ISSN 1322-0330

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Hansard Home Page: http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/hansard

Email: hansard@parliament.qld.gov.au
Phone (07) 3553 6344

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, 27 October 2026

Subject — Page

ASSENT TO BILLS **3363**
Tabled paper: Letter, dated 22 October 2026, from Her Excellency the Governor to the Speaker advising of assent to certain bills on 22 October 2026. 3363
SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS **3364**
Haines, Dr H; Members of Parliament, Conduct **3364**
APPOINTMENTS **3366**
Panel of Temporary Speakers **3366**
SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS **3366**
Parliament House, Artworks **3366**
Absence of Members **3366**
SPEAKER'S RULING **3367**
Same Question Rule **3367**
PRIVILEGE **3367**
Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Publication of False or Misleading Account of Proceedings before the House **3367**
Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to an alleged false or misleading account of parliamentary proceedings by multiple government members. 3367
SPEAKER'S STATEMENT **3368**
Visitors to Public Gallery **3368**
APPOINTMENTS **3368**
Changes in Ministry **3368**
Tabled paper: Extraordinary Queensland Government Gazette, No. 45, dated 24 October 2026, regarding changes to Cabinet and appointment of assistant minister. 3368
PETITIONS **3368**
TABLED PAPERS **3369**
MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS **3371**
Crisafulli LNP Government **3371**

PT WEIR
SPEAKER

NJ LAURIE
CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

AL TAGUADA
ACTING CHIEF REPORTER

Industrial Relations **3372**
Community Safety **3373**
Community Safety **3373**
Community Safety **3374**
Domestic and Family Violence; Child Safety System **3375**
Electricity Prices **3376**
Resources Industries **3376**
Health System **3377**
COMMITTEES **3377**
Membership **3377**
SPEAKER'S STATEMENT **3377**
Visitors to Public Gallery **3377**
QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE **3377**
Ambulance Service **3378**
Ambulance Service **3378**
Crisafulli LNP Government, Achievements **3379**
Ambulance Service **3379**
Workplace Safety **3380**
Ambulance Service **3381**
Community Safety **3382**
Ambulance Service **3383**
Victims of Crime **3383**
Ambulance Service **3384**
Police Resources **3385**
Youth Justice **3386**
Road Infrastructure **3387**
Ambulance Service **3387**
Sport **3388**
Health System, Clinical Incidents **3389**
MOTIONS **3389**
Business Program **3389**
Suspension of Standing Orders **3392**
CRIMINAL CODE (NON-CONSENSUAL CREATION OF INTIMATE IMAGES AND AUDIO MATERIAL) AMENDMENT BILL **3392**
Introduction **3392**
Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026. 3392
Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026, explanatory notes. 3392
Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026, statement of compatibility with human rights. 3392
First Reading **3395**
Referral to Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee **3395**
BREACH BAIL, GO TO JAIL AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL **3396**
Second Reading **3396**
MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST **3406**
Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance **3406**
Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Queensland Labor Opposition—Slow Lane: A state of Congestion, An issues paper on transport in Queensland'. 3408
Leader of the Opposition, Performance **3408**
Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance **3409**
Health System, Workforce **3410**
Transport Infrastructure **3411**
Youth Crime **3412**
LNP Crisafulli Government, Performance **3413**
Housing, Indigenous Communities **3414**
Tabled paper: Letter, dated 23 August 2024, from Ms Alison Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Association of Queensland, to Mr Mark Cridland, Director-General, Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works declining the invitation to nominate a member for the Queensland First Nations Housing and Homelessness Partnership. 3415
Cairns and Far North Queensland **3415**
Labor Party, Performance; Burleigh Electorate **3416**
Political Donations **3417**
BREACH BAIL, GO TO JAIL AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL **3418**
Second Reading **3418**
Tabled paper: Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support, Evaluation of the Electronic Monitoring Trial: Final Report, 9 October 2025. 3428
Tabled paper: Webpage titled 'Queensland Parliament—Paper Petition: 3495-21 Stop Youth Crime'. 3450
ADJOURNMENT **3468**
Moreton Bay, Traffic Congestion **3468**
Tabled paper: Article from the *Moreton Daily*, dated 22 October 2026, titled 'Commute getting worse for Moreton Bay drivers' 3468
Bonney Electorate **3469**
Pine Rivers, Road and Transport Infrastructure **3469**

Moggill Electorate **3470**
Kurwongbah Electorate, Traffic Congestion **3471**
Keppel Electorate, Events **3471**
Morayfield Electorate, Transport **3472**
Gold Coast City Plan **3472**
Members of Parliament, Conduct **3473**
Hinchinbrook Electorate, Events **3473**
ATTENDANCE **3474**

TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2026

The Legislative Assembly met at 9.30 am.

Mr Speaker (Hon. Pat Weir, Condamine) read prayers and took the chair.

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I acknowledge the Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people of this state and their elders past, present and emerging. I also acknowledge the former members of this parliament who have participated in and nourished the democratic institutions of this state. Finally, I acknowledge the people of this state, whether they have been born here or have chosen to make this state their home and whom we represent to make laws and conduct other business for the peace, welfare and good government of this state.

ASSENT TO BILLS

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have to report that I have received from Her Excellency the Governor a letter in respect of assent to certain bills. The contents of the letter will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the letter for the information of members.

The Honourable P. Weir MP

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE QLD 4000

I hereby acquaint the Legislative Assembly that the following Bills, having been passed by the Legislative Assembly and having been presented for the Royal Assent, were assented to in the name of His Majesty The King on the date shown:

Date of assent: 22 October 2026

> A bill for an Act to amend the City of Brisbane Act 2010, the Competition Policy Reform (Queensland) Act 1996, the Duties Act 2001, the First Home Owner Grant and Other Home Owner Grants Act 2000, the Land Tax Act 2010, the Local Government Act 2009, the Payroll Tax Act 1971, the Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997, the Taxation Administration Act 2001 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes
>
> A bill for an Act to establish the Queensland Protection Commissioner to protect the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and other vulnerable persons and for related purposes, to repeal the Family and Child Commission Act 2014, and to amend this Act, the Child Safe Organisations Act 2024, the Disability Services Act 2006, the Working with Children Check Act 2000 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 2 for particular purposes
>
> A bill for an Act to amend the Casino Control Act 1982, the Casino Control Regulation 1999, the Charitable and Non-Profit Gaming Act 1999, the Child Protection Act 1999, the Civil Proceedings Act 2011, the Coroners Act 2003, the Criminal Code, the Criminal Code (Animal Valuers) Regulation 2014, the District Court of Queensland Act 1967, the Evidence Act 1977, the Governors (Salary and Pensions) Act 2003, the Housing Act 2003, the Information Privacy Act 2009, the Integrity Act 2009, the Judges (Pensions and Long Leave) Act 1957, the Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations Act 1991, the Land Act 1994, the Land Court Act 2000, the Legal Aid Queensland Act 1997, the Magistrates Courts Act 1921, the Ombudsman Act 2001, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992, the Personal Injuries Proceedings Act 2002, the Police Service Administration Act 1990, the Property Law Act 2023, the Public Records Act 2023, the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009, the Right to Information Act 2009, the Second-hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers Act 2003, the Security Providers Act 1993, the Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991 and the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 1999 for particular purposes, and to repeal the Brisbane Casino Agreement Act 1992

These Bills are hereby transmitted to the Legislative Assembly, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Yours sincerely

Governor

22 October 2026

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 22 October 2026, from Her Excellency the Governor to the Speaker advising of assent to certain bills on 22 October 2026 [2136].

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Haines, Dr H; Members of Parliament, Conduct

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I am sure that I speak on behalf of all members in passing on our thoughts to Dr Helen Haines MP, her family, staff and electorate for the truly horrific act that was inflicted on her on Monday, 19 October 2026 outside her electorate office. The entire nation has been shocked by the event. The strength and courage of Dr Haines's family at this time has been nothing short of inspirational.

Members, the attack on Dr Haines was an attack on our democracy. Our communities rightly expect all elected members to be visible and available. It is quintessentially Australian for elected members to be present at shows, speech nights, meetings of community groups and sausage sizzles for all manner of causes. Public-facing offices are maintained for elected officials at all levels of government so that access to the elected is available to everyone, not just an elite few.

It is not appropriate that I speak in detail about the complex situation that led to the attack, which is still being investigated by authorities. I do, however, think it is appropriate that I talk about the tone of public discourse in which the attack on Dr Haines took place, because that discourse is leading to a rise in serious threats to members of parliament. Public discourse has become polarised, intemperate, and full of irrational claims and false narratives. It has stoked partisanship, resentment and anger. The tone of public discourse, particularly on social media, can shape the broader environment in which we live. When public debate becomes increasingly hostile, personal or dehumanising, it risks undermining respect for others and confidence in our democratic institutions. The tone of that public discourse, especially on social media, can lead individuals infected by hatred or extremism or affected by mental illness to horrific actions.

Everyone in public life needs to play a part in lifting standards. In Queensland, this House should be the place where resetting the tone for public discourse commences. We need to ensure this House is a place where opinions about laws, policies, public finance and other matters of public interest are subject to robust debate, but robust debate about issues need not be polluted by intemperate language about people. As an indication of where we are at, in the last sitting week 24 withdrawals were required by the chair for personal reflections; four withdrawals were required for unparliamentary language; at least one false allegation was made against another member; and there were several instances of disrespect to the chair. The quarrelling across the chamber has been incessant. The interjections, with no point other than to stir members on the other side, are widespread, but I am most disturbed by the easy use of inflammatory unparliamentary language in the House. Last week one member used unparliamentary language, and, despite being rightly told to withdraw, the member then saw fit to debate it on social media in an act of gross disrespect to both the rules and standards of this House and the chair. This was a clear example of intemperate behaviour in the House being continued outside the House for base political motives.

There are many members on both sides of this House that on a regular basis misuse the broadcast of parliament, distort the actual proceedings and inflame public feelings for base political advantage. The serious allegations that are hurled across the chamber in this House about other members and the peddling of false narratives increases each week. Some of these false narratives not only are inflammatory but may also reach the litmus test of being deliberately misleading. On 26 June this year I stated that debate in this House was becoming overly personal, attacking people rather than debating issues, ideas and policy. I said that personal vitriol was overtaking common decency. I warned that we were in a race to the bottom. My warning was largely unheeded—little has changed. The public perception accords with my view.

It is time to reset. It is time to start respecting each other. By all means disagree on issues, but start to respect each other and this institution. I have circulated a statement about a number of events and issues from last sitting week following a review of digital records. I would hope that the members mentioned in the statement take appropriate action to apologise and withdraw for their words and actions, where it is obviously necessary. I seek leave to incorporate that statement.

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT—ISSUES FROM LAST SITTING WEEK

Disrespecting the chair

On 15 October 2026 the Deputy Speaker in the chair warned members about conversations that did not amount to interjections.

Shortly afterwards, at around 2.46pm the Member for Stretton and others were warned. The overwatch clearly shows the Member for Stretton engaging in conversation with the Member for Logan after being warned. The Deputy Speaker then instructed the member to leave the Chamber for one hour, to which the member initially objected.

After the member left the chair the Member for Logan then rose on a point of order asking whether the member had been asked to leave under Standing Order 253A. He was sat down. I cannot believe that this was a genuine point of order, simply a mechanism to disrupt and disrespect the chair.

The Member for Southern Downs rose on a point of order noting the disrespect to the chair. He was also sat down. (His assistance was unnecessary.)

When debate resumed there was cross chamber chatter among members from both sides. This is clear from the overwatch cameras. The Deputy Speaker asked members to take their chatter outside.

The Member for Stafford, already mentioned a little earlier by the Deputy Speaker for interjecting, took a point of order and noted a conversation between members and said: "In line with your guidance to the House, I wonder if a warning would be appropriate." Again, I cannot believe that this was a genuine point of order, simply a mechanism to disrupt and disrespect the chair.

Members are reminded that, when a member has the call, they are entitled to be heard. Members who do not have the call are strictly not allowed to speak so as to interrupt the member, unless they are rising on a point of order or a matter of privilege suddenly arising (SO 229).

Whilst conversations between members are not prohibited, conversations that are audible may disrupt debate, are not in order and may result in warnings.

It is within the purview of the Speaker to remind members of audible conversation and either ask members to take the conversation outside or warn members if the noise persists. Speaker's warnings about audible conversations need to be heeded.

Standing order 16 provides that the Deputy Speaker and Temporary Speakers shall, while occupying the Speaker's chair, have the full powers of the Speaker. When a member is warned or told to leave the chamber, they are to comply immediately and without debate.

It is also not for other members to take frivolous points of order, by asking for example what standing order is being utilised or whether other members should be warned. That is simply disrespecting the chair.

Members who refuse to follow an order of the Deputy Speakers, who have the full power and authority of the Speaker, risk being dealt with immediately under SO 254 or later being referred to the Ethics Committee for disrespect to the chair (Wellington (S) 15/09/2015 ROP p1830).

Attempts to ridicule or make a mockery of such warnings will also be dealt with by warning. I also note that the Deputy Speakers and I do not need other members suggesting members are disrespecting the chair.

Personal reflection

On 13 October 2026, in the adjournment debate, the Deputy Speaker did not hear the Member for Sandgate seeking the call. He apologised if the member had sought the call, but he did not hear it. At some stage, the member for Cook interjected.

The Member for Sandgate took personal offence at a comment allegedly made by the Member for Cook. The member for Sandgate took personal offence. The Deputy Speaker did not hear the interjection but asked the Member for Cook to withdraw. The Member for Cook indicated he did not mention the member. But the Member for Cook eventually acceded to the Deputy Speaker's request and withdrew.

Again, I emphasise that even if a member believes they have been falsely or wrongly accused of something, the correct procedure is to simply withdraw and see me and write to me afterwards, but members should follow the direction or request of the chair.

A review of the tapes has confirmed that the Member for Sandgate did seek the call verbally, but the call was not loud and was probably drowned out by other ambient noise. The Member for Cook did not name or identify the Member for Sandgate in his interjection. However, it was not unreasonable for the Member for Sandgate to believe that the interjection was directed to her.

Ultimately, the Member for Cook's gratuitous interjection was unnecessary and led to angst in the House.

Members need to keep their unnecessary comments to themselves.

Quarrelling and unparliamentary language

On 13 October 2026, the Attorney-General reacted to interjections by the Member for Lytton and Logan by interjecting herself. I warned the Attorney-General about quarrelling across the Chamber.

What I did not hear were the words used by the Members for Lytton, Logan and the Attorney-General. The interjection by the Member for Lytton was in very poor taste and provocative but did not rise to the level of unparliamentary. The Attorney-General's response contained an unparliamentary expression.

Unparliamentary language and disrespect for the chair

On 14 October 2026, the Member for Maiwar used unparliamentary language. There was debate about whether the phrase was unparliamentary. Unparliamentary language is difficult to define, and no exhaustive list of expressions has ever been able to be provided.

It has been held by rulings by previous Speakers, with which I concur that it is basically any language or expression that is unworthy of the dignity of the House or parliament as an institution (Speaker Reynolds 20 February 2007 ROP p285). I wish to make it clear that language such as that used, even where directed to a group, has always been regarded as unparliamentary.

It is abusive and insulting language of a nature likely to create disorder and beneath the dignity of the House. It requires prompt intervention from the Speaker. (Speaker Mann 27 February 1951 QPD p1753; Ch Miller 6 October 1981 QPD p2210; Ch Miller 8 10 1981 QPD p2379; Ch Row 4 October 1984 QPD p1024.)

Despite withdrawing, the Member for Maiwar then went about debating whether his language was unparliamentary language on social media, using the broadcast of parliament. The member eventually removed this clip after a request by the Clerk. But the member was clearly not only misusing the broadcast, in breach of the conditions of use, but also disrespecting the ruling of the chair.

Incorrect allegation against a member

On 13 October 2026, during a contribution from the Member for Cooper to the adjournment debate there were audible sounds in the chamber.

The Member for Cooper suggested that the sounds were yawning and named the member for Burleigh as the perpetrator. The member for Cooper withdrew the allegation.

A review of the overwatch footage reveals another member had inadvertently switched on a microphone and the sounds emanated from that member, not the member for Burleigh.

Unparliamentary language and disorderly conduct

The ambient sound reveals that on 15 October 2026, at approximately 9.12pm the Members for Lytton and Bulimba made highly emotive, disorderly and unparliamentary comments across the Chamber.

It provoked a reaction by the Member for Thuringowa who rose on a point of order. I had not heard the comments, but when asked no member volunteered to admit comments and withdraw.

APPOINTMENTS

Panel of Temporary Speakers

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, in accordance with standing order 11, I advise that I have discharged Ms Natalie Marr, member for Thuringowa, from the Panel of Temporary Speakers and appointed Mr David Lee, member for Hervey Bay, to the panel.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Parliament House, Artworks

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, two more works from the Regional Council Artwork Collection are on display in the chamber this week. The collection was originally assembled in 1979 to celebrate the completion of the Parliamentary Annexe and features artworks representing communities across Queensland. The first work, *The Brothers*, is by Merlene King. King was born in Dalby in 1924 and was primarily an oil painter. Her work was successfully exhibited in art competitions across the Darling Downs and North Queensland. The artwork was donated by the Crows Nest shire council, which is now part of the Toowoomba Regional Council.

