

# November 2017 Policy Survey - Queensland

Response ID:9 Data

## 1. (untitled)

**Please select your Party Name (if other, or an independent candidate, write that in the comment):**

Labor Party

**Your name and position:**

removed for privacy

**Your email:**

removedforprivacy@getup.org.au

**A phone number we can reach you on if we have any questions about your responses:**

removedforprivacy

**Please input the eight-character survey password you or your party were given via email:**

QR7XuzXK

## 2. Environmental Justice

**1. Will you revoke Adani's mining lease and environmental authority?**

No

**Would you like to provide additional information on this question?**

Under our watch, this project has been through the most extensive scrutiny by State and Federal Governments, and the community, during public consultation and in the courts.

To date almost 270 conditions have now been placed on the project to protect the environment, landholders and traditional owners.

There is no legal reason or basis on which to revoke the authorities that have been validly granted.

The project has met the statutory requirements for approvals and has all the State Government approvals needed for the project to progress.

Not everyone agrees with the Adani Carmichael mine, but is an important project for regional jobs. Queensland Labor understands how important it is to the people of North Queensland to have a job.

**2. Will you veto any NAIF loan that helps enable Adani's mine, rail, power plant and/or port?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk has made clear that the her government to date has had no role in the Federal Government's NAIF loan assessment process for Adani, and will have no role in the future.

On 3 November the Premier announced that the Palaszczuk Government will exercise its "veto" to not support the NAIF loan. The Premier said: "if I am re-elected, on the very first day of being re-elected, I will send that letter to Malcolm Turnbull [vetoing the loan]".

I note that the Nicholls led LNP has indicated it would not support this position.

**3. Will you revoke Adani's groundwater licence to allow a full and transparent assessment process, which restores the community and farmers' rights to be heard and to protect their groundwater, and make Adani pay for the impact of their mine on groundwater?**

No

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

Under legislative changes proposed by the Newman-Nicholls government, Adani would have been given unlimited access to groundwater with no process required whatsoever.

Laws passed by the Palaszczuk Government required Adani to apply for and obtain an Associated Water Licence in order to access groundwater to allow the safe operation of the mine.

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines granted the Associated Water Licence after carefully considering a broad range of information including:

an assessment of Adani's application, more than 100 of which relate to groundwater.

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- the Coordinator-General's evaluation report,

- the Land Court hearing

- the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's environmental authority

- the Environmental Impact Statement and its supplementary reports, and

- the findings of the expert panel established by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and chaired by the Government's Chief Scientist.

Under the conditions of the Associated Water Licence for groundwater, Adani will need to establish make good agreements with groundwater users who could potentially be affected by changes to water availability or quality. There are 18 bores outside of the mining lease that could potentially be affected.

This means landholders will be fairly compensated for impacts on the water resources they rely on, and Adani will be required to pay landholders' reasonable costs to engage a hydrogeologist and any dispute resolution costs to negotiate a make good agreement.

Over 100 conditions relating to groundwater apply to the Adani project, and multi-million dollar financial and regulatory safeguards, and a stringent monitoring regime, apply to the water licences.

**4. Will you rule out any new direct or indirect government subsidies to Adani?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

At the last election, Queensland Labor promised to stop the Newman-Nicholls LNP Government gifting \$500 million of taxpayers' money to Adani. We promised that not one cent of taxpayers' money would go to this company. We have kept those commitments to Queenslanders. It remains our position that taxpayers should not subsidise Adani's project.

We also established a royalties framework for resources projects in the Galilee and Surat Basins and the North West Minerals Province, including Adani, under which resource companies must pay every cent of royalties they owe Queenslanders. Any deferred payments are to be repaid with interest, and with security to protect taxpayers if the project fails.

**5. Will you commit to repowering Queensland with 100% renewable electricity by 2030?**

No

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will continue our commitment to transition to at least 50 per cent renewable energy in Queensland by 2030.

