cairns Solution’ for the SEA 3036 Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project.

Queensland’s tender is being led by Teekay Shipping Australia Pty Ltd, subcontracting to Damen Shipyards Group, BSE Maritime Solutions and Norship Marine for technical expertise, actual build, maintenance and support capability.

The Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project provides Queensland and The Cairns Solution with an excellent opportunity to showcase its expertise to deliver on this nationally important project. The Queensland Government believes the Cairns-based consortium is not only a perfect-fit for delivery but also Cairns in particular provides a logical place for the construction and maintenance of the vessels designed to patrol the waters off Northern Australia.

Aside from the geographical advantages Cairns has in being the closest to the area of operations, there are a number of key factors that make The Cairns Solution a suitable team to deliver on the project.

- The Department of Defence has recognised Cairns as a hub for minor war vessels similar to the Pacific Patrol Boats.
- The Cairns consortium encapsulates a team with impressive and extensive experience. The bid is backed by 40 years of local production and support and also by global leaders in shipbuilding.
- Support for The Cairns Solution from the Federal Government will convey a strong message that it is serious in delivering on the Northern Australia White Paper and commitment to stimulating and increasing economic activity in Northern Australia.
- Teekay Shipping Australia employs 6,000 staff across 15 sites worldwide, operating over 200 Marine Platforms and is the pre-eminent ship operations and marine services company in Australia today.
- Damen is a world leader in ship construction and unique in the fact that it specialises in building naval and patrol vessels.
- BSE Maritime Solutions is a key maritime and defence asset in Cairns, currently providing ship repair and maintenance services to the Department of Defence.
- Norship Marine is Australia’s pre-eminent patrol boat shipyard, having in recent years completed more patrol boat dockings and refits than any other Australian shipyard.
- Training will also be provided locally with the Great Barrier Reef International Maritime College in Cairns responsible for its management and facilitation.

Further to this, a ship building program of this scale would promote the diversification of the North Queensland economy while building the local skills base - a critical component for the ongoing success in developing Northern Australia. Queensland also has an extensive and reliable supply chain to complement the local expertise which assists Cairns in its provision of ongoing, high quality service of Naval vessels.

I would like to re-iterate my Government’s support of the Cairns consortium’s bid for the Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project and look forward to the tender outcome in due course.

Yours sincerely

ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
I am writing to you to convey the Queensland Government’s full support towards the Cairns-based consortium’s tender, notionally titled ‘The Cairns Solution’ for the SEA 3036 Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project.

It was very exciting to learn that Queensland’s tender for the $2 billion project has been further shortlisted and is now one of only two bidders remaining in the tender process.

As you know, Queensland’s tender is being led by Teekay Shipping Australia Pty Ltd, subcontracting to Damen Shipyards Group, BSE Maritime Solutions and Norship Marine for technical expertise, actual build, maintenance and support capability.

The Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project provides Queensland and The Cairns Solution with an excellent opportunity to showcase its expertise to deliver on this nationally important project. The Queensland Government believes the Cairns-based consortium is not only a perfect-fit for delivery but also Cairns in particular provides a logical place for the construction and maintenance of the vessels designed to patrol the waters off Northern Australia.

Aside from the geographical advantages Cairns has in being the closest to the area of operations, there are a number of key factors that make The Cairns Solution a suitable team to deliver on the project.

- The Department of Defence has recognised Cairns as a hub for minor war vessels similar to the Pacific Patrol Boats.
- The Cairns consortium encapsulates a team with impressive and extensive experience. The bid is backed by 40 years of local production and support and also by global leaders in shipbuilding.
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- BSE Maritime Solutions is a key maritime and defence asset in Cairns, currently providing ship repair and maintenance services to the Department of Defence.
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I recently had the pleasure of hosting the first ever Northern Queensland Economic Summit in Cairns. The Summit was very successful with over 280 international and national delegates in attendance. The occasion provided the chance to showcase the region as a key investment location and demonstrated my government’s commitment to Northern Australia and stimulating and maintaining economic activity in the region.

Should ‘The Cairns Solution’ be successful in its bid, the subsequent economic stimulation and employment opportunities within Northern Queensland and Northern Australia in general will confirm the Queensland Government’s commitment to assisting in delivering outcomes of the Northern Australia White Paper.

I would like to re-iterate my Government’s support of the Cairns consortium’s bid for the Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project and look forward to the tender outcome in due course.