The second work is *Penning Up* by artist James Deignan. Deignan studied watercolour techniques at the Darling Downs Institute of Advanced Education and received several awards and prizes for his watercolours at art festivals in 1976 and 1977. This artwork was donated by the Murweh Shire Council. You can explore both works and learn more about the Regional Council Artwork Collection through parliament's online Heritage Collections. Next sitting week, we will feature another two artworks as we continue to showcase the regional Queensland communities represented in the chamber.

Absence of Members

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have received advice from the member for Whitsunday that she will be absent from the House from 27 to 29 October 2026, inclusive of those dates. The member's notification complies with standing order 263A.

Honourable members, I have received advice from the member for Southern Downs that he will be absent from the House from 27 to 29 October 2026, inclusive of those dates. The member's notification complies with standing order 263A.

Honourable members, I have received advice from the member for Gladstone that he will be absent from the House from 13 October to 19 November 2026, inclusive of those dates. The member's notification complies with standing order 263A.

SPEAKER'S RULING

Same Question Rule

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have considered the application of the same question rule to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. In summary, the same question rule is enlivened by clause 36 of the bill, contrary to standing order 87. A motion to suspend standing order 87 would be required for this clause to be considered. I seek leave to incorporate my full ruling circulated in my name.

Leave granted.

SPEAKER'S RULING—APPLICATION OF SAME QUESTION RULE TO BREACH BAIL, GO TO JAIL AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2026

I have considered the application of the same question rule to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026.

The Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 was introduced on 27 August 2026. It seeks to amend a provision of the *Youth Justice Act 1992* that has already been considered by the House in this session of Parliament in the context of amendments contained in the *Making Queensland Safer Act 2024*, which was passed by the House on 12 December 2024 and received assent on 13 December 2024; the *Making Queensland Safer (Adult Crime, Adult Time) Amendment Act 2025*, which was passed by the House on 21 May 2025 and received assent on 23 May 2025; the *Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Act 2026*, which was passed by the House on 5 March 2026 and received assent on 11 March 2026; the *Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Act 2026*, which was passed by the House on 23 April 2026 and received assent on 30 April 2026, and the *Criminal Code (Dangerous Driving) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026,* which passed on 17 September 2026 and received assent on 21 September 2026.

Standing Order 87 provides the general rule of Westminster parliamentary practice that, once the House has resolved a matter in the affirmative or negative, the same question shall not again be proposed in the same session. Similarly, Standing Order 150 provides for the application of the same question rule in relation to amendments, new clauses or schedules of a Bill. As previous Speakers have noted, the matters do not have to be identical but merely the same in substance as the previous matter. In other words, it is a question of substance, not form (Speaker Reynolds, Record of Proceedings, 9 September 2008, p. 2559).

Clause 36 of the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 proposes amendments to a provision of the Youth Justice Act 1992 that are substantially the same as amendments previously considered and agreed to by the House in the same session of parliament due to the passing of the *Making Queensland Safer Act 2024*, the *Making Queensland Safer (Adult Crime, Adult Time) Amendment Act 2025*, the *Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Act 2026*, the *Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Act 2026* and the *Criminal Code (Dangerous Driving) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2026*. This is contrary to Standing Order 87.

Accordingly, I rule that the same question rule is enlivened by clause 36 of the Bill contrary to Standing Order 87. A motion to suspend Standing Order 87 would be required for this clause to be considered.

PRIVILEGE

Speaker's Ruling, Alleged Publication of False or Misleading Account of Proceedings before the House

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 1 and 2 September 2026, the Manager of Opposition Business and member for Springwood wrote to me alleging that multiple government members had published a post on social media that was a false or misleading account of proceedings before the House. This matter is related to my ruling of 15 October 2026. The members in question were: the member for Broadwater, the member for Kawana, the member for Nanango, the member for Toowoomba North, the member for Toowoomba South, the member for Surfers Paradise, the member for Ninderry, the member for Buderim, the member for Mudgeeraba, the member for Currumbin, the member for Gympie, the member for Barron River, the member for Moggill, the member for Mulgrave, the member for Mackay, the member for Rockhampton and the member for Townsville.

The post in this matter once again asserted that Labor had voted against mandatory minimum sentences for serious offenders who commit a crime while out on bail. However, this post was accompanied by a caption that explained the members had voted against a motion on mandatory minimum sentences. Therefore, in line with my previous ruling, I will not be referring the matter for the further consideration of the House via the Ethics Committee. I table the correspondence in relation to this matter.

Tabled paper: Correspondence relating to an alleged false or misleading account of parliamentary proceedings by multiple government members [2137].

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Visitors to Public Gallery

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise members that we will be visited in the gallery this morning by students and teachers from: Foxwell State Secondary College in the electorate of Coomera; Redbank Plains State High School in the electorate of Bundamba; Tullawong State High School in the electorate of Morayfield; and Mountain Creek State High School in the electorate of Buderim.

APPOINTMENTS

Changes in Ministry

Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.41 am): I lay upon the table of the House the Extraordinary Queensland Government Gazette of 24 October 2026 which outlines recent changes to the ministry. This includes the appointment of the member for Oodgeroo as Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and the appointment of the member for Thuringowa as Assistant Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training. I congratulate both of those members on their appointments. I also take this opportunity to thank the member for Whitsunday for her service to Queensland as a minister of the state. We wish her well in her health recovery.

Tabled paper: Extraordinary Queensland Government Gazette, No. 45, dated 24 October 2026, regarding changes to Cabinet and appointment of assistant minister [2138].

PETITIONS

The Clerk presented the following paper petitions, sponsored by the Clerk—

Mossman Hospital

2,359 petitioners, requesting the House to upgrade the Mossman Hospital by installing a CT scanner and restoring maternity services [2125].

Village Yard Christian School, Ministerial Infrastructure Designation

511 petitioners, requesting the House to call on the Queensland Government to refuse the proposed Ministerial Infrastructure Designation for Village Yard Christian School at 120 Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba [2126].

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the honourable members indicated—

Leucaena

Mr J Kelly, from 1,174 petitioners, requesting the House to recognise unmanaged and naturalised Leucaena as a significant emerging environmental and biosecurity issue across Queensland [2127].

Sherwood Railway Station, Station Accessibility Upgrade Program

Ms Pugh, from 673 petitioners, requesting the House to urgently include Sherwood train station in the Station Accessibility Upgrade Program and ensure improvements are made for all passengers, regardless of age or ability, to access the station safely, independently and with dignity [2128].

Victim Assist Queensland

Mr King, from 763 petitioners, requesting the House to review victim support frameworks within Queensland, including services delivered through Victim Assist Queensland [2129].

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the Clerk—

Dress Code

155 petitioners, requesting the House to create a dress code requirement for all Queenslanders [2130].

Railway Stations, Staffing

808 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure that Queensland Rail adequately staff train stations during operating hours, so people with a disability and other vulnerable passengers can safely access the rail network and are not unfairly excluded [2131].

Childers, Pedestrian Safety

299 petitioners, requesting the House to undertake an assessment of footpath connectivity and safe road crossings in high-risk areas on the approach to Childers CBD [2132].

Department of Education, Use of Photographic Images

215 petitioners, requesting the House to review departmental policy and require clear statewide rules regarding the use of yearbook and school media images [2133].

Victoria Park Stadium, Seating Capacity

347 petitioners, requesting the House to urgently review the Victoria Park stadium design and increase the proposed capacity to a minimum of 100,000 seats to cement our place as a global leader in tourism and major events [2134].

Petitions received.

TABLED PAPERS

PAPERS TABLED DURING THE RECESS (SO 31)

The Clerk informed the House that the following papers, received during the recess, were tabled on the dates indicated—

16 October 2026—

2084 Response from the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers (Hon. Leahy), to an E-Petition (4597-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 823 petitioners, requesting the House to legislate the Guideline on Equity and Fairness in Rating for Queensland Local Governments to ensure all Queensland councils are bound by its principles

2085 Response from the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers (Hon. Leahy), to an E-Petition (4619-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 255 petitioners, requesting the House to respect the democratic process and the choice made by the community at the ballot box and support Mayor Mitchell being allowed to continue serving the people of Redland City and carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to her

2086 Response from the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers (Hon. Leahy), to an E-Petition (4623-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,116 petitioners, requesting the House to do all in its power to direct local governments to operate their aquatic facilities and not outsource and lease them to private enterprise

2087 Response from the Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers (Hon. Leahy), to an E-Petition (4615-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 128 petitioners, requesting the House to do all in its power to mandate a dedicated, ring-fenced youth infrastructure sub-stream within existing local government grants, and these must be exclusively allocated to regional and local councils to build, upgrade, and maintain free, supervised “third spaces” to keep under-16s engaged, connected, and off the streets

2088 Response from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie), to an E-Petition (4635-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,149 petitioners, requesting the House to introduce legislation to mandate renewable energy and water security for AI Data Centres

2089 Response from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie), to an E-Petition (4669-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,268 petitioners, requesting the House to establish environmental safeguards and accountability for large AI data centres in Queensland

2090 Response from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services (Hon. Purdie), to an E-Petition (4483-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 253 petitioners, requesting the House to do all within its power to ensure suitably qualified non-QPS, or off-duty QPS, be trained and paid to additionally record speed-limit violations by use of existing speed-recording signage, devices or current police vehicles

2091 Response from the Minister for Police and Emergency Services (Hon. Purdie), to an E-Petition (4588-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 295 petitioners, requesting the House to strengthen Queensland laws and police powers to deal with antisocial and criminal behaviour in Greenbank

2092 Transmax—Annual Report 2025-26

2093 Response from the Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth (Hon. O’Connor), to an E-Petition (4564-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,910 petitioners, requesting the House to implement stronger, coordinated responses, including housing pathways, outreach services, and public space management, to ensure both the protection of human rights and the safe, equitable use of community areas for all Queenslanders

2094 Office of the Information Commissioner—Annual Report 2025-26: Erratum

2095 Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee: Report No. 45, 58th Parliament—Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026

2096 Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington), to an E-Petition (4614-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 247 petitioners, requesting the House to mandate that Queensland Government digital services or state-supported platforms adopt privacy-preserving standards for age assurance and data protection

2097 Response from the Minister for Education and the Arts (Hon. Langbroek), to an E-Petition (4613-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 155 petitioners, requesting the House to direct the Minister for Education to urgently task the QCAA with developing and mandating a “Digital Transition” short-course module for all Year 10 students

2098 Response from the Minister for Education and the Arts (Hon. Langbroek), to an E-Petition (4680-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,540 petitioners, requesting the House to grant Canoe Point Reserve lasting protection from clearing and development, consistent with the then Government's 1996 decision to preserve the environmental value of the Canoe Point site

2099 Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg), to an E-Petition (4603-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 766 petitioners, requesting the House to investigate, plan and commit to extending the Gold Coast heavy rail line from Varsity Lakes to Tweed Heads as part of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games transport legacy and the Gold Coast Transport Plan

19 October 2026—

2100 Response from the Minister for Primary Industries (Hon. Perrett), to an E-Petition (4683-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,264 petitioners, requesting the House to protect diverse and sustainable beekeeping practices in Queensland

2101 Response from the Minister for Primary Industries (Hon. Perrett), to an E-Petition (4492-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 271 petitioners, requesting the House to install shark-safe beach enclosures at Redcliffe and Bribie Island

2102 Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington), to an E-Petition (4656-26), sponsored by the member for Maiwar, Mr Berkman, from 4,184 petitioners, requesting the House to Repeal the provisions of the Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Act 2026 that criminalise political expression; withdraw all charges brought solely under these provisions; and protect the democratic rights of all Queenslanders to protest, advocate for human rights, and participate in political debate

2103 Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity (Hon. Frecklington), to an E-Petition (4671-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 593 petitioners, requesting the House to ban the use of the IHRA definition of antisemitism in Queensland

2104 Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Hon. Mickelberg), to an E-Petition (4592-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 369 petitioners, requesting the House to do all in its power to deliver public transport infrastructure for Ipswich

20 October 2026—

2105 Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee: Report No. 44, 58th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 20 June 2026 and 21 July 2026

2106 Education, Arts and Communities Committee: Report No. 22, 58th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 25 March 2026 and 25 August 2026

21 October 2026—

2107 Land Court of Queensland—Annual Report 2025-2026

2108 Land Tribunal—Annual Report 2025-2026

22 October 2026—

2109 Response from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie), to an E-Petition (4704-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 965 petitioners, requesting the House to call on the Queensland Government to refuse the proposed Ministerial Infrastructure Designation for Village Yard Christian School at 120 Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba

2110 Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee: Report No. 13, 58th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 24 June 2026 and 25 August 2026

2111 Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee: Report No. 46, 58th Parliament—Summary Offences (Protection of the Australian Flag) Amendment Bill 2026

2112 Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee: Report No. 47, 58th Parliament—Civil Liability (Holding Institutions Accountable for Child Abuse) Amendment Bill 2026

23 October 2026—

2113 Primary Industries and Resources Committee: Report No. 27, 58th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 13 May 2026 and 25 August 2026

26 October 2026—

2114 Response from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. Bleijie), to an E-Petition (4469-26), sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 240 petitioners, requesting the House to refuse the proposed Wynnum Centre Suburban Renewal Plan in its current form

2115 Electoral Commission Queensland—2026 Stafford State By-Election Report

2116 Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board—Annual Report 2025-26

2117 Queensland Ombudsman—Inspector of Detention Services: Annual operational report 2025-26, October 2026

2118 State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee: Report No. 37, 58th Parliament—Annual Report 2025-26

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32)

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

The following statutory instruments were tabled by the Clerk—

State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999:

2119 State Penalties Enforcement (Education and Care Services) Amendment Regulation 2026, No. 150

2120 State Penalties Enforcement (Education and Care Services) Amendment Regulation 2026, No. 150, explanatory notes

2121 State Penalties Enforcement (Education and Care Services) Amendment Regulation 2026, No. 150, human rights certificate

Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991:

2122 Uniform Civil Procedure (Service Outside Australia and Other Matters) Amendment Rule 2026, No. 151

2123 Uniform Civil Procedure (Service Outside Australia and Other Matters) Amendment Rule 2026, No. 151, explanatory notes

2124 Uniform Civil Procedure (Service Outside Australia and Other Matters) Amendment Rule 2026, No. 151, human rights certificate

MEMBER'S PAPER

The following member's paper was tabled by the Clerk—

Member for Scenic Rim (Mr Krause)—

2135 Overseas Travel Report: Report on overseas visit to the United States of America by the Deputy Speaker and member for Scenic Rim, M Jon Krause MP, 31 August-6 September 2026

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Crisafulli LNP Government

Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.45 am): Two years ago Queenslanders voted for a fresh start. Queenslanders voted for a government that would listen, put forward a plan and get on with delivering it. They wanted safer communities, better health services, more homes and permanent relief for cost-of-living pressures. Under the former Labor government, victim numbers increased by 193 per cent. We heard loud and clear Queenslanders wanted a government that would restore consequences for actions and put victims first. We have been doing just that.

Adult Crime, Adult Time was among the first laws passed by our government. We have since expanded those laws to cover 47 serious offences including murder, manslaughter, rape, robbery and car theft. We removed detention as a last resort and made the impacts on victims a primary consideration in youth sentencing. We have made Jack's Law permanent after strong advocacy from Brett and Belinda Beasley and their local member, the member for Bonney, giving police stronger powers to detect dangerous weapons. Since July last year more than 216,000 people have been scanned and more than 1,500 weapons have been removed from our streets. We delivered Daniel's Law, Queensland's first public child sex offender register, following years of tireless advocacy by Bruce and Denise Morcombe and the LNP members on the Sunshine Coast, and we are backing our police with the resources they need. We promised 1,600 new officers; we have delivered more than 2,100. For the first time in Queensland's history the Police Service has more than 13,000 officers.

We are also repairing the systems Labor left behind. We inherited a backlog of 601 rape kits and more than 11,700 major crime DNA samples. The inherited rape kit backlog has now been cleared, while the major crime DNA sample backlog has fallen by more than 80 per cent. We are strengthening protections for domestic and family violence through GPS monitoring and police protection directions, and we are reforming child safety with a stronger blue card scheme, the Reportable Conduct Scheme and the new Queensland Protection Commission. We are investing in early intervention and rehabilitation through Regional Reset, Staying on Track and our Kickstarter programs because making Queensland safer requires both stronger consequences and opportunities to turn lives around.