Our Powering Queensland's Future Plan sets out actions to make sure we get the balance right, delivering more of the cheapest form of new generation – renewables sooner to complement our young and efficient fleet of coal and gas-fired generation.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will take action to deliver our target of at least 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030 and ensure that our grid remains secure and delivers affordable energy for Queenslanders by:

- Keeping our state-owned electricity network and generation assets in public hands
- Locking in our target of at least 50 per cent renewable energy generation in Queensland by 2030
- Establishing 'CleanCo' – re-structuring our two publicly-owned electricity generation companies into three with a strategic portfolio of low and no emission power generation assets designed to reduce power prices
- Supporting delivery of at least 1000MW of new renewable generation through CleanCo
- Committing up to \$50 million towards the development of Queensland's own baseload solar thermal plant with storage
- Progressing the development of hydro generation in Queensland
- Investing \$97 million to install solar and energy efficiency measures in Queensland state schools
- Rolling out renewable energy solutions for remote and isolated communities
- Partnering with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to investigate a sustainable energy solution for the Daintree
- Advocating for national policy certainty through consistent and integrated climate and energy policy.

We now have a huge pipeline of renewable energy projects delivering thousands of jobs and opportunities in regional Queensland, with many more on the way. There are 24 projects being delivered under the Palaszczuk Government compared to the Newman-Nicholls Government's record of zero.

#### **6. Will you preserve and implement Queensland's target of 50% renewable energy by 2030, including building or financially supporting the construction of at least 1400MW of new solar, wind farms and battery storage by 2020?**

Uncommitted

#### **Would you like to provide additional information?**

We are committed to a target of 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will ensure that renewable energy is added to our generation fleet in a steady way to achieve our 50 per cent target. Under our plan, at least 1400MW of new renewables generation will be added to our energy mix by 2025. This is a realistic and achievable commitment.

Our Powering Queensland Plan and Powering North Queensland Plan have kick-started Queensland's transition to a clean energy future, with our 50 per cent renewable energy target creating a stable investment environment, unleashing a renewable energy boom.

During the current term of the Palaszczuk Government, three large-scale solar farms have commenced operation and, by October 2017, a further 21 were committed or under construction, with those committed projects set to deliver 1,900MW of generation capacity, \$3.7 billion in investment and almost 3,000 construction jobs primarily in regional Queensland.

That means Queensland now has the largest number of large-scale renewable projects under construction of any state in Australia. More is on the way with another 8,800MW of proposed large-scale renewable energy proposals at earlier stages of development.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will use both our public ownership of electricity infrastructure and the market to power Queensland's clean energy future.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will create a third publicly-owned power generation company with a portfolio of no and low emission electricity generation assets and a mandate to deliver at least 1,000MW of new renewable energy projects for Queensland. This is in addition to our current Renewables 400 program, a large-scale renewable energy reverse auction delivering 400 MW, including 100MW of storage, by 2020.

Only Labor has a proven commitment to public ownership, secure and affordable energy and powering a renewable energy future for Queensland.

Our 'Powering Queensland's Future' policy has more information (<https://www.queenslandlabor.org/2017-state->

election/campaign-policies/).

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**7. Will you maintain current rooftop solar feed-in-tariffs, guarantee a fair price for the electricity that solar households feed into the grid, and help more low-income households, indigenous communities and small businesses gain access to rooftop solar?**

Yes

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**Would you like to provide additional information?**

The failure of the Newman-Nicholls government to support clean energy saw 2,860 jobs lost in the renewable energy industry sector in Queensland. They abolished the solar feed-in tariff, deriding those who took up solar as "champagne sippers and the latte set".

The Palaszczuk Government has turned this around with our pledge for one million solar rooftops. Over 450,000 Queensland households now have solar panels, with the combined generation capacity of these rooftops becoming Queensland's largest power station providing over 1,800MW of generation, overtaking the 1,680MW Gladstone power station.

We're helping our most vulnerable households access to the benefits of rooftop solar through our Sunny Savers trial, which is currently offering public housing tenants in Cairns, Rockhampton and Logan access to bill savings through solar power purchase agreements.