Yours sincerely

ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
20 NOV 2015

Honourable Josh Frydenberg MP
Minister for Resources, Energy
and Northern Australia
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister,

I recently had the pleasure of hosting the first ever Northern Queensland Economic Summit in Cairns. The Summit was very successful with over 280 international and national delegates in attendance. The occasion provided the chance to showcase the region as a key investment location and demonstrated my government’s commitment to Northern Australia and stimulating and maintaining economic activity in the region.

As you know, Northern Queensland is home to ‘The Cairns Solution’, a Cairns-based consortium currently tendering for the SEA 3036 Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project, which I am advised is only one of two bidders remaining in the tender process. Success to the Cairns consortium will present an exciting prospect for Queensland and Northern Australia and I want to convey my government’s full support behind the bid.

I was pleased to hear that during your recent visit to Cairns, you undertook a tour of BSE Maritime Shipyards, part of the consortium bidding for the $2 billion Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement contract.

Queensland’s tender is being led by Teekay Shipping Australia Pty Ltd, subcontracting to Damen Shipyards Group, BSE Maritime Solutions and Norship Marine for technical expertise, actual build, maintenance and support capability.

The Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project provides Queensland and The Cairns Solution with an excellent opportunity to showcase its expertise to deliver on this nationally important project. The Queensland Government believes the Cairns-based consortium is not only a perfect-fit for delivery but also Cairns in particular provides a logical place for the construction and maintenance of the vessels designed to patrol the waters off Northern Australia.

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I would like to re-iterate my Government’s support of the Cairns consortium’s bid for the Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project and look forward to the tender outcome in due course.

Yours sincerely,

ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
December, 2015

Far Northern infrastructure gets a $23 million Christmas Boost

Christmas has come early for a range of infrastructure projects across Far North Queensland, with $23 to be pumped into projects including aviation facilities, wastewater treatment plants and fibre optics.

Treasurer and Member for Mulgrave Curtis Pitt said regional communities were the backbone of the Queensland economy and the Building Our Regions program would deliver nearly 200 jobs in this first round alone.

“The economic uplift of infrastructure investment is critical up here and I want to commend Far Northern Councils for collaborating with the Department of State Development to get these projects off the ground,” Mr Pitt said.

“I visited Cape York last month as Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships so I’m very pleased to see so many practical projects in this region getting the investment they need to be competitive.

“The headline project is a $1.9 million optical fibre link to connect Doomadgee to Burketown which will enable the Cape and Western Queensland to do business at city speeds.

“We’ve also contributed funds to essential projects like the $3.1 million upgrade of Weipa’s water and sewerage mains, the $281,500 needed for Stage Two of Evan’s Landing boat ramp and Kowanyama will benefit from a $100,000 mechanical workshop upgrade.

“I look forward to flying into Cooktown in the future with its Airport Aviation Park receiving $500,000 from the State Government and we’ve contributed $400,000 towards the Lockhart River Waterpark.”

Projects across the Tablelands and Northern Beaches were gifted funds for much needed upgrades.

Barron River MP Craig Crawford said the Palaszczuk Government’s $23 million contribution to a $49 million suite of projects across the Far North was a significant vote of confidence in the north.

“I’m very happy to announce that Labor is working to fix water security in the Far North,” Mr Crawford said.

“Kuranda’s Water Security Project will get $650,000, Mareeba’s Wastewater Treatment plant receives a $1.5 million injection and $2.5 million will be spent upgrading Ravenshoe’s Wastewater Treatment Plant.
“The $5 million to be invested in the Port Douglas Water Supply Reservoir is absolutely critical and I’m sure it will be welcomed by the Shire Council, as will the $544,000 for Mossman’s Enabling Aged Care Facility.”

Cairns MP Rob Pyne said this investment in critical regional infrastructure demonstrated the Palaszczuk Government’s commitment to sustainable regional Queensland communities.

“The Collins Avenue Bridge is absolutely in need of renewal, so we’ve allocated $1.5 million to fixing this before it becomes a problem,” he said.

“The first round of the $200 million Building Our Regions program has invested more than $70 million in 42 projects around Queensland, with an additional $159 million in co-contributions from Councils and other organisations.

“Unlike the previous LNP Government, we have accepted the independent assessment of the Department of State Development in approving funding.

“The recent Queensland Audit Office report of the LNP’s regional infrastructure program found that former Deputy Premier Jeff Seeney ignored departmental advice in approving funding, didn’t document his reasons for doing so and consistently favoured projects in LNP electorates.

