

# INFRASTRUCTURE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS



## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The Government claims that \$520 million has been ‘introduced’ for upgrades to the Bruce Highway from Pine Rivers to Caloundra. When it comes to resolving the problems associated with the Bruce Highway, I welcome any announcement. But this funding is old money, not new money - it’s been re-badged and rolled over from previous years. In fact, there was not one cent of new funding allocated to Queensland for infrastructure projects in this Budget. And, although we know some of the funding will feed into the Deception Bay overpass, we still don’t know what the terms of the project are. We also don’t know if it will create employment opportunities for jobseekers in Longman. There’s still a lot of unanswered questions. Disappointingly, the Government was silent on any solution to the telecommunications and NBN issues that exist in our electorate.

## IMPACT ON WORKERS FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES

If the Bruce Highway project finally goes ahead, capital works will begin, jobs will be created and we’ll see some people head back to work. This will result in a much-needed boost for our workforce and local economy. However, the NBN infrastructure and mobile blackspot issues that remain in our electorate will continue to compromise peoples’ ability to stay connected with friends, family and emergency services. I will keep the pressure on the Government to be open and transparent about its jobs and infrastructure plan for Longman.

## MY COMMITMENT

It was always Labor’s plan to have the Bruce Highway project underway and local people in jobs. I will fight hard to make sure that this Government creates decent, safe and local employment opportunities. With Labor, I will also fight to ensure that 1 in 10 local infrastructure jobs are apprenticeships.

# WANT TO KNOW MORE?

## MOBILE OFFICES & EVENTS

My mobile offices will be making their way around the electorate to keep you up-to-date on Labor’s plan to fight back against this unfair Budget. These offices are also an opportunity to engage in conversation around particular issues through community consultation. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

### UPCOMING

#### DATE

Tuesday 27 June

#### EVENT

Mobile Office

#### TIME

2.30pm to 3.30pm

#### ADDRESS

Narangba Valley State High School  
(Harris Avenue entrance)

### UPCOMING

#### DATE

Sunday 30 July

#### EVENT

St Eugenes College Fete

#### TIME

10.30am to 3.30pm

#### ADDRESS

138 Station Road,  
Burpengary

## LONGMAN VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Congratulations to the nominees and winners of this year’s Longman Volunteer Awards. Longman is a community that thrives on the efforts of its amazing volunteers, so it was a difficult task for the judges to pick just one winner from each category.



## Longman Seniors’ Forum

Local seniors spent the morning with me, the Hon Wayne Swan MP and Everald Compton, Former Chair of National Seniors Australia, to provide valuable feedback on Labor’s policy platform for seniors.

## NDIS Roundtable, Health and Communications Roundtables

Over the past few months, I’ve invited Shadow Ministers the Hon Jenny Macklin MP, the Hon Stephen Jones MP and the Hon Catherine King MP to speak with local people about our issues in Longman, and the policy solutions that can be delivered under a Labor government.

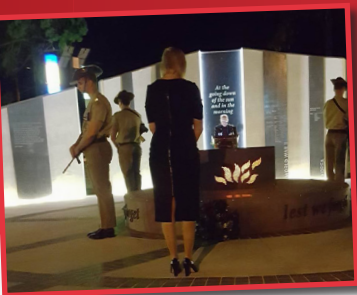


## The Bill Bus

Bill Shorten spent time with our talented nursing students at Caboolture TAFE and hosted a health and economics summit with local businesses, health care workers, councillors, members of State Government and other stakeholders.

## ANZAC Day

My staff and I paid our respects to past and present service men and women by laying wreaths at Caboolture. Burpengary. Toorbul, Bribie Island, Woodford and Beachmere services.



## Australian Jobs Taskforce Hearing

Employers, workers and their representatives from the Moreton Bay Region came together to identify barriers, recommend possible solutions and find opportunities to grow decent and secure jobs in Longman.

## Open Office and Mobile Office

Last month, I visited the residents of Ann-Maree Drive to discuss the plan to keep up the pressure on the Government’s failed promise to have their NBN connected this year.