Our new Affordable Energy Plan will extend the benefits of solar further through our no interest loan scheme to help households with the upfront costs of installing solar and batteries and provide ongoing energy bill savings. We are also conducting a trial into technology which will incentivise landlords to install solar, to extend the benefits of solar to tenants in the private rental market.

And we are installing rooftop solar in the remote Lockhart River community, sharing the savings from reduced diesel use with eligible public housing tenants in the community.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will build on this work by rolling out clean energy solutions to remote and isolated communities which currently rely on diesel generation under our Jobs and Regional Growth Fund.

We will deliver tailored renewable generation, demand management and energy efficiency solutions to power remote and isolated communities by 2030.

We will also partner with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to develop a solution to deliver sustainable energy for the Daintree, to provide residents with a quality, clean, power supply to enhance their standard of living, reduce local pollution and support local businesses and jobs.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will commit \$97 million to deliver new and innovative solutions to reduce energy costs and embed energy sustainability solutions in state schools. This investment includes \$40 million for 35 MW of solar PV generation and \$57 million for energy efficiency measures.

We will ensure solar energy solutions are installed in more than 800 schools, delivering significant savings, while supporting up to 300 jobs.

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**8. Will you rule out state approvals and public subsidies from any source to a new coal-burning power plant in Queensland?**

Uncommitted

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**Would you like to provide additional information?**

There will be no public subsidies to any coal fired plant in Queensland. Our Powering Queensland's Future Plan sets out our priorities for government investment in a clean energy future.

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**9. Will you create secure jobs by building publicly-owned clean energy infrastructure, including a transmission line to open**

## up more renewable investment in North Queensland?

Yes

### Would you like to provide additional information?

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will create a third publicly-owned power generation company - CleanCo – that will own a strategic portfolio of energy assets and deliver new renewable energy development on behalf of the people of Queensland.

We will do this through giving our new CleanCo a mandate to add to its portfolio of power generation assets by developing new clean energy generation assets and through other mechanisms, such as further reverse auctions and power purchase agreements.

Our focus will be on flexible dispatchable generation which can deliver power to the grid when it's needed – even when the sun doesn't shine and the wind doesn't blow.

Under our \$386 million Powering North Queensland Plan, we are developing a North Queensland Clean Energy hub – strategic transmission infrastructure linking up to 2,000MW of large scale renewable energy projects including peak hydro and 24 hour dispatchable clean energy, supporting up to 4,600 jobs.

We will implement the findings of our State-wide hydro-electric study under the Powering North Queensland Plan to deliver flexible, dispatchable conventional and pumped hydro plants at locations that are environmentally sustainable and economically viable.

We also remain committed, subject to the outcomes of the current feasibility study, to delivering 50MW of new hydro generation at Burdekin Falls Dam with \$100 million reinvestment of Stanwell dividends committed to the project.

And as Queensland moves to a greater uptake of renewables, we will deliver a down payment of up to \$50 million to support a baseload solar thermal power station, which can power Queensland even at night.

## 10. Will you commit to stronger laws to end deforestation and invest in forest restoration?

Yes

### Would you like to provide additional information?

After three short years of LNP government, tree clearing rates in Queensland have again reached unsustainable levels. It's damaging our wildlife, our reef and our climate.

The Palaszczuk Government made a concerted effort to arrest unsustainable clearing rates by introducing strong, sensible laws to the Parliament in 2016. These laws were blocked by an alliance of the LNP and crossbenchers. This was our government's only legislative defeat and is evidence of our determination to drive down clearing rates.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will once again drive down tree clearing rates by legislating to end broad scale clearing of remnant vegetation.

We will also provide economic and employment opportunities for farmers and regional communities by investing in land and vegetation management projects through a \$500 million Land Restoration Act. We will build a new industry which promises to contribute as much as \$8 billion annually to the Queensland economy by 2030 at the same time as delivering a wide range of environmental and social benefits.

Our 'Saving Habitat' policy has more information (<https://www.queenslandlabor.org/2017-state-election/campaign-policies/>)

## 3. Economic Fairness

### 11. Will you rule out any funding cuts to essential public services like schools, hospitals, as well as emergency, child safety and other social services?