We are beginning to see results. Over the past two years victim numbers have fallen by 9.6 per cent. That is confirmed by Australian Bureau of Statistics, Queensland police and Insurance Council of Australia data, but there is more to do. That is why this week the House will debate our Breach Bail, Go to Jail legislation. We said we would deliver the laws this year, and we will. Queenslanders asked for a government that would listen to victims, back police and restore safety to their communities. We have

listened, we have acted and we will not return to the weak approach to crime. We will keep delivering stronger laws and more police and, importantly, better support for victims. They are why we must keep going. I want to acknowledge all victims, like those of the horrific incident that took place in Logan over the weekend. It has left four Queenslanders injured, including a young woman who is fighting for her life. Our thoughts are with those victims. We will make every effort to ensure those responsible are brought to justice and face the tougher penalties that this parliament passed earlier this year.

We have also seen severe flooding across parts of our state. Yesterday was a tragic reminder of the impacts of severe weather. I thank our emergency service personnel and volunteers for stepping forward to help others. We pass on our condolences to the family of James Hansen, who drowned just outside of Boompa. We have had a challenging week of wet weather, with more storms to come. We have a heatwave in the Western Cape. It highlights the challenges that face Queenslanders at this time of year and why we are the most resilient state in the nation. Our government will continue to support Queenslanders as they prepare for more severe weather in the coming days and as they recover from these events.

Industrial Relations

Hon. JP BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (9.49 am): Two years ago, Queenslanders voted for a fresh start. Unfortunately, there are those on the other side of this chamber who still deny that election result, but Queenslanders overwhelmingly voted for a fresh start. I am proud to be part of the Crisafulli government that has been delivering in the four major areas that we promised Queenslanders. As the Premier always says, and as he did yesterday, there is far more work to do in this space.

You cannot have a conversation about crime without talking about what was happening in the construction industry under the former government and the CFMEU. What we saw and what has been highlighted in the commission of inquiry—the abuse, the misogyny, the misbehaviour, the violence, the intimidation, the harassment, the sexual harassment, the verbal abuse, the physical abuse, the cover-up—is being exposed for the world to see. We on this side of the House, when in opposition, knew what was happening. For 10 years we knew and that is why we kept raising it. Unfortunately, those in a position to do something about the CFMEU failed to act for 10 years.

Let us highlight what we have done in the past two years. We believe you cannot have a conversation about crime and the safety of the community without talking about construction safety and worker safety and that includes dealing with the CFMEU. In two years, we have ended the CFMEU's stronghold on the regulator through legislative change. We are exposing the culture of fear and intimidation, enabled, I might say, by former Labor ministers, which has been exposed through the landmark commission of inquiry.

Upon coming into office I immediately hung up the CFMEU bat phone, which was the CFMEU's direct line into the Office of Industrial Relations. I sacked militant CFMEU official Kurt Pauls, who was handpicked by the former minister for industrial relations, the member for McConnel, for the Work Health and Safety Board—talk about putting the fox in charge of the henhouse—despite allegations being aired of his abuse towards OIR staff. I repealed Labor's CFMEU enabling laws, including information-sharing and right-of-entry laws that gave them immediate access to worksites and workers' information.

We removed BPIC, the CFMEU tax, which Treasury estimated would have had a net economic cost of $17.1 billion over the 2024-30 period. The Queensland Productivity Commission reported that, under Labor, a nine per cent decline in construction productivity since 2018 resulted in 77,000 fewer homes being constructed across the state. We reintroduced 24-hour right of entry on construction sites under workplace health and safety legislation, preventing safety from being used as an industrial disputation tool, predominantly by the CFMEU.

Concerningly and interestingly, yesterday in committee proceedings, believe it or not, I heard that the current industrial relations shadow minister mentioned the CFMEU and was adamant that the CFMEU was compliant with the Fair Work legislation federally. Despite everything we have seen in the past two years, the commission of inquiry—

Ms GRACE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence. It is misinformation and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence. I ask that you withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. Serious allegations were raised not only in the CFMEU commission of inquiry but also, I might add, for 10 years by whistleblowers who put their reputations and their jobs on the line when saying that Helen Burgess was a direct conduit between the Office of Industrial Relations and the CFMEU, but no action was taken against Helen Burgess. I can report that Helen Burgess no longer works for the Queensland government.

We have acted. Workplace health and safety is our priority and independent public servants are our priority, not cosying up to the CFMEU, putting feathers down and accepting donations from the CFMEU, as was the case with the former government. Queenslanders have seen the impact of Labor being owned by the CFMEU in the cost of living, the cost of housing and the years-long and billions of dollars worth of delays to major projects, including Cross River Rail and the Centenary Bridge upgrade. I can advise that the commission of inquiry into the CFMEU will continue this week, examining Cross River Rail.

I will end on this: I think in the next 12 months people are going to see a lot of information come forward from the commission of inquiry. I suspect—I do not know but I suspect—some former ministers may be called to give evidence or answer the allegations that have been raised. It would be very disappointing if former Labor ministers took the stand and pled the victim card, which I suspect they will. Former ministers have lots of questions to answer in this commission of inquiry. I suspect and I dread that they will stand there and they will play the victim. They could have done something about it and they should have done something about it, but they did not in their decade of decline.

Community Safety

Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (9.55 am): Two years ago, Queenslanders voted for a fresh start. The Crisafulli government was elected to make Queensland safer. We continue to live up to that promise, delivering a progression of stronger laws that prioritise victims of crime over offenders; laws brought to fix Labor's youth crime crisis—Adult Crime, Adult Time; and laws inspired by the courage of Queenslanders in the face of devastating loss—Daniel's Law, Jack's Law, dangerous driving laws and Breach Bail, Go to Jail. There is more victim centred legislation currently before the House and still more to be done after that. The watered down youth justice laws from those opposite, which unleashed terror on communities, are being dismantled. We are turning the tide.

Our work will continue today when we introduce significant legislation to protect Queenslanders from an emergent criminal threat, posed particularly to vulnerable young people. Advances in technology, particularly the use of AI, to create so-called deepfakes have spread hyperrealistic videos and audio that falsely depict real people without their consent. Through this deception, the material often implicates a person in an intimate sexual way or an intimate sexual activity. It is a growing concern, especially in Queensland schools, with harmful content generated to cyberbully both students and teachers. For too long, offenders have exploited a gap in the law to create harmful and exploitative content without facing full consequences. Today, I can announce that the Crisafulli government is closing that loophole.

Our laws will criminalise the creation of deepfake sexually explicit images or audio of a person without their consent. The new offence will carry a proposed maximum penalty of three years jail. We are doing this for every victim of a vile form of weaponisation that has the potential to wreak psychological, emotional and even life-endangering harm. We are doing it for people such as Emma Mason, whose 15-year-old daughter, Tilly, took her life four years ago after a torrent of cyber abuse including a deepfake image. Today Emma has described our laws as amazing. This is another example of the Crisafulli government listening to Queenslanders and delivering for them with the stronger laws they have asked for and need.

Community Safety

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (9.58 am): After a decade of neglect under the former Labor government, Queenslanders have seen two years of delivery under the Crisafulli government. We have had two years of putting victims first and delivering strong laws to restore consequences for actions. We have had two years of delivering new early intervention and rehabilitation programs right across the state to drive down crime. We are continuing to deliver exactly what we said we would. We are making Queensland safer, just as we promised.

Already we have restored consequences for actions with our landmark Adult Crime, Adult Time laws, which now apply to 47 offences. As a result of our strong laws, in the past two financial years we have seen victim numbers fall by 9.6 per cent. However, after a decade of the previous Labor government weakening our laws and a skyrocketing number of youth offenders leading to victims of crime numbers rising by 193 per cent, there is a lot more work to do to turn the tide on Labor's youth crime crisis. That is why we are going even further and building upon those laws that we know are working, by strengthening bail laws with Breach Bail, Go to Jail, which is to be debated this sitting week in parliament. We have been listening to Queenslanders right across the state, and the message is clear: they want us to keep going.

Alongside our strong laws, we are also investing in early intervention and rehabilitation because they must go hand in hand. In two years, we have delivered 73 new early intervention programs across Queensland. They are new programs delivering services that help stop young people committing crime in the first place. That means more at-risk young people turning their lives around and heading towards a brighter future and, ultimately, it means fewer youth going on to be serious repeat offenders and fewer victims of crime in this state.

Not only are we delivering programs to stop crime before it starts; we are also investing in intensive rehabilitation to break the cycle of crime and reduce the number of serious repeat offenders with our Staying on Track program. Now, youth offenders exiting detention receive 12 months of support post release. This is compared to the previous Labor government's approach, where youth were given a measly long weekend of support, which led to skyrocketing reoffending.

Alongside these programs, we are also delivering more support for victims of crime, who for the past decade under Labor were left as an afterthought. We are more united and focused than we have ever been on the issues that matter to Queenslanders. Contrast this to the Labor Party, who are in more chaos and crisis than they were before the election. We have a plan to restore safety to this state. Queenslanders know our plan and we are getting on with the job of delivering it.

Community Safety

Hon. DG PURDIE (Ninderry—LNP) (Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (10.01 am): The Crisafulli government is delivering the fresh start Queenslanders voted for: more police, stronger laws and fewer victims. When Queenslanders went to the election in 2024, they made it clear: they were tired of record-high victim numbers being the new norm, they were tired of the rights of offenders constantly being put before the rights of victims and they were tired of being told, 'There's nothing to see here,' by a government which refused to acknowledge a problem it had created. The Crisafulli government made a commitment to rebuild the front line and deliver the strong laws needed to turn the tide on Labor's crime crisis, and that is exactly what we are doing.

Since October 2024 we have bolstered the front line with more than 2,100 new police officers, increasing the net head count by 868 officers in two years. During Labor's entire decade of decline, they increased the net head count by only 795 police. We have added more police in two years than Labor delivered in their whole decade of decline.

We are also reversing Labor's soft-on-crime regime. Our nation-leading Making Queensland Safer Laws are restoring consequences for actions and putting the rights of victims first. Since Adult Crime, Adult Time became law, more than 7,100 youth offenders have been charged with over 34,000 offences. Every offender taken off the street is one less home broken into, one less person assaulted, one less car stolen and one less family who has to receive that life-changing news.

The Crisafulli government's approach is working, with the latest police data showing a 9.6 per cent drop in victims of crime in 2025-26 compared to 2023-24. Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics also demonstrates the impact our laws are having, showing that in 2025—the first full year of Adult Crime, Adult Time—there were 12,038 fewer victims of crime than the year before. Queensland was the only state that recorded a drop in every crime class. Just last month, the CEO of the Insurance Council of Australia, another independent body, stated that Queensland's Adult Crime, Adult Time laws were making a real difference. Even their Labor comrades in Victoria have seen the light and acknowledged our laws are working, and they have stolen our policy platform.

This week we will continue to build on the work we have already done with our Breach Bail, Go to Jail reforms. Bail is a privilege and not a right, and these reforms will ensure those who abuse that privilege face mandatory sentencing.

Labor created the youth crime crisis over their decade of decline with weak laws and fewer police. In two years, the Crisafulli government has started to turn that around. We have restored consequences for actions, we have reversed Labor's soft-on-crime approach and we are putting the rights of victims first, but there is more work to do. We will continue to back our police and deliver the tools, laws and resources they need to restore safety to Queensland.

Domestic and Family Violence; Child Safety System

Hon. AJ STOKER (Oodgeroo—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.04 am): I rise to speak on the Crisafulli government's record of delivery for victims of domestic and family violence to date and our efforts to improve the futures of vulnerable children in the child protection system. I honour the work of the former minister and wish her a swift recovery. It is an honour to be entrusted with this difficult but important work. It is my belief that our state's most vulnerable kids deserve everything we can do to give them safety and hope, and I look forward to continuing the work on top of the foundation that has been laid over the first two years of this government.

The legacy left by those opposite was one of a residential care system skyrocketing and set to peak at nearly 3,000 children. That was the Labor model, and we have delivered a fresh start and a blueprint for reform. We called and have responded to the landmark commission of inquiry into what was found to be a broken child safety system. Commissioner Anastassiou's damning report laid bare the scale of the crisis inherited by this government, revealing Queensland's residential care system had become one that was costing over a billion dollars and had exploded under Labor at enormous financial and, more importantly, enormous human cost. That is why we committed $200 million in the budget toward the implementation of the commission of inquiry's recommendations.

The commission of inquiry found that 80 per cent of foster carers would not have recommended the role to a friend. We are tackling the sources of that frustration, rebuilding trust with dedicated foster and kin carers and returning the focus to family-based care. We are acknowledging them with support payments of $1,500 for all foster and kinship carers to go toward extracurricular activities, in recognition of the way these foster kids need to access the sport and extracurricular activities that help make for a normal childhood. Work is also continuing to deliver Queensland's first SecureCare facility to protect young people who have become, very sadly, a danger to themselves and the community.

We have recruited more foster carers in two years than Labor did in their entire last term, in addition to launching our professional foster care pilot to bring specialised skills to those who have complex disabilities and needs. We have conducted the first-ever census into children missing from their placements, while Labor did not even have the heart to ask.

I know that this is only the start as we continue to outwork the commission of inquiry's recommendations, but after a decade of chaos and decline the Crisafulli government has a plan for some of the most vulnerable children in Queensland, and it is my honour and privilege to be part of doing that work.

We also make no apologies for being tough on crime in this government, putting victims of domestic and family violence first and holding perpetrators to account. Importantly, funding for domestic and family violence frontline services is up 45 per cent under the Crisafulli government as compared to the situation under the former government. Despite the scare campaigns they run, all of the facts lie in the figures.

The DVConnect call answer rate has been vastly improved under this government, now consistently reaching in the order of 80 per cent, in stark contrast to the situation under the previous government where, horrifyingly, only 41.9 per cent of calls were being answered. We have doubled the capacity of the statewide domestic and family violence response, with $9 million in funding for intake and assessment, and delivered $1.2 million for Beyond DV to deliver Hope Hubs for discreet and practical support for victims in their darkest moments.

More support will be provided for victims with an increase to counselling services, including through the co-responder model throughout our state's regions. Additional support through the collection, repair and distribution of free mobile phones to victims is being delivered through the budget, too, through $650,000 over three years under the DV Safe Phone initiative. This is all on top of the Crisafulli government saving nine neighbourhood centres after we were forced to intervene to secure their future after Labor failed to fund the projects, making them undeliverable.

The work that is set before me is complex, but, as I said on Saturday, I came to parliament to do hard things like this. The Crisafulli government has not only drawn a clear line in the sand when it comes to child safety but also stabilised the number of children in residential care. We will leave no stone unturned when it comes to combating domestic and family violence, and I look forward to working with the sectors to improve the lives of victim-survivors right across Queensland.

Electricity Prices

Hon. DC JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (10.09 am): For the first time in a long time, power prices in Queensland are coming down. After a decade of skyrocketing power prices under the former Labor government, Queenslanders are seeing real structural cost-of-living relief, thanks to the Crisafulli government's Energy Roadmap. Labor's neglect of our state owned energy assets led to higher prices for Queensland households and businesses. Unbelievably, those opposite would have been turning off generation capability at Stanwell and Callide right now.

Under those opposite, Queensland householders would have paid an additional $1,035 per year in system costs. Unlike those opposite, who drove up power prices, the Crisafulli government has delivered the largest DMO reduction in the country, meaning real savings for hardworking Queenslanders. In regional Queensland, we have directed Ergon to pass on price savings in full.

On Friday, I was pleased to visit a business in my hometown of Toowoomba, and ice cream store owner Gary Wilson showed us that his power bill has dropped by 13 per cent compared to this time a year ago—13 per cent. Gary said that it was the first time in a long time his power bill had gone down. Typically, regional Queenslanders are seeing price drops of seven per cent for households and eight per cent for small businesses, and that is real cost-of-living relief. For Gary, a lower power bill is not just another saving; it is money back in his pocket, breathing room in his budget and greater confidence to invest, grow and employ more Queenslanders.

The Energy Roadmap is putting downward pressure on power prices by improving the energy system we have while we build what we need for the future. There is much work to be done, but these results show that we have been delivering and have the state heading in the right direction after a decade of decline.

Resources Industries

Hon. DR LAST (Burdekin—LNP) (Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development) (10.11 am): Right now, thousands of resource industry investors and industry representatives from around the world are gathering in Sydney for the International Mining and Resources Conference—IMARC. What are the words on everyone's lips? They are: Queensland, critical minerals, Taroom Trough and coal. Queensland is a resources powerhouse, yet for a decade under those opposite doors were closed, roadblocks were put in place and the sector was largely ignored, with investment left languishing. Over the past two years the Crisafulli government has been delivering for the resources sector and opening doors, and investors are walking through those doors. We are backing exploration, unlocking investment and guaranteeing a future for the tens of thousands of Queenslanders who rely on the industry.

Last week I visited Omega's drilling operations in the Taroom Trough and saw Queensland's largest drilling rig in action and reviewed the latest drilling results. That is a good news story, with all indicators showing that we are staring down the barrel of a game-changing new oil and gas province. Omega's Canyon-4 well delivered its strongest appraisal result yet, and exploration is gathering momentum. That does not happen by accident.