This year’s winners were:

<b>2017 Longman Volunteer of the Year Award:</b>	<b>Nell Baker</b> , Bribie Moreton Hospice Health Services Inc
<b>Animal Welfare:</b>	<b>Stephen Osburn</b> , RSPCA Dakabin
<b>Arts and Culture:</b>	<b>Janelle Kerr</b> , KSP Inc
<b>Education:</b>	<b>Jenny Ferris</b> , Bribie Island State School
<b>Environment:</b>	<b>Tim Moebus</b> , Trash Revolution Inc
<b>Charity and Community:</b>	<b>Madeliene Ryan</b> , Beachmere Lioness Club
<b>Health and Aged Care:</b>	<b>Nell Baker</b> , Bribie-Moreton Hospice Health
<b>Lifetime Volunteer:</b>	<b>Dorene Webster</b> , The Lions Club of Bribie Island Inc
<b>Sporting:</b>	<b>Michael Cox</b> , Narangba Australian Football Club
<b>Senior Volunteer:</b>	<b>Desley Matthews</b> , U3A Inc
<b>Youth:</b>	<b>Kyra Brunt</b> , Bribie Island Soccer Football Club



**SUSAN LAMB MP**  
Federal Member for Longman

## Community News

POST-BUDGET ISSUE



## A MESSAGE FROM SUSAN LAMB, FEDERAL MEMBER FOR LONGMAN

I’ve spent a lot of time in our community listening to your concerns about the impact of the Turnbull Government’s policies on local people and their families.

- People constantly tell me that the Government is shifting the goal post, particularly when it comes to pensions and healthcare, making it harder and harder to get by.
- Local residents have been in contact with my office to voice their frustration at their substandard NBN service which is actually hindering their business and lifestyle.
- Employers, training providers, small businesses and workers are concerned that our unemployed youth are falling further behind. With cuts to TAFE, penalty rates and the exploitation of workers (including those employed by labour hire companies), the future of work is looking increasingly insecure under this Government.

With the announcement of this year’s Budget, our community had been counting on the Turnbull Government to repair the damage it’s already done. Unfortunately, we’re now faced with further cuts while banks and big business get a handout of \$65 billion. Malcolm Turnbull has once-and-for-all shown us that his Government is really is out-of-touch.

In this issue of Community News, I’ll be focusing on the areas of the Budget that will impact on Longman and outline my commitment to get our local community and economy back on-track. I look forward to your feedback.

*Susan Lamb*

**SUSAN LAMB MP**  
**FEDERAL MEMBER FOR LONGMAN**

## YOUR ELECTORATE OFFICE IS HERE TO HELP

Your local electorate office is a resource which can help you find answers and resolve local issues. My staff and I work hard to defend the rights and interests of your community, our community. If you have a question about anything you’ve read in this newsletter, please get in touch.

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# JOBS, SKILLS AND TRAINING



## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

This Budget will cut over \$600 million from TAFE and vocational education over the next four years.

## IMPACT ON WORKERS AND JOBSEEKERS

Our local Caboolture TAFE campus will continue to suffer as funding for training and apprenticeships takes another hit. Unemployment in our area is at 6.4 per cent and youth unemployment is at 13.1 per cent , which will keep rising as long as the Government continues to neglect TAFE.

## MY COMMITMENT

I will ensure that our next generation of workers have access to quality training to develop the skills they need to land a decent job. That's why I will oppose the cuts to TAFE and support Labor's national \$100 million Building TAFE for the Future Fund. This Fund will revitalise TAFE campuses that have suffered from the Government's cuts and focus on areas where youth unemployment is particularly prevalent.

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

*"I met a young man outside of church a few months ago who's completed three qualifications and is now over \$55, 000 in debt. Private education providers promised him work at the end of the course, which never eventuated. Now he's couch surfing at his friends' places and relying on support from the church."*  
– Dale Menzies, Kallangur



# HIGHER EDUCATION

## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Around \$4 billion will be cut from universities while the Government also mandates a fee hike of 7.8 per cent. These increases will not add any value to the student experience as all revenue will be paid to the Government, not universities. This means greater costs to education, including more expensive courses. Malcolm Turnbull is also forcing students to repay their fees when they start earning just \$42, 000, which was previously \$55, 000.