“Obviously the Far North’s LNP members were completely ineffectual, since we actually lost project funding over the last three years while funds were being pork-barrelled to the LNP’s favoured electorates.”

Treasurer Curtis Pitt has referred the report to the Crime and Corruption Commission for consideration and appropriate action.

Applications for the next round will open next year.

For more information on Building our Regions visit: http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/regional-development/building-our-regions.html

Media contact: 0419 945 546
December, 2015

Far Northern infrastructure scores $16.4 million for Christmas

Christmas has come early for a range of infrastructure projects across Far North Queensland, with $16,416,221 to be pumped into projects including aviation facilities, wastewater treatment plants and fibre optics.

Treasurer and Member for Mulgrave Curtis Pitt said regional communities were the backbone of the Queensland economy and the Building Our Regions program would deliver almost 700 jobs in this first round alone.

“The economic uplift of infrastructure investment is critical up here and I want to commend Far Northern Councils for collaborating with the Department of State Development to get these projects off the ground,” Mr Pitt said.

“I visited Cape York last month as Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships so I’m very pleased to see so many practical projects in this region getting the investment they need to be competitive.

“The headline project is a $1.9 million optical fibre link to connect Doomadgee to Burketown which will enable the Cape and Western Queensland to do business at city speeds.

“We’ve also funded essential projects like the $1.54 million upgrade of Weipa’s water and sewerage mains, the $281,500 needed for Stage Two of Evan’s Landing boat ramp and Kowanyama will benefit from a $100,000 mechanical workshop upgrade.

“I look forward to flying into Cooktown in the future with its Airport Aviation Park receiving $500,000 and the Lockhart River Waterpark got $400,000.”

Projects across the Tablelands and Northern Beaches were gifted funds for much needed upgrades.

Barron River MP Craig Crawford said the Far North’s $16.4 million allocation was a big win from the $200 million regional infrastructure fund.

“I’m very happy to announce that Labor is working to fix water security in the Far North,” Mr Crawford said.

“Kuranda’s Water Security Project will get $650,000, Mareeba’s Wastewater Treatment plant receives a $1.5 million injection and $2.5 million will be spent upgrading Ravenshoe’s Wastewater Treatment Plant.
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Media contact: 0419 945 546
MEETING BRIEFING NOTE

FROM Treasury
FOR Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
SUBJECT Attendance at the Official Launch of the World First Virtual Reality Training Bus, 29 January 2016, Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cnr Wharf and Lake Street Cairns

Contact Officer Claire Power, Strategic Communications, 3035 3341 Reference No. 00114-2016 Approved by Eva Ford-Murphy, Director Strategic Communications

PURPOSE
1. To provide information to support Mr Craig Crawford MP’s attendance at the Official Launch of the World First Virtual Reality Training Bus, Friday 29 January 2016, Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Cnr Wharf and Lake Street, Cairns, 11am-1pm.

BACKGROUND
2. enViZion Group invited you to attend the launch of their purpose built Virtual Reality Training Bus. Mr Craig Crawford MP, Member for Barron River, is attending on your behalf.
3. enVizion Group is a training provider, specialising in the delivery of pre-employment, life skills, mentor training and engagement and a deliverer of RTO certified relevant courses and customised in-house or on-site training programs.
4. The Virtual Reality Training Bus is designed to take career pathway and training information on the road. The bus is a tool which will be used to educate people about career pathways in local industries.
5. Participants visiting the bus have the opportunity to participate in an interactive program. The program features five avatars which talk through their experience gaining employment in five industries. Following their participation in the interactive program, participants will talk in further detail about their interests and potential career pathways.
6. The bus has been purpose built, allowing it to travel to rural, remote and Indigenous communities in Far North Queensland.
7. The project has received funding from the Federal Government.
8. enVizion Group will arrange an appropriate time to brief Mr Crawford about the capability of the bus, as well as the opportunity to trial the interactive program.

RESULTS OF CONSULTATION
9. enVizion Group were consulted in the preparation of this brief.
RECOMMENDATION

10. That you note the contents of this brief prior to Mr Crawford’s attendance at the event.

Jim Murphy
Under Treasurer

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Comments

HON. CURTIS PITT MP
Treasurer
Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Minister for Sport
Speech notes

for

Craig Crawford MP
Member for Barron River

Official Launch of the Virtual Reality Training Bus
Friday 29 January 2016
11 am to 1 pm

Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal
Cnr Wharf & Lake St, Cairns
Good morning.