The Crisafulli government has awarded new exploration acreage, progressed a coordinated development plan and worked to give industry the certainty to get on with the job. The results are: wells are being drilled, capital is being committed and regional communities are taking shape. Across the trough, explorers have committed more than $500 million to exploration and appraisal programs. Let me be clear: this would not have happened under those opposite.

We are also delivering for the critical minerals sector. Last week I opened the Queensland Resources Common User Facility in Townsville—a step towards processing more of Queensland's minerals here at home. This practical infrastructure will help companies test processing methods, demonstrate commercial potential and attract investment. It is about turning our mineral endowment into stronger supply chains, sovereign capability and skilled jobs in regional Queensland. It sits alongside our critical minerals strategy and our $146.1 million commitment to unlocking this sector's future.

Two years in and our focus is not simply on announcing opportunities; it is on building the conditions that allow industry to seize them and backing them all the way. Later today I will take that message to IMARC. I will tell the global investment community what Queensland is delivering. We are releasing exploration acreage. We are advancing processing capability. Drilling is underway. Queensland has a government that wants to work with industry. We are open for business.

Health System

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (10.14 am): The Crisafulli government is delivering for Queensland by building the hospitals and hiring the health workers we need after Labor's decade of decline. We have already hired more than 10,000 additional health workers since coming to office. We have delivered new beds and services: 70 new beds on the Gold Coast, 38 new cardiac and mental health beds in Rockhampton, 32 beds in Cairns and operationalised another 186 beds at Mater Springfield.

The system is under pressure. While these investments are making a difference, it is going to take a little while to reverse a decade of decline. The pressure on our hospitals and the QAS over the last few days has been described to me by Queensland Health officials and the Queensland Ambulance Service as 'unprecedented'. In August a record high of more than 211,000 patients presented to our EDs. That is the highest number of emergency department presentations on record—a five per cent increase, or almost 8½ thousand more people, than in the month of July. There were also more than 115,000 triple 0 calls, which is the highest number since records began.

The pressure continues. Yesterday alone there were approximately 5,000 calls to triple 0. This appears to be the highest number of triple 0 calls ever made in a single day. That demand is also being met with the unprecedented challenge of having more than 1,400 hospital beds taken up by stranded Australians waiting for a Commonwealth aged-care place or disability support. For example, in Metro South alone yesterday there were 259 stranded Australians at the PA Hospital. On almost every metric we are seeing unprecedented demand—the highest number of calls for an ambulance, the highest number of ED presentations and the most complex and acute presentations—all while we have the highest number of stranded patients.

The facts are simple: we inherited a health system in crisis. Labor failed to build the hospital beds or hire the health workers needed to meet the challenges of our growing state. The good news is that Queenslanders can, and do, continue to rely on Queensland Health and the QAS. The system remains under immense pressure. We are working overtime to address these challenges, including putting on additional staff and ensuring our hub is fully resourced. In conclusion, I pay tribute to the hardworking clinicians, nurses, midwives, paramedics and staff of QAS and Queensland Health who are going above and beyond in these challenging times to deliver the care Queenslanders need closer to home.

COMMITTEES

Membership

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (10.16 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

- the member for Oodgeroo be discharged from, and the member for Burleigh be appointed to, the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee; and
- the member for Thuringowa be discharged from, and the member for Scenic Rim be appointed to, the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Visitors to Public Gallery

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I am advised that we will be visited in the gallery today for question time by a visiting trade and investment delegation from India.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr SPEAKER: Question time today will conclude at 11.17 am.

Ambulance Service

Mr MILES (10.17 am)**:** My question is to the Minister for Health. Does the minister know how many Queenslanders have died waiting for an ambulance in the last 12 months?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. I have just outlined the incredible pressure that Queensland's health system is under at the moment. Quite frankly, one patient dying while waiting for an ambulance is one too many. Whether that is a patient who has called for an ambulance and is waiting for a call back or whether that is a patient for whom an ambulance has been dispatched, it is too many. That is why we are doing what I outlined in my ministerial statement to reduce the likelihood of that occurring.

When I look at the events of recent times, I can say that our paramedics do a fantastic job. To see this, one only has to look at the terrible and tragic events at Logan on Saturday night, referenced by the Premier in his ministerial statement. The QAS received a call at, I think, 8.11 pm and they were onsite within eight minutes. Ten ambulances and crews and emergency paramedics arrived on time, without waiting, to deliver those services and in challenging circumstances—not knowing whether the gunman had cleared, not knowing what they were going to face. They provided those services and transported those four terribly injured people to hospitals throughout Metro North and Metro South. Of course, our thoughts are with the young woman who is still under critical care in our system.

One patient passing away is one too many. In a system that is under the pressure we are seeing—with approximately 5,000 triple 0 calls yesterday alone—there are going to be challenges in the system. We are doing everything we can. We are investing in more paramedics. There were another 270 paramedics last year, more than 400—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. With respect, Mr Speaker, my point of order is on relevance. The question was around whether he knew the number.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The minister is being absolutely relevant to the question as asked. In relation to the Manager of Opposition Business's point of order, I submit to you, Mr Speaker, that the minister is being relevant and should continue.

Mr SPEAKER: The minister is providing context around the question asked. He has 55 seconds left to finish his response.

Mr NICHOLLS: Thank you, Mr Speaker. As I say, any patient who passes away waiting for an ambulance is one too many.

To give people some sense of the circumstances, in the one hour that we will spend in parliamentary question time: our frontline services will answer 149 triple 0 calls, will provide transport services to 131 patients and will provide 84 clinical consultations through the Clinical Hub; over 275 patients will arrive in the emergency department; 10 emergency surgeries will be performed; 593 people will be admitted to wards; 25 planned elective surgeries will occur; and five babies will be delivered. That is what Queensland Health and the Queensland Ambulance Service deliver every hour in this state, and they do a magnificent job doing it. Is one patient passing away too many? Absolutely. Is the matter in Annerley tragic? Yes, it is. We continue to work hard on it.

(Time expired)

Ambulance Service

Mr MILES: My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister advise why Nick Bradford's family found out from the media that he waited two hours for an ambulance on Thursday, 16 October, when the minister had known for four days?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. Firstly, as I always do in these circumstances, and as I have indicated to Mr Bradford's family both in direct correspondence with his family and when questioned by the media about the circumstances of his passing, I extend both my apologies and my condolences, and those of the Queensland Ambulance Service and those of Queensland Health, to his family.

It is always unacceptable that the family find out through the media. Our processes are designed to ensure that people do find out in relation to the passing of a loved one, and to the greatest extent possible the circumstances surrounding that passing, directly through the clinicians or through the Queensland Ambulance Service. That is the role of the QAS, Queensland Health clinicians and others to do that. They are trained to do it. They have the appropriate information to do it.

When I was informed in relation to Mr Bradford, neither QAS nor Queensland Health were aware of Mr Bradford's next of kin, and there was no information to me in respect of that. I asked them to do all they could, working with QPS, to identify next of kin. I was approached by media on Thursday in relation to it. I received an inquiry from the media, and I responded in the least possible way in terms of disclosure of confidential information, knowing that next of kin had not been notified. I responded to media. It was not initiated by me; nor did I seek to do so. I sought to go through the proper process. I have apologised, both in writing and publicly, to the family for the manner in which they found out the circumstances around it.

Subsequently, it has been brought to my attention that QPS notified Mr Bradford's next of kin, who was his father, but it was his brother who contacted me, so there had been some communication issues there that we are working our way through. Subsequently, Mr Bradford's family met with the QAS deputy commissioner last Thursday, together with the leader of the Clinical Hub. Subsequent to that, an internal review is being undertaken by the Queensland Ambulance Service. I have had discussions with the acting director-general of Queensland Health, and we are now commissioning an independent review of the service provided by the Queensland Ambulance Service by someone not within the Queensland Ambulance Service. We are currently identifying the appropriate reviewer, and I expect that will be someone from New South Wales.

Crisafulli LNP Government, Achievements

Miss DOOLAN: My question is to the Premier and Minister for Veterans. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering for Pumicestone and Queensland more broadly, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed from the decade of decline?

Mr CRISAFULLI: What a wonderful question from a wonderful MP. The answer to the member's question is: by doing what we said we were going to do. No project draws a greater contrast in the member's electorate than the Bribie Island Bridge. A number of people came to speak with me and the member, and indeed the cabinet, when we were there recently to say, 'I never thought it would happen because I have heard about it before the election so many times before.' That is what happened time and again. Every three years those opposite would roll out and make up some excuse as to why they had not done it and then they would not speak about it for the rest of the term. Yet there we were with the member showing progress on that bridge and delivering exactly what we said we were going to.

I reflect on the community cabinet and the way the member got a number of people from her community to come and listen. We spoke at length about the big four issues that Queenslanders want action on: youth crime, health, housing and cost of living. They remain the issues we are focused on. Every Queenslander knows that we will do everything possible to make sure that, after 10 years of one-way traffic, where it all went in the wrong direction under those opposite—not just because of the failed policies and not just because of the decisions that created those crises but because of their complete and utter denial. They all sit there. They are still there. To hear those same people who denied those problems for 10 years now seek to assert that they have found out about them tells us everything we need to know: those opposite have not changed.

We will continue to drive the change we need, as we are in youth crime. I know that the member is very passionate about this. I spoke before about the independent police data, as well as the Bureau of Statistics, showing a 9.6 per cent drop in victim numbers. In the Moreton district it is down 18.5 per cent. I know that those members who represent that mighty area want us to keep going—and keep going we will. That is why this week is such an important week.

Finally, the member asked about the behaviour of those opposite and said that time's up. I want to go back to the election of the member. In recent weeks we have heard about conduct during elections at the federal level, but I have never heard anyone attached to the Labor Party talk about the conduct during the election campaign of the member for Pumicestone: the bullying, harassment and intimidation—people putting on jumpers over the top of their Labor Party apparel and then going to attack the member. They tried to break her, but it made her stronger. They employed the same person who conducted herself in that manner, but it made the member stronger. Today she is here to remind them of their broken promises and of a government delivering for Queensland.

(Time expired)

Ambulance Service

Mr DICK: My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the health minister advise the number of ambulances ramped at the Princess Alexandra Hospital between 10 pm and 1 am on the evening of Saturday, 10 October 2026?

Mr NICHOLLS: We now enter the realm of puerile 'gotcha'. Do I know what debt is? Do I know what the price of a carton of milk is? It is the same sort of juvenile questioning—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I submit to you that the minister knows the rules and standing orders around debating the question. This is a perfect example of that.

Mr SPEAKER: Let me just say that there is a pattern emerging here of questions that would be better put on notice than asked in this chamber. If the minister is speaking to the question generally—

An honourable member interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: I beg your pardon, I am talking—then I would say that he is being relevant to the question. If you want an answer, I suggest that question would probably have been better put on notice. The question was about ambulance ramping. Minister, you have the call.

Mr NICHOLLS: Mr Speaker, far be it from me to dispute your ruling, but the question was about trying to get a 'gotcha' moment and nothing else. The member for Woodridge cares nothing about the delivery of those services, and we know that because—

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at the words used by the honourable minister and ask him to withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence and asks that you withdraw.

Mr NICHOLLS: I withdraw. Those opposite care nothing about ambulance ramping, otherwise they would have done something about it. They had a decade, and what happened? It got worse and worse and worse. It was the same with elective surgery. The waitlist went from 15,000 to 66,000 people by December 2024. Ambulance ramping went from 15 per cent to 45.5 per cent—the worst quarterly figures ever recorded—and they sat on their hands and watched it happen.

Then we had the failures of those opposite, and we highlighted those stories in opposition. We highlighted the story of Wayne Irving. We highlighted the story of Oliva Keating. We highlighted the story of Diane Couder. We highlighted all of those stories. We had the Mackay maternity crisis. We had the investigation into endoscopy at the Redlands. We had all of those crises occurring and for 10 years they did nothing.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. The question was very specific about a very specific point in time.

Mr SPEAKER: I take your point on relevance. I made a comment with regard to that question expecting a specific number. I believe that is a question that would have been better placed on notice. If the minister speaks about ambulance ramping, I will consider that he is being relevant to the question.

Mr NICHOLLS: On top of all of that, when we came to office and looked at the budget forecast for 2025-26, what did we find? We found 1,700 fewer employees. The member for Woodridge, the architect of Labor's financial demise and their budget, put money in the budget for 1,700 fewer people.

Mr DICK: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence at the words used by the honourable minister and ask him to withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence, Minister. The question was around health.

Mr NICHOLLS: I withdraw. Labor's last budget, presided over by many of those still on that side of the chamber, who all sat around that cabinet table, would have seen 1,700 fewer employees as opposed to the 10,000 extra we have put on over and above attrition, and we have reduced the attrition rate. It would not have seen the billion dollars we put into the Queensland Ambulance Service that will deliver 200, if memory serves me, new vehicles and has delivered nearly 400 more people this term. Under those opposite there would not even have been ambulances to get onto the ramp in the first place—they had no money for them—nor would they have had the stations we are building to do it—

(Time expired)

Workplace Safety

Mr CRANDON: My question is to the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations. Can the Deputy Premier update the House about the importance of safe and productive workplaces in Queensland, particularly during National Safe Work Month, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed from a decade of decline?

Mr BLEIJIE: We absolutely believe in safe workplaces during National Safe Work Month. That is why we are doing everything we can to stop the CFMEU's bullying, misogyny, sexual harassment, verbal harassment and physical harassment. That is why we are doing all of our reforms. The member talks about productive workplaces. From the first three questions we have had from the opposition today, I would say that they are not running a very productive worksite over on level 9.

We know that the opposition leader is under an enormous amount of pressure. His colleagues are leaking against him. The shadow cabinet is leaking against him. We know that time is up for the Leader of the Opposition. Do not ask me, Mr Speaker; ask his own colleagues, who are leaking against him and constantly say to the media—in the *Australian*, the *Courier-Mail* and all of the other places—that they want to get rid of him. My Labor sources tell me directly that they are over it and that they want him gone because he is not productive. The question then is: who is coming through the middle?

Mr O'Connor: No-one wants it.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the housing minister. This is a whistleblower. In order to look to leadership, one must reflect on their time in office and look to the future. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition was doing that on the plane on the way back from the LGAQ conference the other day when he was getting some advice from a book he was reading. A whistleblower has shown me the book he was reading, and with Amazon I had it delivered to my office last Friday. It has been quite interesting to read this book the Deputy Leader of the Opposition was reading. The book is titled *You Can Negotiate Anything: How to Get What You Want*.

Mr SPEAKER: Deputy Premier, there are a couple of things. We do not use props and I have not heard much about worksites as yet.

Mr BLEIJIE: I am talking about productive worksites and I said level 9 is not very productive. Mr Speaker, let me quote from page 40 of this book, which you can read. It states—

> You have plenty of power. Use it to sensibly implement objectives that are important to you. You owe it to yourself not to live by what someone thinks you ought to do. If you are aware of injustice to yourself or someone else, you have the power to act.

He has the power to act. This book goes further and talks about risky ventures. It gives warnings if you are going to embark on risky ventures. It states—

> If you are about to embark upon a monumental, risky venture, you do not stride up to your boss, family or associates and proclaim, 'This is a big one. It's my idea, my proposal.' No, that's crazy. Rather, you walk around your office or shop and remind everyone 'We're all in this together ...'

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition's self-help book goes on to further state—

> Persuade others to help. Get them involved in the plan and the decision-making and they will shoulder part of the burden. Remember, people support that which they helped create.

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition is embarking on his leadership plan and he is asking others for help. Member for McConnel, the one person he is not going to ask help from is you!

(Time expired)

Ambulance Service

Ms FENTIMAN: My question is to the Minister for Health. When the minister was briefed on the tragic death of Nick Bradford, was he advised of the number of ambulances ramped at the PA Hospital on Saturday, 10 October?

Mr NICHOLLS: I am sorry, Mr Speaker, I just missed the last part of that question.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Waterford, repeat the question, please.

Ms FENTIMAN: My question is to the Minister for Health. When the minister was briefed on the tragic death of Nick Bradford, was he advised of the number of ambulances ramped at the PA Hospital on Saturday, 10 October?

Mr NICHOLLS: There is a process that is gone through in relation to all of these matters. I think the most important aspect of this in respect to those tragic circumstances—I am very conscious, having corresponded recently with Mr Bradford's family, that they are most conscious of the publicity surrounding this—is to be careful about the information, because we have made a commitment to them to provide them with the information as soon as we are aware of it so that they are aware of the circumstances. I think that is only fair and reasonable.

The family are understandably most distressed in respect of it all. I totally understand that distress, and I do not wish to add to that without the clear facts being made available and the proper review being undertaken. That is why we have undertaken an internal critical incident review and that

is why we are asking for an external review. The matters pertaining to the circumstances surrounding that night will be part of that review. We have spoken to Mr Bradford's family in relation to discussing the outcome of that review and how that will be communicated to them. I do not propose breaking the commitment that was made by QAS and that I have made in correspondence to the family in relation to that.