Yes

### Would you like to provide additional information?

The Palaszczuk has focussed on restoring frontline services cut under the previous LNP Government, and we are building the essential social services for the future. We have invested:

- close to \$1 billion towards improving vital health infrastructure in every corner of the state
- more than \$320 million to implement the domestic violence reforms in the Not Now Not Ever report
- more than 420 additional child safety staff

As Campbell Newman's Treasurer Tim Nicholls sacked 14,000 public servants, slashed services across Queensland and devised a plan to sell off state assets. Essential social services were savagely cut:

- 225 child safety positions cut
- 360 community organisations supporting vulnerable families cut by \$259 million
- 50 schools were planned for closure, and 500 teachers were cut
- 4,400 health jobs, including 1,400 nursing, 700 allied health and 50 doctors

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### 12. Will you rule out the privatisation of Queensland's public assets?

Yes

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### Would you like to provide additional information?

The Palaszczuk Government has kept our commitment to not sell income-generating state assets and remains 100% committed to keeping our assets publicly owned.

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### 13. Will your party put funding for public services ahead of tax cuts for business?

Yes

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### Would you like to provide additional information?

Labor in office has restored frontline public services after the cuts of the Newman Nicholls Government all while keeping the tax burden at the same level as when it came to office and keeping the budget in surplus in 2015-16, 2016-17 and a forecast budget surplus for 2017-18.

Labor's policy announcements in the campaign to date have included;

- \$679 million under its south east Queensland - Planning for Growth program for the major refurbishment of the:
  - o Logan Hospital (including \$12.6 million over the next three years for the Logan maternity ward)
  - o Caboolture Hospital
  - o Ipswich Hospital improvement stage one.
- Doubling our commitment to build and refurbish schools in Queensland to more than \$1 billion, with an extra \$500 million to build 10 schools and refurbish 17 schools across Queensland.

Labor in Government will always provide world class public services for Queenslanders, in contrast to the LNP's ideological drive to cut, sack and sell.

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### 14. Will you maintain at least the current level of public ownership of Queensland's energy infrastructure?

Yes

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### Would you like to provide additional information?

A Palaszczuk Government will maintain public ownership of Queensland's energy Government Owned Corporations.

The Palaszczuk Government kept Queenslanders energy GOCs in public hands. At this election only Labor truly believes in public ownership of Queenslanders energy income producing assets.

The Palaszczuk Government has also used the public ownership of energy GOCs to provide benefits to the people of Queensland to lower energy prices.

A re-elected Palaszczuk Government will create a third publicly owned generation company (CleanCo) to own and operate a portfolio of the state's existing no and low emissions electricity generation assets. CleanCo will also have a mandate to facilitate 1,000MW of new renewable energy generation by 2025.

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### 15. Will you commit to preserving penalty rates at the current rate in the state system, including to all employees of the

## public sector and government-owned corporations?

Yes

### Would you like to provide additional information?

The Industrial Relations Bill 2016 restored key workers' rights and conditions, stripped away by the previous LNP government, while strengthening industrial tribunals and giving back workers their rights to proper representation.

The Palaszczuk Government is particularly proud that the Bill provided an entitlement of 10 days paid leave for victims of domestic and family violence.

Other reforms in the Industrial Relations Bill 2016 included:

- introducing a right for all workers to request flexible work arrangements;
- declaring Easter Sunday a public holiday;
- making it easier for long-term temporary employees in the Queensland public sector to convert to full-time positions;
- a set of minimum employment conditions and standards;
- collective bargaining as the cornerstone for setting wages and conditions;
- a set of individual rights to fair treatment;
- effective, transparent and accountable governance and reporting obligations for all registered industrial organisations and employer associations
- a strong and effective independent umpire.

We reached enterprise agreements with all state public sector unions that preserved penalty rates and provided decent pay rises.

The Premier and the Industrial Relations Minister both wrote to the Federal Government and the Fair Work Commission urging them not to cut penalty rates.