## IMPACT ON STUDENTS

A significant barrier already exists for our students in Longman in terms of access to higher education. On average, only 20 per cent of our young people go on to study at university compared to the national average of 50 per cent. With rising fees and earlier repayments, this Budget creates another barrier for young people wanting to access a decent education.

## MY COMMITMENT

I will oppose these appalling measures and work with local student groups and Education Unions in Longman to campaign against these measures.

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

*It's already hard for me and my friends to find a job, if they increase our uni fees it's going to be more debt that we're already finding hard to pay back."*  
– Shania Hain, Caboolture

# MEDICARE AND HOSPITAL FUNDING

## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

A further \$171 million will be ripped away from our already under-resourced hospital system, placing additional pressure on patients and hospital staff. Malcolm Turnbull wants us to believe he's relieving this pressure by slowly lifting the Medicare GP rebate freeze over the next three years.

## IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

This cut will see a further reduction in access to hospital services and treatment options. For every additional year that the Medicare rebate freeze is in place, it means an additional year of financial strain on our local families.

## MY COMMITMENT

Our health system needs a funding injection, not a funding cut. In government, I will work with Labor to reverse Turnbull Government's hospital cuts and remove the Medicare rebate freeze immediately. I will work collectively with our State Government and local health providers to build a holistic health system that is responsive to our community's needs.

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

*"With the Medicare rebate freeze still in place, doctors are forced to decrease their consultation times. When you've got a disability, 10 minutes isn't enough."*  
– Trish Jackson, Morayfield



# VETERANS' HEALTH

## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The Government's announcement of \$98 million over the next three years for veterans' mental health is welcomed. It's just what a responsible government should do. Although, what can't be ignored is the \$171 million cut from hospital services, the continued freeze on Medicare rebates and the impact this will have on our local veterans' physical and mental health.

## IMPACT ON VETERANS

Cuts to hospitals along with the Government's failure to immediately drop its Medicare freeze means that our veterans' access to health services such as specialists, GPs and psychologists will be impacted for years to come.

## MY COMMITMENT

Our local veterans have put their lives on the line to make sure we can live in a safe country, with opportunity and good health. It is the Government's duty to do the same. I will always be available to assist and support our veterans, and will work with Labor to reverse Malcolm Turnbull's cuts to their healthcare.



# SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Schools and education will be hit with a \$22 billion cut. In local terms, every school in Longman will be an average of \$2.4 million worse off.

## IMPACT ON FAMILIES

These measures are cheating our young people out of a decent education. Our local P&C's are already working beyond their means to increase our local schools' financial position. These cuts will push our school community to the absolute limit.

## MY COMMITMENT

Our children are the social and economic future of the country. Each school has individual needs, and must be afforded the appropriate level of funding to reach the required resourcing standard. Not only will I oppose the Government's ruthless measures, I will continue to advocate and campaign for this funding to be reinstated.

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

*"If they cut money from our school, these kids have no chance – none at all. There needs to be more support for kids with special needs, because they're not getting enough as it is."*  
– Pauline Harvey, Burpengary



# PENSIONS

## MEASURE DESCRIPTION

Earlier this year, the Government tampered with the pension assets test which unfairly stripped some seniors of their concession cards. In this Budget, the Government has decided to return them. I welcome the return, but they should never have been taken away in the first place. However, the return has come at a price - the Government will now be abolishing the Energy Supplement for new pensioners.

## IMPACT ON SENIORS

Returning pension cards will no doubt relieve some cost of living pressures on our seniors. However, getting rid of the Energy Supplement will mean a single pensioner will receive \$365 less a year and a couple will receive \$550 less per year.

## MY COMMITMENT

I'm proud of Labor's record when it comes to supporting seniors. In 2009, Labor legislated a \$30 per week increase to the aged pension. I will continue to support our elderly, not treat them like a burden on our economy.

## COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

*"The changes to the pension assets test do not empower people to save for retirement. Retirees have been working very hard so that they can enjoy their retirement with their children and grandchildren. They don't deserve this."*  
– Mavis Lambert, Bellmere