This is obviously a deeply sad and troubling time for the family. They have already written to me on a number of occasions expressing their disquiet at the fact that I spoke to the media about it. We have responded and I understand it. I accept that it is the role and responsibility of the health minister to deal with those very challenging issues, but I do not intend to add to it. I do not intend to inflame that situation or make worse the very real hurt of that family.

We will deal with them compassionately. We will deal with them in a forthright and fulsome way. If there are things that can be done better or if there are things that the report reveals need to be done better, we will of course take them on board. I get the correspondence, I see the letters and I respond to them—as recently as this morning. I do not intend to add to that family's hurt and pain by ventilating these matters when we have made a commitment to do a proper investigation and report back to them in respect of that.

Community Safety

Mr BAROUNIS: My question is to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering a safer Queensland through projects like the Maryborough Courthouse, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed from the decade of decline?

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I thank the member for Maryborough, who is such a hardworking member and is supporting community safety in Maryborough and the Wide Bay region. The work he has done is incredible. He has fought for that designated business precinct. I met with Paula from the Maryborough Services Club just the other day and she spoke highly of the member for Maryborough and his advocacy to make sure that business precinct is now much safer. She actually said that the difference in the Maryborough CBD was all thanks to the member for Maryborough and his advocacy with the Crisafulli government to have that designated business precinct, so I thank him.

The other thing the member for Maryborough has been advocating for, obviously for a very long time, is to fix up the crumbling Maryborough Courthouse. I think it is roughly 148 years old, with peeling paint and crumbling walls. I feel for the poor DoJ staff who work in there. The former Labor government did not care about infrastructure. In stark contrast, the Crisafulli government is investing in our court infrastructure and making sure the DoJ staff and other staff who work in there have a great workplace. We know that it was crumbling, and the member for Maryborough has worked very hard to secure millions of dollars of funding to restore the Maryborough Courthouse.

When we are talking about 'time's up' for infrastructure and the crumbling Maryborough Courthouse, I do not think it is just the courthouse that is crumbling; I think the support for the Leader of the Opposition is also slowly crumbling away. The *Australian* has reported that the Leader of the Opposition's colleagues are saying that they are just sleepwalking to defeat. Many of his colleagues know that his time is up. The Leader of the Opposition's biggest announcement for the Labor conference this year was that the member for Gaven is going to recontest her seat. That was the announcement. How did the member for Gaven repay the Leader of the Opposition for making her the platform of the state Labor conference? Guess what the member for Gaven did last Wednesday of the sitting week? She toddled off to her seat to do High Steaks with Hayden Johnson of the *Courier-Mail,* making sure that she stabbed her leader in the back. Where do we think the leaks are coming from? We also know that the member for Gaven—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order in relation to your guidance to the House earlier. I think some of that language may not have been in accordance with the tone you have asked this House to set.

Mr SPEAKER: Attorney-General, I did make comments about the tone of the House. You have 10 seconds left to respond to the question.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Thank you. We do not know whether her steak was medium rare or well done, but we do know that the Leader of the Opposition is cooked. Time's up. Tick-tock, tick-tock.

Ambulance Service

Ms BOURNE: My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister confirm that the Queensland Ambulance Service job queue now regularly has 200 calls for assistance waiting?

Mr NICHOLLS: I have detailed at considerable length, in both my ministerial statement and a number of answers to questions, the incredible work that is being done by the Queensland Ambulance Service and the paramedics in order to deliver the services they do. Before I touch on other matters, I do need to correct the record. In an earlier answer, when I indicated the response time to the terrible events at Logan on Saturday, I may have misled the House. I think I said that the first call came at 8.11. In fact, that call came at 8.17 and was responded to at 8.28. The response time for those crews to get there was 11 minutes. I want to make sure the record is correct in case subsequently someone has a view that I was trying to deliberately mislead the House when obviously that is not the case.

The system is under pressure across the board, and no-one is under any misapprehension about that. I understand that more than most because I get the daily reports. As I reported to the House this morning, there were 5,000 calls made yesterday and those calls covered all categories: from code 1A, lights and sirens, immediate response, all the way through to category 5 for people who essentially need some care but do not need the most urgent type of care. There are calls in the community that take longer to answer—of course there are. We prioritise the sickest and the most urgent people first. That is the way the system works, and that is how it has always worked.

The issue around stranded Australians taking up medical beds that need to be used so we can clear our emergency departments has been unresolved. As this House knows, because I have spoken many times about it, there are 1,400 stranded Australians in Queensland hospitals who need care but do not need residential care. What would help immeasurably is if those opposite were able to join with the government—

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. The minister should just address the number on the job queue with the QAS.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The minister is being responsive to the question as asked. He is providing broad context in relation to those system issues which are important to the question as asked, so he is being relevant to the question as asked by the opposition.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, you began talking about numbers.

Mr NICHOLLS: Certainly, Mr Speaker. The question went to the number of incidents in the community, if I recall correctly.

Ms Fentiman: The number of people in the queue.

Mr NICHOLLS: The queue.

Mr SPEAKER: That is right.

Mr NICHOLLS: That is the number of incidents in the community.

Mr SPEAKER: I find the minister is being relevant.

Mr NICHOLLS: Despite everything, I have noticed a certain amount of frenetic activity as questions are being rewritten over there. There are people looking around and handing them over so they have had to—

An opposition member interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, you have nine seconds left.

Mr NICHOLLS: The number of incidents in the community continues to be a cause of concern for the Queensland Ambulance Service. We are putting every effort into making sure they are answered as promptly as possible.

(Time expired)

Victims of Crime

Mr VORSTER: My question is to the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services. How is the Crisafulli LNP government reforming the youth justice system to put victims ahead of offenders, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed after a decade of decline?

Mrs GERBER: What a fabulous question from a fabulous local member. It was a real honour to join the member for Burleigh and the Premier at a community breakfast that the member for Burleigh held on the southern Gold Coast to listen to victims of crime on Sunday. The member for Burleigh is a

fierce advocate for victims of crime and he gave them a voice on Sunday. Do honourable members know what they told us? They told us they want us to keep going. They told us they want stronger laws and they want the member for Burleigh to continue to bang down my door and to stand up for victims and Queenslanders in this House, and that is exactly what he is doing.

Contrast that with what we saw under a decade of decline of the previous Labor government. They weakened the Youth Justice Act, removed detention and made it a last resort, they closed the Childrens Court to victims and their families, they removed breach of bail as an offence and they created a generation of repeat youth offenders that saw victim numbers skyrocket by 193 per cent.

Mr Power interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Logan.

Mrs GERBER: Do honourable members know who made those decisions, who was responsible for that? It was the Leader of the Opposition, who sat around the cabinet table at that time and then became Premier—the Leader of the Opposition, who conceded the cupboard was bare when it came to youth crime policies. They speak out of both sides of their mouth when it comes to youth crime. They voted against Adult Crime, Adult Time. They have a policy platform that does not support mandatory sentencing. They have a policy platform to raise the age of criminal responsibility so 14-year-olds will not be held accountable for their crimes.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Deputy Premier, the minister has the call.

Mrs GERBER: The member for Murrumba says he is not going anywhere, and that is exactly the problem. His own front bench says he is not going anywhere. The papers and the leaks say he is not going anywhere. Time is completely up for him and yet he would not concede the election and he will not concede now.

We have seen Labor frontbenchers leaking to the media and this is what they are saying—

I have got no idea what our argument to be re-elected is, ...

We are just bouncing around and sleepwalking towards a defeat in 2028.

They are also saying—

A lot of us are having discussions about this—

I wonder if they got that book; I wonder if Mr Dick has passed that book on to them. It goes on—

A lot of us are having discussions about this, ...

It's reaching the point where we are asking 'do we want to go into 2027 and 2028 like this?'

That is the member for Murrumba's own front bench leaking to the media about the fact that they want him gone. Why do they want him gone? It is because of failed youth crime policies and a failure to listen to victims. He would not concede the election and he will not concede now. Time is well and truly up. Mate, you're cooked!

(Time expired)

Ambulance Service

Mr J KELLY: My question is to the health minister. Can the minister confirm the number of people who waited more than 12 hours for an ambulance to arrive over the weekend and into Monday?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for Greenslopes for his question. I know of his long and enduring interest in health matters. I think those on that side also know that and they often wish he was there doing a good job in place of the member for Miller in taking up that role. The member for Greenslopes has long been my pick to be the shadow health minister, I have to say. I know that might be the kiss of death to his prospects for the future but, nonetheless, he does have a long and enduring interest in health in all of those areas.

In fact, part of the problem of the last government, I suspect, is that the member for Greenslopes was ignored by those opposite and was never given the chance to use his skills as a nurse to advance the cause because for a decade nothing was done by those opposite to address the health crisis. In fact, the numbers only got worse. In the member for Greenslopes's area in relation to the PA Hospital, what was the worst ramping ever experienced at that hospital? It was 68.5 per cent. In August this year under the LNP it was 51.3 per cent. That is 68.5 per cent to 51.3 per cent.

Mr J Kelly interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Greenslopes, you have asked your question.

Mr NICHOLLS: I say 51.3 per cent is not a good number.

Mr Power: What is it now?

Mr NICHOLLS: That is why we want to keep working hard at it and that is why we continue to do so. I can point to Logan, for example, where the number hit 69.8 per cent—almost 70 per cent—and what was the member for Logan doing about it? Nothing; nothing at all! I can point to Ipswich, where the number reached 65.9 per cent under those opposite, and for the month of August under the LNP it was 34.5 per cent.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. The question was about this weekend and the number—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, on another point of order, you issued a statement to the House this morning and I refer you to paragraph 7 under the heading 'disrespecting the chair'. It very clearly outlines your expectation that when a member has the call no other member is to speak. The Deputy Premier constantly interjects when members have the call seeking to address you, Mr Speaker.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I have a couple of points of order. One is in relation to the fact that the minister is being responsive to the question as asked and is providing a comprehensive answer. In relation to the second point of order by the Manager of Opposition Business, I would submit to you that that is actually a reflection on the chair in relation to your management of the House with respect to how it is being conducted at this stage.

Mr SPEAKER: Yes. I will look after the running of the House, but I will say that the standard needs to lift; it needs to get better. It is not getting better. What I said this morning has not been listened to by anybody in this House.

Mr NICHOLLS: I have tried to deal with these questions in a very sensible, calm and responsible way in relation to the questions that have been asked regarding respect for our patients, most importantly, and, equally so, respect for the paramedics who are doing the work. I can report that, for example, during the month of August—numbers come in on a monthly basis. When the monthly numbers come through, as I have reported to you, I can provide more fulsome detail. Last weekend's numbers are still being compiled. That is why I say approximately 5,000 calls were made yesterday, because we are still waiting to check them all out. At least we are putting the numbers out there, unlike the member for Waterford who changed the reporting from monthly to quarterly reporting and added another metric that is actually not used by the Queensland Ambulance Service. We are being honest, we are being transparent and we are delivering that information.

(Time expired)

Police Resources

Mr WATTS: My question is to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering the laws and resources police need to do their job, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed during a decade of decline?

Mr PURDIE: I thank the member for the question. The member for Toowoomba North has always been a fierce advocate for not only victims in his electorate but also our local police, and I want to thank him for that. We all know that his community certainly was not immune to the dire consequences of those opposite with their overt soft-on-crime approach which led to an explosion of crime right across Queensland and even in the electorate of Toowoomba North and across Toowoomba.

We have a vastly different approach to those opposite. We are rebuilding the front line. I am happy to tell the member for Toowoomba North that, out of the 2,100 new police officers we have sworn in during the last two years, over 100 have gone to his area. They are coupled with tougher laws, whether it is the three tranches of Adult Crime, Adult Time, Daniel's Law, Jack's Law or our e-bike reforms. We have more police with the laws they need to drive down crime.

I am happy to announce that more recently we have seen a reduction in unlawful use of a motor vehicle, stolen cars, by 5.4 per cent and a reduction in break and enters of homes and businesses of over 15 per cent in the member's electorate. That is what you can do when you have more police and

tougher laws. It is not just about stopping crime; it is about solving crime. We know how important it is to hold offenders accountable for their actions and also to restore justice to victims as best we possibly can.

One way police hold people to account is by gathering the evidence and putting the evidence to the person who has erred and done the wrong thing in order to get a confession. That is why I was so happy—relieved, actually—last week when I saw that the Leader of the Opposition, the former premier of Queensland, finally, after the mounting evidence of years of denials and pointing the finger, made an admission to the media when he said, 'I'm the first to admit we could and should have done more in government,' when it comes to crime. That is the first step—a confession from the Leader of the Opposition, the former premier, after years of denials and pointing the finger.

There is a long list of witnesses, and I probably do not have time to go through them all. Some of my colleagues have. Whether it is frontbenchers, whether it is backbenchers or whether it is the Labor Party secretariat, they are all lining up to give statements against the Leader of the Opposition, because this week is a pivotal week in the Queensland parliament. It is a pivotal week for a generation of untouchables—serious repeat offenders. Time's up for a generation of untouchables—those serious repeat offenders—but time's up for someone else: the person who finally confessed to wrongdoing just last week before the media. It is time that he has a good hard look in the mirror and makes a decision, because we have witness testimony and we have a confession. He needs to stand up and apologise because time's up.

(Time expired)

Youth Justice

Mr BERKMAN: My question is to the Minister for Youth Justice. The government has defunded the Youth Advocacy Centre's bail support program, despite the department's own evaluation report finding its intensive bail initiative reduced the frequency and seriousness of offending. Does the decision to defund this effective bail support program have anything to do with Youth Advocacy Centre's vocal criticism of government policies?

Mrs GERBER: Firstly, I want to completely refute what the member for Maiwar has said. It is a completely flawed argument. It is a hard no. What the Crisafulli government has done is introduce a brand new program to reduce reoffending on bail called Risk Response Bail. There was an independent tender process with the department and an independent probity adviser. It was a very competitive tender and selection process. There were 13 organisations from across Queensland selected to deliver the Risk Response Bail program. The Youth Advocacy Centre was not successful in that. It delivered the former Labor government's failed bail programs. It delivered a program that saw youth offenders on bail reoffend 60 per cent of the time. When it comes to serious repeat offenders, it got even worse. Under that failed program, serious repeat offenders reoffended on bail 89 per cent. That is not a program that worked. That is why there are strict KPIs in our new Risk Response Bail program to prevent reoffending so that we end up fixing the crisis that Labor left us and turn that around, because those failed programs that Labor had for bail did not work, and Queenslanders know it did not work. They voted for change and we are delivering that change.

Our Risk Response Bail program provides intensive bail support for youths, and we are coupling that with our strong laws. Today is a very significant day in parliament with our strong laws being debated, and they will be passed. Coupled with that are these bail support programs to provide intensive support to youths on bail. Providers have to contact youths within 24 hours to provide that bail support. This is all about ensuring we deliver not just strong laws but also intensive rehabilitation and early intervention, and that is in stark contrast to what happened under the previous Labor government.

Under the previous Labor government we saw a complete failure to invest in effective early intervention and rehabilitation. In fact, its idea of rehabilitation was a long weekend for youth offenders released from detention. Some 72 hours was the only support it provided youth offenders when they were released from detention. Our Staying on Track program provides 12 months of support—an intensive six months and 12 months in total—so that we can turn those young lives around, and that is in stark contrast to the failed programs that Labor rolled out that saw 60 per cent of youths given bail go on to reoffend. That is why we are delivering our brand new program with an independent tender process, with the providers independently selected. No contracts were cut. That is a complete falsehood. We are doing this because we need to turn around the youth crime crisis that Labor left us.

(Time expired)

Road Infrastructure

Ms JAMES: My question is to the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. How is the Crisafulli LNP government delivering vital road infrastructure across Queensland, particularly in the Far North, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed from the decade of decline?

Mr MICKELBERG: I thank the member for Barron River for her question. How good is it having a hardworking member for Barron River here as part of the LNP government delivering for the people of the far north and delivering for all Queenslanders?

We are getting on with the job of doing what we said we would do: building the infrastructure that Queensland needs and Queensland deserves, wherever it is. On the Bruce Highway we fought for an 80-20 funding split. We got a commitment from the federal government and we are getting on with the job of delivering a $9 billion program of work right up and down the Bruce Highway. Just last week I was with the Premier and the member for Hinchinbrook announcing upgrades at the Gairloch floodway—a key area on the Bruce Highway that frequently isolates Cairns and the far north for resupply.

Ms Leahy interjected.

Mr MICKELBERG: I take the interjection from the member for Warrego and Minister for Local Government. It is not only a dangerous stretch of road but also a stretch of road that has been inundated far too many times. We are getting on with the job of fixing it and it will be the people of the far north who are the beneficiaries.

Our Country Roads Connect Program is providing upgrades at Ootann Road in the member for Cook's electorate and at China Camp Road in Wujal Wujal. There are 22 projects, 11 of which are underway and three of which have already been completed, making local roads more resilient and more able to not only connect freight to market but also ensure kids can get to school and communities are not isolated during wet weather events such as those we recently experienced.