Let me start by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting, the Gimuy Walabura Yidinji.

(Phonetic: Gee-moy Wa-loo-ba-ra Yee-din-jee) and the Yirrganydji People.

(Phonetic: Yir-ree-gan-gee)

I pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and Elders from other communities who may be here today.

We’re very fortunate to live in a country with two of the oldest continuing cultures in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

I would like to acknowledge Warren Entsch, Federal Member for Leichhardt, as well as Rob Pyne, State Member of Cairns.

INSERT OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AS PER PROTOCOL FORM

It is my pleasure to represent the Treasurer at today’s event.
I’d like to commend enVizion Group for this initiative that provide Queenslanders with the skills and knowledge they need to start their journey to finding and keeping a rewarding job.

Creating the right conditions for jobs growth is the challenge the Palaszczuk Government has willingly taken up.

The Palaszczuk Government’s Jobs Now, Jobs for the Future employment strategy provides a roadmap for getting more Queenslanders back to work.

In the 11 months to December, 60,400 new jobs were created in Queensland.

Every one of those jobs means a family has some security.

That a young person has got their first career break.

Or someone who was out of work, once again feels valued.
Every one of those jobs means a Queensland business has felt confident enough about the economy to hire one, or two or 10 more workers.

The Palaszczuk Government’s vision for Queensland is one where everyone who wants to work can find a rewarding job, and businesses have the workers they need to grow and prosper.

This great initiative of the enVizion Group, which I had the pleasure of experiencing earlier in the week, brings those two elements together.

It provides insight to job seekers about the pathways to a range of roles.

But it also profiles careers in local industries that have a demand for skilled employees.

I’d like to recognise the efforts of the enVizion Group for their commitment to seeing people reach their employment goals.

I’m sure this bus will be a great tool in getting more Queenslanders on the road to employment success.
Thank you.
Cairns Innovation Centre

JCU’s proposal for a Cairns Innovation Centre has the potential to catapult the Far North into a new era of smart jobs and world-leading technology.

It will unlock opportunities for our next generation of Far North Queenslanders to study, live and work here, in the high-paid, knowledge-intensive jobs of the future.

JCU commences it’s Bachelor of Engineering in the Internet of Things courses next year and hopes that purpose-built labs at the Cairns Innovation Centre will be operational from 2017.

I understand JCU intends to commit $30 million towards building the Cairns Innovation Centre.

JCU has broad support from all levels of Government, including our hard-working local MPs, like Rob Pyne and Craig Crawford.

The Cairns Innovation Centre would enable the Far North to further develop its expertise in fields such as tropical innovation and concentrate on the commercialisation of research.

This project is consistent with the Palaszczuk Government’s Advance Queensland strategy and the Northern Australia White Paper process.

The Palaszczuk Government is supportive of the project and would welcome the opportunity to assess a business case.

If the business case stacks up, we would look to set aside a State contribution of up to $10 million in next year’s Budget.

This contribution would need to be matched dollar-for-dollar with the Federal Government and would follow the $30 million spent by JCU.
I understand the Federal Government is also considering providing up to $10 million via the Regional Development Australia program.

The investment by the State and Federal Governments would catalyse JCU’s investment into a much larger innovation and technology hub.
**Min Pitt – Far North Queensland**

- Drop to Cairns Post on Sunday, 20 December
- Joint presser with Rob Pyne and Craig Crawford on **Monday, 21 December**

Mareeba: Wastewater treatment plant upgrade: $1.5 million  
Port Douglas: (Mossman) Enabling Aged Care Facility: $544,150  
Port Douglas: Water Supply Reservoir: $5 million  
Cooktown: Airport Aviation Park $500,000  
Lockhart River Waterpark: $400,000  
Mechanical Workshop Upgrade – Kowanyama: $100,560  
Ravenshoe Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade: $2.5 million  
Weipa: Evan’s Landing Stage two, Boat ramp and carpark: $281,511  
Weipa: Water and Sewerage mains, pump station upgrade, water treatment and fire mains upgrades $1.54 million  
Doomadgee-Burketown Optical fibre Link $1.9 million

**Electorate of Cairns** - Rob Pyne - **Collins Avenue Bridge Renewal: $1.5 million**

Out of scope