

## **Jeff Seeney MP eNewsletter 2016 - edition 8**

Welcome to the latest edition of my eNewsletter. I trust this eNewsletter is informative and of interest to you.

Topics covered in this issue include; Labor's TAFE scare a fallacy, Jobs Qld initiative exposed, vegetation management legislation and the LNP policy to deal with ICE.

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### **Labor's TAFE scare just a fallacy**

- **Labor's claim TAFE in crisis an election furphy**
- **Labor has only spent \$4 million "rescuing" TAFE**
- **Training Minister Yvette D'Ath out of her depth and struggling with responsibilities**

The Palaszczuk Government's "TAFEscare" campaign during the last election was nothing but a schoolyard furphy. It has been revealed in Estimates that Labor's bungled policy of \$34 million to "rescue TAFE" appears to be a fallacy given they have only spent \$4 million in the past 18 months.

The Palaszczuk Government's long list of training and skills initiatives has achieved no real outcomes for Queenslanders.

It is obvious TAFE did not need rescuing in the first place and it was simply a deceitful Labor scare campaign which we have come to expect from Labor.

It was also revealed in Estimates that TAFE is sitting on \$100 million, student numbers are declining and the Palaszczuk Government is sitting on its hands, wondering what to do with an organisation the LNP left in excellent health.

Minister D'Ath is out of her depth and struggling to cope with her workload and the only people suffering were Queenslanders looking to get ahead.

TAFE was on the right track under the LNP and it once again shows just how incompetent the Palaszczuk Labor Government is.

The LNP implemented changes across Queensland to ensure TAFE was operating efficiently, more people were signing up to TAFE courses and the courses on offer were the ones people actually wanted.

Minister D'Ath is struggling with her responsibilities and making no difference to Queenslanders who need real training and skills.

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### **Labor's Jobs Queensland swindle exposed**

- **Labor's Jobs Queensland initiative fails to create a single full-time job**
- **Highly-paid bureaucrats sitting around in Ipswich thinking about the best way to move forward**

- **LNP's 'Get Queensland Working' initiative focuses on Queenslanders not bureaucrats**

The Palaszczuk Labor Government's much-hyped Jobs Queensland initiative has failed to create a single full-time job despite being announced more than a year ago. Labor's \$40 million taxpayer-funded employment initiative has been an abject and complete failure.

The only jobs created under the Palaszczuk Government's Jobs Queensland banner are for a bunch of highly-paid bureaucrats to sit around in Ipswich and think about the best way to move forward.

It has been revealed only \$850,000 has been spent on nothing more than a secretariat and not achieved a single thing in more than a year, while the Attorney-General has admitted the Job Queensland Chairperson had not been appointed through the merit-based process the Palaszczuk Government promised for all Government boards.

Labor's Jobs Queensland has become a white elephant and a laughing stock within the business community. It's all talk and definitely no action.

Minister D'Ath should be embarrassed the government's number one employment initiative and election promise had fallen at the first hurdle.

Ms D'Ath's responsibilities are obviously too big, she is bungling things and it has been proven she has not been able to manage her large portfolio.

The LNP had a realistic jobs and training initiative which would see young Queenslanders gain real employment.

Our 'Get Queensland Working' initiative will see up to 20,000 young Queenslanders in jobs, encourage apprentices to finish their training and offer incentives for employers to train and retain workers.

Our realistic plan also includes support for Queensland tradies over four years by contributing \$500 towards new tools for apprentices upon completion of their training.

We understand the costs young tradies face when they start work, but we are committed to easing the burden on them.

Labor promised to create jobs for Queenslanders but once again the con has been exposed.

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**Labor still not listening on vegetation management**

- **Labor set to push through with unfair vegetation management changes**
- **Palaszczuk Government puts politics ahead of good policy**
- **LNP Opposition encourages Queenslanders to sign petition to fight for farmers' rights**

The Palaszczuk Government has refused to amend its unfair changes to Queensland's vegetation management framework and looks set to push through with the laws despite a wave of angry objections from regional communities.