A project close to the member for Barron River's heart is the Cairns Western Arterial Road. We are getting on with the job of fixing the Cairns Western Arterial Road. We know full well that that project has been stalled for far too long. Despite the comments from the member for Cairns, we have funded it, we are getting on with the job and work is underway right now. In fact, work is underway between Lake Placid Road and the Captain Cook Highway. I want to reflect on the member for Cairns' comments over recent times. In June last year he said that we had pulled money from the Cairns Western Arterial Road, and that is despite it being in QTRIP—and it is page 108 for the member for Cairns. On 13 February 2026 he said—

> While Brisbane and the south-east get rail lines, stadiums, motorways and athlete villages locked in and under construction, the Cairns Western Arterial Road is back to the drawing board.
>
> If this road was in Brisbane, it wouldn't be stuck in a business case, it would already be being built.

It begs the question: why was it back to the drawing board? Was it because in 2023 under the former Labor government the federal government said it had no confidence and made it go back to the drawing board? In contrast, we have done the work, we are getting on with the job and we are delivering better infrastructure for all Queenslanders. We are getting on with the job of building the road and rail infrastructure that Queenslanders need and Queenslanders deserve. I want to acknowledge in the gallery the young students from year 11 at Mountain Creek in my electorate. In our patch we are getting on with the job of delivering the Mooloolah River Interchange—something those opposite in Labor cut. Time's up for the Leader of the Opposition. He has run out of road and his colleagues have run out of patience. Queenslanders know that it is only a matter of time before the Leader of the Opposition is removed.

Ambulance Service

Ms HOWARD: My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister advise the number of preventable death investigations that are currently underway where ambulance delays were an attributable factor?

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for the question. Every preventable death—whether caused by an ambulance not being able to make it, whether there has been a clinical incident, whether there has been a misreporting—is investigated by Queensland Health, as members would expect. They all

get categorised, they all go into the RiskMan system and they get declared as a severity assessment code 1 or 2. They go through a very extensive system so that a full understanding can be undertaken. The member may not be aware, but I have been in this House for quite a while and I remember when the system was introduced by the Bligh government. It was introduced and the legislation was passed in order to ensure we could find out what went wrong and fix the system.

Unlike those opposite, we are not about fixing the blame on our hardworking clinical staff, our paramedics or all of the people who are doing the hard yards; we are about fixing the system—something those opposite failed to do for over 10 years. They had every opportunity. In the last two years under the member for Murrumba, they have done nothing more to improve it. There has not been one policy suggestion, not one idea and not one action. All there has been is a litany of excuses and apologies to this House for misleading Queenslanders, while the Crisafulli government actually gets on with the job.

It is not just me who is saying this. The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, which issued a report two weeks ago, found that the former government flatlined the number of hospital beds at 2.5 beds per 1,000 Queenslanders from 2018-19 to 2023-24. There was no change—it stayed at 2.5 beds per 1,000. And what happened during that time? The population kept going up. What do we know happened? We saw ambulance ramping go up. It reached a peak of 45.7 per cent under the member for Waterford, but they still did not take action. It has taken the Crisafulli government to invest in transit lounges, CT and MRI machines, 10,000 additional workers and seven-day discharge and to abolish Labor's patient tax.

We are getting on with the job of moving people through the system and ensuring access to health services is easier. We are putting more clinicians, nursing staff and paramedics on board. We are buying more ambulances and equipping them with newer and better equipment. That is the answer to it. It takes time to turn around a decade of decline, but I will tell you what does not take time: it is time for the member for Murrumba to go. Member for Murrumba, time is up for you.

Sport

Mr KEMPTON: My question is to the Minister for Sport and Racing and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. How is the Crisafulli government delivering on its commitment to grassroots sport across Queensland, and why is it important to call 'time's up' on approaches that failed from a decade of decline?

Mr MANDER: The Crisafulli government recognises that the games of 2032 provide an opportunity for us to create a great sporting legacy in Queensland. That is what is driving our Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program. The progress to date has been very exciting. In round 1 we had 119 new or upgraded projects, with 40 complete and the remaining 79 underway. For round 2 of the Games On! funding we have just announced that a further 72 projects will be delivered across the state.

The member knows how great this program is. I was in his electorate last weekend to make some exciting announcements. The Mareeba Gymnastics Club is a club that has been fighting for funding for years and years. They have put money in themselves. They have skin in the game. It was great to announce a $1.2 million project to upgrade that gymnasium. This will mean young kids in Mareeba—and they have some beauties there—do not have to travel to Cairns, and maybe not even to Brisbane, to actually become one of the sporting elite. This is incredibly important. Clubs right across Queensland from Cooktown to Coolangatta are benefiting from the Games On! program after a decade of decline under the former Labor government.

Speaking of that neglect, last weekend I had the pleasure of going to Marchant Park, which you may have driven past many times. It features 10 cricket ovals and is the home of the Warehouse Cricket Association of Queensland, where 400 teams and thousands of players compete. I spoke with its president, Warren Finegan, after we announced $1.2 million to upgrade the clubhouse and dressing room facilities, particularly for women. He said that they have not received a single cent since 1990, when Clem Jones built an equipment shed. It was great to go out there. The Australian blind cricket team was also there, and I wish them well on their trip to Sri Lanka. This is an example of the decades of neglect in the electorate of Aspley, and now we are delivering.

I am also asked about whether Queenslanders should call 'time's up' on alternative approaches. Given it is one week until Melbourne Cup, I might use one of the contenders that is racing next week to help me to answer the question. There is one horse that particularly caught my attention: a horse called

Defiantly. Apparently, the Leader of the Opposition is backing it. This symbolises his entire leadership strategy. No matter what is happening—the rumblings, the undermining, the leaking—he is defiantly not going anywhere. Member for Murrumba, I have a message for you: once you have passed the finish post you do not get another lap because you do not like the result. The race is over, opposition leader. Time is up.

(Time expired)

Health System, Clinical Incidents

Dr O'SHEA: My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister advise the number of significant incident reviews undertaken in the financial year 2025-26?

Dr ROWAN: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Again, there have been a number of matters you have raised in relation to questions asked by the opposition that should be put as questions on notice given the detailed information that is required. I submit to you that that question has a lot of detailed information which should have been submitted as a question on notice as opposed to a question without notice.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I draw your attention to standing order 115A that indicates that questions will be brief and relate to one issue. I submit to you on those grounds that this question is entirely in order. Further, if the minister is unwilling or unable to answer the question, it is his prerogative to take the question on notice.

Mr SPEAKER: One second and I will take advice. The question is not out of order. I did make the comment earlier that some questions would probably be better as questions on notice, but, as long as the minister remains relevant to the question, he has one minute to respond.

Mr NICHOLLS: I thank the member for South Brisbane for her question. If the member for Greenslopes does not manage to get up the list perhaps, as a doctor, the member for South Brisbane might be next up. I am not sure whether the new leader over there will have the same compassion as I do in relation to the member for Greenslopes—

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, I remind you to be relevant to the question. You have 34 seconds remaining.

Mr NICHOLLS: I was thanking the member for South Brisbane for her question. I have already identified that every incident that results in an unexpected outcome results in an incident review by the hospital, by the health service or by the Queensland Ambulance Service—including severity assessment code reviews, which are undertaken across the entire system, as you would expect.

Mr Power interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Logan, you are warned. You have had a fair go. The period for question time has expired.

MOTIONS

Business Program

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (11.17 am), by leave, without notice: in accordance with sessional order 3A, I move—

1. That the following business will be considered this sitting week within the times as specified:
   - (a) the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill:
     - (i) minister to be called on in reply by 8.30 pm on Thursday, 29 October 2026;
     - (ii) all stages to be completed by 9 pm on Thursday, 29 October 2026.
2. If all stages of the bill have not been completed by the specified times, Mr Speaker:
   - (a) shall call on a minister to table any explanatory notes, any statement of compatibility or any override declaration to their circulated amendments; and
   - (b) shall put all remaining questions necessary to either pass that stage or pass the bill or motion including clauses and schedules en bloc and any amendments to be moved by the minister in charge of the bill without further amendment or debate.

This business program motion provides a clear and orderly framework for the consideration of government business during this sitting week. The motion before the House today is a relatively straightforward one. It provides for a single specified timing in relation to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and

Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. Specifically, the motion provides that the minister be called on to reply by 8.30 pm on Thursday, 29 October with all remaining stages of the bill to be completed by 9 pm that evening.

This is the only specific legislative timing prescribed by the government business program motion for the sitting week. Again, as with all previous business program motions, it provides clarity and certainty to all members in relation to the progression of government business throughout the week. The business program motion serves as an important function with respect to the operation of this parliament. All business program motions provide a framework through which the House can manage its legislative responsibilities, particularly during sitting weeks when there are multiple matters requiring consideration of the House. Business program motions also provide certainty for members, parliamentary officers and all those involved in supporting the proceedings of this House. Importantly, they allow for the effective coordination of parliamentary business, recognising that this parliament must balance a range of competing demands on its time and given that this is the third-last sitting week for the year.

The government has a responsibility to bring forward legislation and progress its legislative program. Members of this House equally have important responsibilities to examine that legislation, particularly when it has gone before committees, contribute to debate and represent the views and interests of their constituents. This parliament collectively has a responsibility to ensure that its proceedings are conducted in a manner that is orderly, respectful and consistent with its established practices. Respectful debates and disagreements will occur across the chamber, but it is important that we all are mindful of our obligations with respect to codes of conduct and the established precedent and processes of the House. A well-managed parliamentary program is fundamental to achieving each of these objectives.

In relation to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, I do not intend to canvass the substantive provisions of that legislation during my contribution to this motion, but those matters are properly the subject of a second reading debate during which members will have the opportunity to address the merits and details of that bill. There is no doubt that it is a significant piece of legislation that will be considered, with members ready to make detailed and considered contributions—hence why the business program has been structured as it has. For the purpose of the motion before us today, the government is simply providing a clear timeline for the conclusion of its consideration by the House. This provides certainty regarding the intended progression of proceedings on Thursday evening and allows the House to plan its business accordingly.

I also wish to acknowledge that the government's proposed parliamentary program for this week has been developed with consideration of another important matter scheduled for Thursday; that is, the condolence motion for the late Vince Lester OAM, a former member of the Queensland parliament who served with distinction in this House between 1974 and 2004. During that time he held a number of positions, including as a minister in the former Bjelke-Petersen government. Condolence motions are an important part of the traditions of this parliament. They provide an opportunity for the House to formally acknowledge the life, service and contribution of former members and to extend our condolences to family and loved ones. The government remains committed to the effective and orderly management of parliamentary proceedings. As such, I commend this motion to the House, given it provides certainty for the week's proceedings.



Hon. MC de BRENNI (Springwood—ALP) (11.23 am): I rise to address the business program motion circulated by the Leader of the House and so moved. If anyone observing this parliament today thought it was a little ironic that the Leader of the House talked about this government's intention to bring order to this place then I am not surprised. What we have seen this morning, and what we see in this motion, is part of a broader pattern of avoiding accountability. The Leader of the House told us that this motion presented a clear timeline for passing this bill. What it actually is is a clear timeline for avoiding scrutiny of the detail of this bill. Once again it allows just 10 minutes. It is now the practice of those opposite to allow just 10 minutes. If we had an ambitious legislative agenda this week where there were a number of bills to be passed in one week, perhaps those opposite would have an argument. The entire week is dedicated to this piece of legislation, yet they think it justifies only 10 minutes.

Mr Crandon: How important is this bill to you? How important is this bill to the people of Queensland? That is the question.

Mr de BRENNI: I am not taking any interjections, Mr Deputy Speaker. We have seen today another motion around the business program that seeks to avoid scrutiny. I have said it in this House before: if the government has integrity, it should not fear scrutiny. If a minister is across the brief they

should not fear consideration in detail, where members on all sides of the House have the opportunity to scrutinise the minister, to put questions to the minister and hear them respond. We will not have that opportunity. Queenslanders will not have that opportunity. That has been taken away from them.

When this business program motion passes the House, the opportunity for Queenslanders to better understand some of the detail of the bill will be prevented—details such as how it might impact on those administering the system, which is important, and those issues that have been addressed in the material the committee has provided to the House. I will not go into the details of those, but they do warrant ventilation in this House. That is an important part of this democratic institution. Elected representatives—every single one of the members sitting here today, who are elected by their constituents, funded by taxpayers—has a duty to come into this House and examine in detail this legislation. This government, as it has done in every sitting week, eliminates that opportunity.

Queenslanders ought to know that the people they elect to come into this House and properly scrutinise this legislation will not be able to do that. That is not because of some constraint the House is saddled with. We are the masters of the timelines in this House. The Leader of the House has every opportunity to provide for adequate consideration in detail, to amend the sessional orders to provide for whatever time the House deems appropriate, but he chose not to. We see consistent undermining of the accountability functions of this place. We see it during the estimates process, we have seen it in question time today and we see it every single day with the abuse of standing orders and the presumptive right of ministers to make a statement—the consistent abuse of the institution of this parliament.

Mr STEVENS (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (11.28 am): I rise to support the motion of the Leader of the House on this very important business program to give everyone the opportunity to debate this historic legislation that is coming through the House. I will not go into the details of the bill, but it is the first time that a bill of this magnitude will be debated, I hope, by all members of the House.

When the Manager of Opposition Business rises to speak, it reminds me of that old adage, 'How do you spell hypocritical? A-L-P.'

Mr McDonald: Boom!

Mr STEVENS: That came from Jack Dempsey. When the Manager of Opposition Business was on this side of the House, the opposition members at that particular time had many motions rammed down their throat in terms of the business of this House. The Manager of Opposition Business complains that over the whole week he will not get the opportunity to discuss matters. All 33 members of the opposition will have the opportunity to put their views forward on this particularly important bill. It seems to me that is a very sad indictment of the opposition. They are the laziest and most well-resourced opposition—I think they have 23 staff members—yet, as we have seen in question time today, all they can come up with is the most ridiculous questions. It is quite sad that the Manager of Opposition Business cannot find, in a whole week of debate, enough wordage that is different and important to take advantage of the opportunity that this business program debate provides his members.

I note through media that the opposition said they will be supporting this bill at the end of the day. Without going into all of the details of the time spent discussing all of these matters, they have finally seen the light in terms of understanding why, for instance, three Labor members lost their seats in Townsville because they denied the matters contained in the business program motion before us this week. We now have three great members who are in this House because they listened to concerns raised about the matters that will be debated this week. The former member for Capalaba even said that the matters in the business program motion that we are discussing today were a media beat-up.

Mr de BRENNI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. It occurs to me that the member for Mermaid Beach is attempting to disguise his remarks—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Relevance?

Mr de BRENNI: No, anticipating debate on the bill itself. It is a valiant, but I think feeble, attempt to disguise that. I ask that he confine his comments to the standing orders.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Manager of Opposition Business. Member for Mermaid Beach, I have been listening carefully to your comments. I think you may have been beginning to stray into anticipation briefly. I ask you to come back to the motion. Also, I think maybe you could be more relevant to the procedural motion before us in your remaining time. That would benefit the House.

Mr STEVENS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I certainly take your advice on those matters because it is important that this business program motion does get debated fully and fairly.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Mermaid Beach, resume your seat, please, because the time for the debate has expired at 11.32 am.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

Suspension of Standing Orders

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (11.32 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

That standing orders 87 and 150 be suspended to allow the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 and any amendments circulated by the minister to be moved and considered.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

CRIMINAL CODE (NON-CONSENSUAL CREATION OF INTIMATE IMAGES AND AUDIO MATERIAL) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction

Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (11.33 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Criminal Code, the Disability Services Act 2006, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992, the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 and the Working With Children Check Act 2000 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026 [2139].

Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026, explanatory notes [2140].

Tabled paper: Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026, statement of compatibility with human rights [2141].

Today I rise to introduce the Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026. The target of every deepfake image is a real person—increasingly, a young person whose natural vulnerabilities and often tenuous grip on self-esteem and confidence collapse with the viral spread of hyperrealistic images, videos and audio that implicate them. The bogus content is overwhelmingly sexual in nature with certain AI tools complicit in the peddling of this filth. I am really pleased to see a group of school students in the chamber whilst I deliver this speech because this is important and it does affect each and every one of them.

I repeat: the bogus content is overwhelmingly sexual in nature with certain AI tools complicit in the peddling of this filth. Doctoring ordinary photos, videos or other media into deepfake sexually-explicit representations not only horrifies and humiliates the victims who have been depicted without their consent but also carries the potential to wreak psychological, emotional and even life-endangering harm. We know our schools and classrooms are at the front line of this emerging threat, where harmful content has been used to cyberbully students and teachers. Websites and open-source 'nudify' applications make it simple and free to generate deepfakes.