The Premier has signed the Queensland Council of Unions pledge to protect penalty rates.

## 16. Will you help people who work in the coal industry and their communities prepare for jobs for the future?

Yes

### Would you like to provide additional information?

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to strengthening and diversifying the Queensland economy, especially in the regions. Future jobs growth in regional Queensland requires the development of new knowledge based industries to harness our natural resources in more efficient ways with superior environmental outcomes.

The Palaszczuk Government is investing to ensure our State can capitalise on these new industries.

Due to the Palaszczuk Government support for the renewable energy, currently there are 18 large scale renewable energy projects under construction, with a further four projects starting work soon. These projects will boost investment by \$3.7 billion and employ almost 3,000 workers during the construction phase – the great majority in regional centres.

Initiatives such as the Biofutures Acceleration Program, a key part of the Biofutures 10-Year Roadmap, is attracting the development of commercial-scale biorefineries to Queensland, with six projects already in train including projects at Dalby, Bundaberg and Atherton, which will support investment that could generate more than 330 jobs.

The \$420 million Advance Queensland suite of programs supporting programs that drive innovation and build on our natural advantages. Under Advance Queensland, seed funding is provided for startups and new research which will drive the knowledge needed for the jobs of the future in Queensland.

Only through facilitating the jobs of the future, can we ensure a diverse Queensland economy that can withstand technological shocks.

## 4. Human Rights

**17. Do you support the decriminalisation of abortion in the next term of parliament?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

The Palaszczuk Government is the first Queensland government to commit to introducing a government bill to reform abortion law. This is a significant step forward.

As you would be aware after two Private Members Bills were put before the parliament that did not give appropriate resolution to a range of issues related to law reform in this area, the Palaszczuk Government referred the current laws in relation to the termination of pregnancy to the Queensland Law Reform Commission (QLRC) for advice, and those two Bills were withdrawn. The QLRC is an independent statutory body that makes recommendations on areas of law in need of reform and presents a report to the Attorney-General which are required to be tabled in Parliament.

The QLRC was asked to recommend how Queensland should amend its laws relating to the termination of pregnancy to remove termination of pregnancy that are performed by a duly registered medical practitioner(s) from the Criminal Code and provide clarity in the law in relation to terminations of pregnancy in Queensland.

The Premier made a commitment that in the next term of Government, Labor will bring forward a Bill to Parliament to modernise Queensland's abortion laws, based on the recommendations of the QLRC. The QLRC is required to present its report to the Attorney-General by 30 June 2018.

Labor caucus will be given a conscience vote on this matter, as per party rules.

**18. Will you put One Nation last on your How-To-Vote Cards, and rule out forming government with One Nation?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

Unlike the Tim Nicholls led LNP, who have placed One Nation above Labor in 50 seats, Labor has committed to putting One Nation last in every seat, and categorically ruled out forming Government with One Nation. The Premier has signed and published a Statutory Declaration to this affect.

**19. Will you stand with multicultural communities and protect racial discrimination legislation in Queensland?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to upholding the rights of all Queenslanders to live free from harassment and discrimination and to participate fully in our economy and community.

Through the Multicultural Recognition Act Labor legislated to formally recognise Queensland as a multicultural society. The Act:

- established a Multicultural Queensland Charter which outlines the principles of promoting harmony, inclusion and fairness and acknowledging the unique cultural contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.
- committed to the development a whole-of-government multicultural policy and action plan to ensure that government services are responsive to the needs of our multicultural communities, requiring each agency to report annually on progress toward actions in the plan.
- established a Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council to provide direct advice to the Minister to ensure government policies support the needs, aspirations and contributions of people from diverse backgrounds.

The Charter is now proudly on display at Parliament House and the Policy, Action Plan and Advisory Council are now all in place. More information is available at: <https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/multicultural>

**20. Will you rule out making any decisions that rely on the impairment or extinguishment of Indigenous land rights unless you have obtained the free, prior and informed consent of the rightful traditional owners of the land?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

It is always our intention to make any decisions based on negotiated outcomes with traditional owners by proponents or the

Government. Wherever there is a group identified that may have a native title claim, government will negotiate or require proponents to negotiate with their representatives. , an Indigenous Land Use Agreement or other agreement satisfactory to stakeholders.