Shadow Natural Resources Minister Andrew Cripps said the Agriculture and Environment Committee report gave Labor an opportunity to abandon its attack on farmers and landowners, but the government had dug its heels in to secure Greens preferences.

“Despite travelling across Queensland and witnessing first-hand the responsible work of landholders, Labor committee members have put politics ahead of good policy outcomes,” Mr Cripps said.

“The committee report recommended the ‘reversal of the onus of proof’ provision be removed, which is a drop in the ocean compared to the damage these laws are set to inflict on the agriculture sector.

“However the committee failed to recommend the equally offensive provisions withdrawing ‘mistake of fact’ as an available defence and the retrospectivity to 17 March 2016 also be removed.

“The Palaszczuk Government is so beholden to the Greens, Labor MPs on the committee ignored all the evidence and instead handed down a series of bland recommendations asking for Ministers to provide further information to the house.”

Mr Cripps said one redeeming feature of the report was the Statement of Reservation lodged by Deputy Chair and Gympie MP Tony Perrett, which highlighted the flaws in Labor’s bill exposed throughout the committee hearing.

“The LNP is working with AgForce Queensland and other rural lobby groups to make it clear to Labor that the former LNP Government’s common-sense changes to the vegetation framework, including high value agriculture permits and managing regrowth, must remain in place,” he said.

Mr Cripps encourages Queenslanders concerned about the Palaszczuk Government’s proposed laws stand with farmers and support the petition which can be accessed on the Queensland Parliamentary website at:

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/e-petitions>

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**LNP committed to tackling Queensland’s ice scourge**

- **LNP announces policy to help take ice off Queensland streets**
- **Nicholls LNP Government would implement five-point action plan focused on prevention measures and law and order**
- **LNP committed to tackling drug use and making Queensland safest place to live, work and raise a family**

Queensland communities will be made safer under a comprehensive LNP plan to tackle the state’s ice epidemic.

Opposition Leader Tim Nicholls said an LNP Government would implement a five-point action plan to take ice off our streets through crime prevention, drug addiction services and strong enforcement.

“The LNP is committed to tackling drug use in communities, including the increasing use of ice, to help make Queensland the safest place to live, work and raise a family,” Mr Nicholls said.

“Ice use can tear families apart and sadly it has increased in rural and remote communities in recent years, but the LNP has a plan to tackle the issue with a targeted and comprehensive strategy to complement the Federal Government’s National Ice Action Plan.”

Shadow Police Minister Tim Mander said the LNP had consulted widely with law enforcement and community representatives in developing the comprehensive policy.

“The LNP already has a solid track record on this issue, through law and order measures such as policing and tougher penalties for offenders, and addiction treatment services that work,” Mr Mander said.

“An LNP Government would continue to work with these organisations at a local, state and national level to target Queensland’s most vulnerable, such as males aged between 25 and 40 years and remote indigenous communities.”

Crime Stoppers Queensland Chief Executive Officer Trevor O’Hara welcomed the LNP’s funding commitment to help the organisation continue to target the supply of illegal drugs.

“Between March and June 2016 the Dob in a Dealer campaign attracted more than 2000 reports about ice dealers in Queensland, which has led to more than 185 arrests,” Mr O’Hara said.

“The community has clearly demonstrated its desire to participate in reducing the impacts of ice and needs a strong plan to continue to battle both supply, demand and rehabilitation for the future.”

**The LNP’s five-point plan to take ice off our streets includes:**

1. **Dob in a dealer:** \$1 million to encourage the community to report any information to Crime Stoppers Queensland.
2. **Keeping bikie clubhouses closed:** only the LNP has the proven record of closing down criminal bikie gang clubhouses through its strong action to tackle criminal gangs.
3. **Drug addiction services:** working with the federal government to deliver more treatment services, particularly in rural and regional Queensland, and targeted support through Queensland Health.
4. **Law enforcement co-operation:** ensuring our state and commonwealth law enforcement agencies share intelligence and resources to tackle ICE supply and distribution across Queensland.
5. **Increased prevention:** through community awareness programs targeting specific high-risk demographics.

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