One study revealed explicit deepfakes increased online by a staggering 550 per cent between 2019 and 2023. Other data shows that, in 2025, at least one incident of deepfake image-based abuse occurred in an Australian school every week. In 2024, Australia's eSafety Commissioner identified that sexually-explicit material comprised about 98 per cent of deepfake material online and 99 per cent of the imagery was of women and girls. Evidently, technology enabled sexualised abuse is rooted in the same attitudes driving other gendered sexual violence—misogyny, objectification and the dehumanisation of women and girls—while recent research also points to the increasing online sexual victimisation of boys through the medium of AI. As I alluded to, victims of deepfake abuse can experience the same or similar harm as if genuine material were created or distributed without consent including fear, humiliation, reputational damage and entrenched emotional and psychological harm. That is why the Crisafulli government is holding to account perpetrators who continue to weaponise the

digital landscape to such damaging effect. Through this bill, we will criminalise the creation of non-consensual intimate images generated or altered using digital technology and include a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment.

The human legacy of this vile and insidious practice is carried every day by Emma Mason, who lost her 15-year-old daughter, Tilly, to suicide in 2022 after a torrent of cyber abuse, including a fake nude image. Today, Emma described our new laws as 'amazing'. She said—

> As each one of the states and territories starts to recognise the impact deepfakes have on children and adults and on the fabric of our society, it is so important to act.

I note that nothing we do or say here in this chamber today can bring Emma's daughter, Tilly, back, and I grieve with her for that loss.

The recent case of 56-year-old Antonio Rotondo demonstrates exactly why the law must target not only the distribution of intimate deepfakes but also their creation. Rotondo deliberately used publicly available photographs of real women and girls, including a 13-year-old child, and used technology to fabricate sexualised images of them, yet under Labor's laws he could not be punished for the act of creating these images—only their distribution. One of his victims told police she felt 'extremely violated' and that her trust in society was gone. Most disturbing is that when asked why he did it the offender told police it was 'funny' and described creating and sharing these images as a hobby. There is nothing funny about digitally stripping a child, student, teacher or member of the public and turning them into sexualised content without their consent. There is nothing harmless about conduct that leaves victims feeling violated, distressed, fearful and unwilling to participate in public life. The fact that someone can create these images for their amusement, entertainment or gratification highlights exactly why the law must intervene at the point of creation, not simply wait until the material is circulated. Rotondo told police that because the technology exists it must be acceptable to some people. Our laws must send the opposite message: the existence of the technology does not make the conduct acceptable. These reforms make clear that the law treats the creation of intimate deepfakes for what it is: a serious form of image-based abuse that attacks a person's dignity, privacy and safety.

A wide range of stakeholders participated in consultation to inform the bill, and I take the opportunity to thank them for their engagement and insights. We heard from stakeholders in the sexual and domestic violence victim support sector, some of whom told us that fabricated sexual imagery can be used to silence, control, punish, discredit or isolate victims. We also heard that perpetrators frame the non-consensual creation of this material as, quite simply, free speech, humour or experimentation. Let me be clear: the Crisafulli government's reforms prioritise victims' rights to privacy, dignity and autonomy over the abusive and exploitative agency of offenders. We will not allow their harmful behaviour to be normalised.

I turn now to the detail of the bill. The bill delivers reforms to the existing intimate material framework in the Criminal Code, modernising it by responding to the use of digital technology to create non-consensual sexualised depictions of other people. The bill also strengthens protections for victims and the broader community in relation to intimate material offending. For victims, the mere existence of sexually explicit deepfakes is distressing and a significant violation of their privacy and bodily autonomy. Once produced, there is a persistent risk the material may be viewed, shared or redistributed online and can be difficult to erase. That is why we must send the strongest of messages that its creation is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Current offences in the Criminal Code already capture the non-consensual distribution of intimate images and threats to distribute intimate images; however, there is a loophole in that these offences do not include the non-consensual creation of intimate material using digital technology. The bill amends the Criminal Code to introduce a new offence. New section 224 of the code will criminalise the creation of an intimate image or intimate audio material of another person without their consent. The insertion into the code of a new definition of 'intimate audio material' and the modernising of the definition of 'intimate image' ensure this new offence will apply to AI generated visual and audio content.

I will come to the new definitions in more detail. Consistent with other offences in chapter 22 of the Criminal Code, 'consent' will be defined to mean free and voluntary agreement by a person with the cognitive capacity to make the agreement. Further, a child under the age of 16 will not be able to give consent to the creation of intimate material. The bill provides that it is a defence for a defendant to prove that the material was reasonably created for genuine purposes, including legal, medical and educational purposes. Law enforcement officers and correctional officers will not be criminally responsible for the offence if the conduct was undertaken in the course of their duties and was reasonable in the circumstances. I reiterate: the offence will carry a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment.

I must also underscore that the new offence does not displace or limit the operation of other offences in the code that focus upon child exploitation material. Offences which specifically target child exploitation material, including the making, distributing and possessing of such material, will continue to be available to law enforcement. Instead, the bill closes a gap in the current legislative framework to criminalise harmful conduct involving the non-consensual creation of intimate material.

As I noted earlier, the bill inserts a new definition of 'intimate audio material' and modernises the definition of 'intimate image'. These definitions apply not only to the new offence that covers the non-consensual creation of intimate images or intimate audio material but also to other certain offences in chapter 22 of the code.

The bill retains key aspects of the existing 'intimate image' definition, which captures images or videos that show a person engaged in an intimate sexual activity or a person's private regions. The bill modernises the definition of 'intimate image' to clearly capture non-genuine images, for example, artificially generated images. The definition will require two circumstances to be met. First, an intimate image must be reasonably able to be mistaken for a genuine image. The bill does not define the word 'genuine', which retains its ordinary meaning and may also be understood as real or authentic. This part of the definition recognises that deepfakes may appear to be a real or genuine image. Second, the definition requires that the person depicted in the image is identifiable because either the image so closely resembles the person that it could reasonably be mistaken as an image of them or the image is presented as an image of the person and it would be reasonable for someone to believe it is an image of them.

This evolution of the definition of 'intimate image' focuses on non-genuine images or videos which identify a real person and where the image, or parts of the image, are sufficiently realistic that it would not be unreasonable to believe it is an image of the person. Changes to the definition of 'intimate image' in the bill also make it clear that an offender cannot evade criminal responsibility by using an image of a real person and falsely representing it as depicting another person. The amendment provides that where the image could reasonably be mistaken for the victim, it will fall within the definition. As defined in the bill, it will also be irrelevant whether an image includes any indication it has been altered or created using digital technology, for example, where an image is accompanied by a disclaimer identifying that AI was used. It is also irrelevant, for the purposes of the definition, if the image includes some stylised or obviously artificial elements, or if the image is obscured in part, if the victim is still depicted in a sexual way. This is intended to ensure a perpetrator cannot claim the image does not meet the definition just because the victim is depicted in an impossible setting or, for example, emojis are used to obscure parts of the image or a digital photo filter is used.

As I canvassed, the bill will also insert a definition of 'intimate audio material' to capture sexually explicit audio-only material. This new definition of intimate audio material means audio of a person engaged in an intimate sexual activity that is not ordinarily done in public. Consistent with the broader reforms, the definition includes altered or generated audio where it could reasonably be mistaken for genuine audio of a person and the person can be reasonably identified. Similar to the approach for intimate images, it is irrelevant that the audio does or does not conceal alteration or its creation using digital technology.

In line with these reforms, the bill also amends the existing offence within section 223 of the code, which applies to distributing intimate images, and section 229A of the code, which applies to threats to distribute intimate images or prohibited visual recording. Section 223 of the code will be amended by the bill to ensure it applies to distributing intimate audio material. The amendments to section 229A of the code will also ensure the offence applies to threats to create an intimate image or intimate audio material in addition to threats to distribute intimate audio material. The changes mean these offences will apply consistently to visual and audio-only material. The bill does not change the maximum penalty that exists for these offences, which, as I have stated, is three years imprisonment.

I turn now to the provisions of the bill which strengthen legal protections for victims. During consultation when drafting this bill, stakeholders consistently identified that having the ability to remove or take down intimate images or audio material is significant for victims. Currently, a court can make a rectification order requiring a person to take reasonable action to remove, retract, recover, delete or destroy an intimate image or prohibited visual recording; however, that order can only be made upon conviction. This means that harmful material can remain accessible online or be otherwise available for months—in some cases years—during the course of a criminal proceeding. The bill strengthens protections for victims by allowing the prosecution to seek a rectification order as soon as the person is charged with a relevant offence. The bill also allows these orders to be made if the prosecution for the

offence ends for any reason other than conviction. In other words, courts will be equipped to take appropriate action, alleviating ongoing harm and distress, even if the criminal prosecution is discontinued.

The bill has other amendments to strengthen and clarify the provisions relating to rectification orders, including providing that an order may be made if it would be desirable to do so having regard to important factors such as the preservation of evidence for any proceeding for an offence. To ensure an accused person has a fair trial, the bill provides that evidence a rectification order was made, or evidence relating to the person's compliance with the order, is inadmissible in any proceedings other than a proceeding regarding the person's failure to comply with the order. Acknowledging that proceedings relating to the offending material may occur concurrently with an application for a rectification order, the bill makes clear that rectification order proceedings are civil in nature and do not constitute criminal proceedings. Failure to comply with a rectification order without a reasonable excuse will carry a maximum penalty of two years imprisonment.

I deal now with amendments to the non-contact order provisions in the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992. Currently, section 43B of the act empowers a court to make a non-contact order prohibiting an adult offender from contacting the victim or being in certain places following a conviction for an indictable offence committed against the person. The bill puts beyond doubt that this power also applies to intimate material or prohibited recording offences.

To facilitate the investigation and prosecution of the newly created offence, the bill amends the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000. This amendment will extend existing powers relating to the inspection of digital devices so they apply to the new offence for the non-consensual creation of intimate images or intimate audio material. As well, the bill amends the Working with Children Check Act 2000 and the Disability Services Act 2006 to list the new offence of non-consensually creating an intimate image or intimate audio material as a serious offence for the purposes of worker screening under those acts.

The new offence will be a serious offence for the blue card system when committed in relation to a child and for disability worker screening when committed in relation to a child or vulnerable person. Therefore, people convicted of the new offence cannot engage in disabled related or child related employment or activities, other than in exceptional circumstances. This approach is consistent with comparable offences and prioritises the safety and wellbeing of Queensland's children, young people and disabled people.

The Crisafulli government is making Queensland safer in the wake of Labor's soft-on-crime decade of decline. The Criminal Code (Non-consensual Creation of Intimate Images and Audio Material) Amendment Bill 2026 brings in a new offence criminalising the non-consensual creation of intimate images or intimate audio material through digital technology. When someone can digitally undress a child or a woman, call it a hobby and then claim it is funny, the law should not be powerless until they hit send. The abuse begins with the creation of an image, and our laws must reflect that reality. We are closing a loophole that has allowed offenders to evade accountability and left victims and families to piece their lives back together.

Nobody should have to contend with the life-altering ramifications of publicly disseminated deepfake sex abuse. These sensitivities are all the more apparent and the stakes are even higher when children and teenagers are exposed to AI-generated content that is intended to harass, torment and cyberbully. This legislation is to protect every victim, every Queenslander, by criminalising such harmful conduct. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (11.57 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Referral to Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee.

BREACH BAIL, GO TO JAIL AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Resumed from 27 August (see p. 2682).

Second Reading

Hon. DK FRECKLINGTON (Nanango—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity) (11.58 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

It is a simple equation: with crime comes accountability, but the lesson is evidently lost on offenders who, having been granted the privilege of bail, choose to break the law again. The youth offending crisis fanned by Labor's soft-on-crime decade of decline has been led by repeat offenders. Many of them commit serious crimes while on bail—inflicting more violence and harm and redoubling the grief and loss felt by victims—let loose on the streets courtesy of the former government's ineffectual and inadequate youth justice laws. On changing the Youth Justice Act to make detention a last resort and remove breach of bail as a youth criminal offence, Labor's light-touch ideology rebounded with real-world repercussions.

Over the following decade, assaults shot up 198 per cent, the number of stolen cars rose 101 per cent and reoffending soared. From this hothouse of youth crime exploded a generation of hardened, serious repeat offenders who, 10 years after Labor's failures, are now adults. That is why the Crisafulli government has launched a comprehensive response, with the strongest bail laws in the nation.

The Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 introduces a new offence for committing serious offences while on bail, ensuring those offenders—whether youth or adult—will go to jail for a minimum mandatory period of one year, while, in a second layer of protection for Queenslanders, a new test will make it more difficult for them to get bail in the first place. To qualify, repeat offenders will need to meet a 'high degree of confidence' threshold that they will not commit another serious offence while on bail. The Crisafulli government is returning safety and confidence to our communities—just as we said would happen and just as Queenslanders elected us to do.

On 27 August 2026, the bill was introduced and referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee. I would like to thank the committee very much for their hard work, and I will turn to that again in a second. At this point I would really like to inform the House of that committee's key consideration. The committee received 266 written submissions and heard evidence in Brisbane, Rockhampton, Cairns, Mareeba and Townsville from victims, community organisations, stakeholders and Queenslanders impacted by crime across the state. Victims, advocates and community members expressed their fear, frustration and harm done by serious reoffending and were resolute that strong action was needed to protect victims, prevent further harm and, importantly, maintain public confidence in our justice system.

Mr Deputy Speaker Kempton, in Mareeba in your electorate the committee heard directly from Mayor Angela Toppin. She said her community were—

... absolutely fed up with the revolving door situation. Our police officers here work very hard …They get them to court and off they go and [they're] back doing exactly what they were doing, with no deterrent. There has to be stiff consequences, particularly when it gets to this level.

In Townsville, Mayor Nick Dametto told the committee that his community 'has had enough and should not continually be expected to live with the risk of repeat offenders'. The Victims' Commissioner said, 'Put simply, victims want offenders held accountable for their actions and deterred from causing more harm.'

After traversing the state and hearing from everyday Queenslanders, the committee made only one recommendation in relation to the bill: that it be passed. I thank the committee for its detailed consideration in supporting the bill's passage. I want to thank the chair, the member for Nicklin, for his hard work and thank the other committee members. I thank the assistant minister, the member for Thuringowa, and the member for Capalaba. Importantly, he is one of the reasons we are here today. There will be more said about the member for Capalaba, but, importantly, I also want to thank his family. I know that all of these members are very strong advocates for their local communities. I also want to thank the members for Macalister, Toohey and Maiwar. However, most importantly, I want to extend that gratitude to every Queenslander who made a submission and, in particular, to the victims, the victims organisations and the advocates who shared their lived experience of the destructive effects of crime.

Let's be clear: while Labor say they support this bill, the legislation is required because of their failures in government. From under Labor's watch emerged a generation of untouchables—serious repeat offenders who knew the consequences of offending were either limited or non-existent. Time and time again, Labor put ideology and offenders ahead of community safety and put the rights of offenders ahead of the rights of victims. Queenslanders are still living each and every day with the fallout of Labor's failures, but the Crisafulli government is determined to change that by restoring personal responsibility, strengthening accountability and returning community safety to the heart of the justice system.

We know that the opposition leader has failed to commit to keeping our Adult Crime, Adult Time laws if Labor return to government. While Labor have indicated they will support the bill, the devil is always in the detail. You need simply to appraise their comments on bail to understand their true position on law and order. In July 2019, the member for Bulimba said that 'wherever possible and safe to do so, we want young people out of detention, especially when they have not yet been convicted of an offence'. In 2022, the member for Waterford said in this House that the LNP's Youth Justice Strategy was 'to bring back this failed breach of bail. It is a joke.' Then in June and December 2022, the member for Morayfield said that breach of bail would not work and claimed it was a failed policy.

The fact is that Labor cannot be trusted. We had that for a decade and their plan did not work. Labor showed time and time again that they were soft on crime over their decade of decline. Queenslanders cannot be confident that the protections of this bill will remain in place under a future Labor government. Quite simply, should they ever return to power they are likely to wind back or weaken these laws.

I will now turn to the details of the bill. To ensure adult and youth offenders who breach bail go to jail, the bill introduces a new offence for committing particular offences while on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear. This new offence applies to youths who commit a significant offence which is an Adult Crime, Adult Time offence while on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear. There are 47 Adult Crime, Adult Time offences including grievous bodily harm, robbery, torture, dangerous operation of a vehicle, burglary, rape and unlawful use of a motor vehicle. For adults, the new offence will apply to those who commit a prescribed offence—which are the same offences as for youths—as well as coercive control and additional child sex offences, including repeated sexual conduct with a child. The new offence will have a mandatory minimum custodial penalty of one year, and it must be served wholly in custody.

In order that youth offenders are sentenced to the mandatory minimum penalty, the bill captures the new offence within the Adult Crime, Adult Time sentencing framework by amending section 175A of the Youth Justice Act. The bill also removes the ability for courts to divert a youth offender to restorative justice for this offence. For every grant of bail, police officers and the court will be required to warn defendants about this new offence and the mandatory minimum penalty, thus putting defendants on notice about the consequences of reoffending whilst on bail. As we keep saying, bail is a privilege; it is not a right.