**21. Instead of a punitive approach to youth justice, will you invest in community-led alternatives to prison for children?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

It is the Palaszczuk Government that finally moved to shift 17 year olds out of adult prisons. In September, the Attorney-General released our plan to reform the youth justice system which includes:

- Supervised Bail Accommodation Services as an option for 14-17 year olds
- Separate zones within Brisbane Youth Detention Centre and Cleveland Youth Detention Centre for 10-13 year olds
- Recruitment of new frontline staff for courts, community and Youth Detention Centres
- More resources for courts, including two more magistrates, to ensure timely processes
- Provision of after-hours legal services to young people and increased funding for Legal Aid Queensland

Our plan to introduce Supervised Bail Accommodation is another example of keeping our communities safe while trying to break the cycle of reoffending and provide support for young people to create a better future.

Contrast this with the policies of the Nicholls led LNP which calls for curfews, naming and shaming, and mandatory sentencing, and their scaremongering campaign which refers to these young people (many of whom have not been convicted of any offence) as "thugs" and "criminals" and the supervised bail accommodation as a "dumping ground for young violent offenders".

## 5. Democracy

**22. Will you cap the amount any individual or corporation can donate to political parties at \$1000 per financial year, and introduce expenditure caps on election campaigns to remove incentives to amass huge political fighting funds?**

No

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

The Palaszczuk Government restored integrity and accountability to our electoral donation laws, requiring all donations above \$1,000 to be publicly disclosed, in real time.

Like Getup, the Labor Party accepts donations over \$1,000, and we are open and accountable about where those donations have come from.

Having accepted all recommendations of the Belcarra report, and determining that we would not apply a standard to local government that would not apply to ourselves, the Palaszczuk Government committed to undertaking a review of expenditure caps as per recommendation one of the report.

**23. Will you require all donations to political parties above \$1000 to be publicly disclosed?**

Yes

**Would you like to provide additional information?**

The very first bill introduced to parliament following the election of the Palaszczuk Government Labor returned the threshold for disclosing donations to \$1,000 after the Newman-Nicholls Government raised it to \$12,800. Despite the legislation being retrospective, there remains \$100,000 in donations made to the LNP that we still do not know the source of. In contrast, Labor continued to report donations over \$1,000 in opposition.

The legislation also restored six-monthly reporting requirements, abolished voter ID requirements; and laid the foundation for real time disclosure which is now in place.

**24. Will you close the revolving door between politics and big business by preventing Members of Parliament from engaging in lobbying work for a period of at least three years after they leave office?**

No

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**Would you like to provide additional information?**

In 2009 Labor established Queensland's first online, publicly available Register of Lobbyists.

Labor also introduced the Queensland Contact with Lobbyists Code to deliver greater accountability standards for former Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, Ministerial staff and senior public servants.

Under this Code, former Ministers are banned for two years from lobbying the Government on any matter they dealt with in their last two years of tenure. Parliamentary Secretaries are banned for 18 months from lobbying the Government on any matter they dealt with in their last two years of tenure.

And former Ministerial staff and senior public servants are banned for 18 months from lobbying the Government on any matter in which they had official dealings during their last 18 months of tenure.

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**25. Will you ban political donations from the gambling, tobacco, property development and fossil fuel industries?**

No

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**Would you like to provide additional information?**

The Palaszczuk Government introduced legislation to ban developer donations. The Local Government Electoral (Implementing Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 was before the Parliament when it was dissolved due to the election, but Labor is committed to bring the bill back before the house if re-elected.

The CCC report on Operation Belcarra stated that non-developer donors do not demonstrate the same risk of actual or perceived corruption, and concluded that "a more encompassing ban is not appropriate".

Labor does not accept donations from tobacco companies.

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