I really do want to acknowledge some stakeholders who made submissions to the committee and appeared at the public hearings who raised concerns about mandatory sentencing and reduced judicial discretion. However, many submissions supported the new offence and stronger consequences for serious offending on bail. Ultimately, the Crisafulli government makes no apology for doing what we can to protect victims and, importantly, to restore confidence in our justice system.

The bill also strengths the bail framework for repeat offenders by reversing the presumption in favour of bail and establishing a new test for accused persons charged with serious offences while on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear. In order to be granted bail, these accused persons must first show cause why their detention is not justified. They must then satisfy the police or the court to a high degree of confidence that they will not commit another serious offence while on bail. The onus for meeting both tests is on the accused person. The new 'high degree of confidence' test is focused on the defendant's risk of offending and will provide an additional and more stringent requirement to satisfy before defendants with a propensity to offend on bail are granted bail.

The bill makes targeted changes to the operation of the youth justice system. It amends the Youth Justice Act to remove mandatory requirements for police officers to consider diversionary options for youth offenders. This means police will now have the option—but not be required—to consider diversionary options. The removal of these requirements simplifies the operation of diversion provisions. It provides greater certainty to our hardworking frontline officers to commence proceedings against a youth offender where it is the most appropriate response, enabling them to get on with their jobs.

As the committee acknowledged, some stakeholders questioned removing the mandatory requirement to consider diversionary options for more serious offences. However, I reiterate that these amendments do not mean that police cannot proceed with a diversionary option where that is most appropriate. Under section 11 of the Youth Justice Act, police will still be able to, where appropriate: take no action; administer a caution to the youth; refer the offence to the chief executive for a restorative justice process; where it is a minor drug offence, offer the youth a warning or opportunity to participate in a drug diversion program; or, where it is a graffiti offence, offer the youth an opportunity to attend a graffiti removal program.

Frontline officers will also be able to commence proceedings against a youth offender if this is the most appropriate option. To arrive at their decision police can have regard to the circumstances of the offending and the youth's criminal history. Similarly, in response to contraventions of bail police will retain a discretion to consider alternatives to arrest where appropriate.

The bill also extends existing human rights overrides and an exemption in the Youth Justice Act and the human rights override in the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act relating to the management of youth detainees in watch houses and youth detention centres. The overrides and exemption in the Youth Justice Act clarify the administrative arrangements for holding youths in police watch houses until a bed becomes available in a youth detention centre. They allow decisions relating to the custody of youths in police watch houses and youth detention centres to be made in accordance with the security and management of detention centres and the safe custody and wellbeing of youths in our detention centres.

These provisions were due to expire on 31 December 2026. The bill extends the operation of this framework for five years and introduces a new exemption in the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act to ensure police can make operational decisions relating to the safe detention of adults and youths in watch houses. The exemptions only apply to acts and decisions reasonably necessary for the administration of either the Youth Justice Act or the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act that relate to persons in custody. They do not remove other statutory obligations, operational policies, oversight mechanisms or legal protections that continue to apply to the management and treatment of detainees.

As well, the bill makes minor amendments to the Young Offenders (Interstate Transfer Act) 1987 to ensure youth offenders sentenced under Adult Crime, Adult Time laws can be transferred to, from and through Queensland under the act.

I take this opportunity as well to foreshadow that I intend to move technical and consequential amendments during consideration in detail. Specifically, the amendments clarify that: for committal proceedings, evidence that a defendant is charged with a prescribed offence or significant serious offence is sufficient evidence of the requirement in the breach-of-bail offence for a conviction of a relevant offence so that the defendant can be committed for trial on the associated breach-of-bail offence; outside committal proceedings, a defendant cannot be required to enter a plea to a breach-of-bail offence until they have been convicted of the underlying prescribed offence or significant serious offence; and when provisions in the Expanding Adult Crime, Adult Time and Taking a Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2026 commence they reflect the bill's policy change that police are no longer required to consider diversion before charging a child but may do so at their discretion. I note that those amendments have been circulated.

Queenslanders have a right to feel safe in their homes, their workplaces and their neighbourhoods. Victims should be prioritised, not sidelined as they were under Labor's soft-on-crime decade of decline. Labor put the rights of perpetrators ahead of the rights of victims, but the Crisafulli government will not. We are standing by victims with clear consequences for offenders who breach bail by committing an additional serious crime with the strongest bail laws in the country, delivering a forceful deterrent and just retribution for offenders who continue to commit serious offences whilst on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear.

The new laws will send serious repeat offenders while on bail to detention or jail for at least a year, they impose a higher threshold for granting bail to youths and adults who commit a serious offence whilst on bail and they remove the mandatory requirement to consider diversionary options for youth offenders. With this bill the Crisafulli government is continuing to work to keep Queenslanders safe by strengthening protections in our communities, supporting victims, preventing others from becoming victims and ensuring repeat offenders are held accountable for their actions. I commend the bill to the House.

Hon. DE FARMER (Bulimba—ALP) (12.16 pm): I rise to speak on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026—this LNP's government's ninth attempt to make their youth crime slogans work. As the Leader of the Opposition has already made clear prior to this week, Labor

will be supporting the bill. Like all Queenslanders, we want to see less crime and fewer victims. Almost two years ago we did not stand in the way of the LNP's first slogan and, like all Queenslanders, we are disappointed they have not delivered what was promised. Queenslanders still do not feel safe. The very fact that we are back here talking about crime and another slogan is an admission that their first slogan has failed.

Every Queenslander deserves not only to be safe but also to feel safe, and for those who offend whilst on bail there should be consequences. As the Victims' Commissioner said in her submission to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee—

Victims have expressed firsthand their profound frustration and distress when an offender is charged and then released on bail only to return to cause them or someone else in their community more harm.

I think these sentiments are reflective of broader community opinion. They underpin Labor's support of the breach-of-bail laws. However, in supporting this bill the Labor opposition wishes to unequivocally state the case of the victims in this scenario who are not being counted and whom the LNP government refuses to even acknowledge because to do so would be an admission they have failed to plan for the impact of the new laws. Those victims are the workers in our watch houses, in our prisons and in our youth detention centres; they are our police, our corrections officers and our youth detention centre workers. When we say that we believe all Queenslanders should be safe from crime, we mean them as well. They are the ones who will be bearing the brunt of the overcrowding that will occur in our facilities as a result of these new laws and they need to be kept safe as well.

I said when these laws were announced that they would break the system without proper planning. Stakeholder after stakeholder raised their concerns through their submissions to the committee: about the likely increase in demand on our already stretched facilities and on our workers; about the demand on our court system; about the need for modelling; and about the safety issues. The director-general of Youth Justice told staff in a leaked email, 'I recognise reforms of this scale are likely to have implications across the youth justice and broader justice systems.'

Even knowing that, the government either have not done the necessary planning or, if they have, are refusing to release it. If they have failed to plan then our police, our detention workers and our prison officers will become victims of assault at a greater rate than they already are due to overcrowding and unsafe conditions. We have said that we will not stand in the way of these laws but we want a safe workforce. We want an ironclad guarantee that workers will not be put at risk. With an anticipated influx of over 6,000 new detainees—with possibly almost 900 of them in our youth detention centres—we need this work done urgently.

Do you know what else we want and what Queenslanders want? We want to see early intervention and prevention delivered in the community and in custody. Submitter after submitter referenced this with the committee. The LNP chair of the committee and the LNP committee members were all talking about it, too: about how important it is that crime is prevented before it occurs so that young people do not enter the system in the first place, and that if they are in the system we do not see them back again—so we see fewer victims.

We are not talking about the LNP's version of early intervention and prevention where midway through their term it looks like they have spent less than half the budget they boasted about for their so-called rolled-gold early intervention. Despite all the hype, some programs are not even anywhere near starting. When do we actually see anyone at these youth justice and crime prevention schools, for instance? Out of the whole six of those proposed new schools, one crime prevention school is taking one new year level, but as for the rest of them—and they claim they will all be operating by 2027—some of them are just blocks of dirt right now. How much hype does this government think it can spin without people saying, 'Seriously. Do you seriously expect us to believe this?'

Elsewhere in their so-called rolled-gold early intervention program, we see providers who have been sacked, especially if they speak out against the government, or we see providers who are in disgrace. We have heard whispers that the results are starting to come in now on some of their key programs and apparently they are not good at all and not at all what was promised, and I hear there is a bit of panic about that. It is a train wreck and I reckon the Minister for Youth Justice might be starting to get a bit stressed about it. I reckon the minister might have the Premier looking over her shoulder and telling her what he thinks should be happening.

Do you know what else we want for Queenslanders, Deputy Speaker? We want this LNP government to support our proposal for an independent community safety statistics bureau to ensure we take the politics out of policing so that Queenslanders can have faith in this government's crime response—no more fudging, no more counting some offences and not others, no more comparing

apples with oranges. We already know Queenslanders think the LNP cherrypicks statistics. The independent body we are proposing would be one that can be trusted with data. It would show Queenslanders the respect of being truthful on an issue that is incredibly important to them.

I would now like to take some time to talk through the detail on several issues I have raised that were recurring themes throughout the committee inquiry. We acknowledge that by the time of the last election Queenslanders had lost faith with Labor on youth crime. Premier Crisafulli made some big promises to them about fixing it—some very big promises. There was a catchy slogan to go with it all: Adult Crime, Adult Time. They did not just say vague things like they would tackle youth crime or address youth crime; no, crime in fact was going to go down to zero. That is what Queenslanders wanted to hear. They wanted those promises to be true, and they voted for the LNP to make that happen.

Despite their significant investment in spin and self-promotion—no toilet door is safe—and despite what is now their ninth raft of legislation/slogans, the LNP has not fixed youth crime. In fact, in the last year we have seen that the number of offences committed in Queensland is up by 5.86 per cent, and it remains a huge concern to Queenslanders. What has happened with the eight laws they have already put in place? On some occasions with their new legislation they had to actually come back and include some new offences they had forgotten to put in previously. One of the bills changed literally one word for a whole act of parliament. It was starting to get a bit embarrassing.

They kept on bringing in new laws and more new ones and people were realising that words that rhyme actually do not solve crime and that slogans are not the same as substance. The government had started changing their pronouncements: from the police minister's, 'You'll see a difference by the end of this week,' which was the week they passed their first ACAT laws, which was nearly two years ago; to the general 'It will be zero by Christmas,' which was Christmas 2024; to 'Well, maybe we're getting a bit hasty here but we're seeing green shoots'; to 'Yes, we were being a bit hasty so we need more time'; to now 'Everything is Labor's fault.'

In the meantime, so far this year compared to last year we are seeing offences go up across the state: robbery offences up 12.6 per cent in the Gold Coast district; unlawful entry offences up 12.7 per cent in Wide Bay; motor vehicle thefts up 14 per cent in Logan; and sexual offences up 18 per cent in North Brisbane. We are hearing it on the ground. Every single one of us is hearing it from our constituents, and we are seeing it on our community pages and reported in our daily news and social media. This week we saw the Demos poll which shows that 39 per cent of Queenslanders say they feel less safe in their community than they did two years ago. What an indictment. What an embarrassment.

For those LNP members where crime is especially horrific—like in North Queensland and Far North Queensland, with seven per cent more stolen cars in Townsville so far this year compared to the same time last year, and total offences up 5.4 per cent in Cairns and the Far North—they are hearing their constituents say, 'We thought you were supposed to have fixed this,' and they are worried about their seats. Members heard it through the committee inquiry. Cairns restaurant owner Sarah Hinchcliffe, for instance, spoke about the repeated targeting of their business. She said—

> In the last nine months we have been targeted on three occasions by youth offenders, some of them out on bail. We have come to work to do our job as part of the community—we have a restaurant—and doors are smashed in and stock is stolen. It is the same old story—three times in the last nine months.

They can fudge figures all they want, but they cannot tell Queenslanders that what they are feeling and experiencing is not true because they have the figures to prove it. This issue is so core to the everyday concerns of Queenslanders. If you are a victim, if you have lost a loved one, if you have had someone crawl through the window of your child's bedroom to ransack your house or if you have experienced any crime whatsoever, you do not appreciate a government telling you that crime is getting better and that your experience is not valid, particularly if you later find out that they fudged the figures they are trying to calm you down with. People start getting cranky.

We know from a leaked QPS community sentiment survey earlier this year that Queenslanders do think the LNP fudges figures. The summary of the analysis of that survey identified, for instance, a 'widespread distrust of statistics'. In fact, in the last 12 months the Crisafulli LNP government has been caught out at least three times trying to fix the figures: thousands of car theft and break-in victims vanished overnight, resulting in an apology from the Premier after he boasted about it on prime-time TV; domestic and family violence victims are no longer being recorded, in a quiet change to the way police record offences; and the police minister used insurance data to claim car theft was down when in fact it was up. Voice for Victims Foundation summed it up so well when they said in their submission—

> For victims, however, success is not measured simply by stronger penalties or increased imprisonment. It is measured by whether reforms reduce repeat offending, prevent further victimisation and make Queensland communities safer.

It is why we have called for the independent community safety statistics bureau—because Queenslanders deserve the truth. Victims deserve the truth.

I want to spend a bit more time talking about worker safety and why we want an ironclad guarantee, a workers safety guarantee, for our police, our corrections officers and our youth detention workers. Well before this bill was introduced we were aware of the pressure in our watch houses. Earlier this year the Queensland Police Union started their own watch house data tracker. Since 4 March, the QPU report that 31 different watch houses have recorded a critical workplace health and safety failure—meaning they were over 100 per cent capacity—on 232 separate days. In their submission to the committee—even though the QPU is showing support for the bill—they were clear about police watch houses already being used to hold adults and children for extended periods because prisons and youth detention centres cannot accept transfers quickly enough.

In the Inspector of Detention Services report for 2025-26, released this week, we see that the inspector believed regarding young people in watch houses that there is an ongoing system capacity issue causing lengthy detention and there are signs it is getting worse. We knew police were regularly being asked to bypass certain watch houses because there was just no capacity, that prisoners were being transferred by car and plane between watch houses to find ones that had at least some room to accept them. We have heard from police across the state saying they literally do not know where they are going to put these people who come into the system as a result of the new laws. They just do not know.

I did hear that senior police are being told by the government not to worry so much because there are not going to be all the extra people in the system everyone is talking about because once they know about the new breach-of-bail laws they just will not be committing the offences in the first place, so it is quite simple. I do not know if that is true but I did hear that story.

The QPU is concerned about the impacts of the bill and they have called for more prisoner transport capability, interim watch house staffing, additional remand facilities and a published custodial capacity strategy, and the Labor opposition agrees. We would also like to know how the LNP government will prevent this bill from pulling officers away from community policing and putting those who remain in the watch house at greater risk.

Well before this bill was introduced we were also aware of the extreme demands on the workers in our prisons and youth detention centres because of staff shortages and capacity issues. Although the youth justice minister dismissed it as some kind of posturing around the EB, we saw members of the AWU take protective action because they literally did not feel safe. AWU members have described being punched in the head, bitten until they bled and having urine thrown at them. They described assaults, threats and intimidation in youth detention centres and having to put up with 'constant trauma'. During a youth detention centre strike in Brisbane AWU Assistant Secretary Mark Raguse said—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kempton): Member, you are straying from the bill. Please come back to the bill, thank you.

Ms FARMER: Yes, I am just referring to the demand that submitters have talked about.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not want you to argue. I just want you to come back to the bill before the House please.

Ms FARMER: So reinforcing the submissions to the committee inquiry, we saw members of the Together union—corrections officers—fearing for their safety because of unsafe workplaces. Again in their submission, a Together union member pleaded, 'Please don't forget we have families that do care whether or not we go home at the end of the shift.'

Katherine Hayes from Youth Advocacy Centre, the organisation that was 'LNP-ed' last week, talked in her submission to the committee about the impact of staff shortages, which are already endemic. She tabled an RTI report on departmental separation data for May 2026 that showed there were over 8,000 separate occasions of children being placed in isolation and that more than one-third of those were due to staff shortages. It is well understood that when young people are held in separation for long periods there is more likely to be unrest and more likely to be assaults and violence. The youth justice minister can tell us as often as she likes what a great job they are doing of recruiting in youth detention centres—the best ever, she keeps telling us; however, citing data provided by the department, the AWU reported that 60 per cent of new recruits did not complete their first year of employment and that at two of the four youth detention centres operational vacancy rates were respectively at 34.47 per cent and 43.85 per cent at the end of March 2026. In fact, the *Inspector of Detention Services: annual operational report 2025-26*, that was released this week, showed that, while Youth Justice claimed it had fully implemented the recommendations to fix staffing, the inspector rejected that because young

people are still being locked down due to staff shortages. In fact, the inspector says that only a third of the recommendations made to the department by the inspector have been fully implemented. In relation to the one new detention centre on the horizon at Woodford—planned for and funded by Labor—I hear the recruiting is going incredibly badly.

In our prisons Queensland Corrective Services described continuing prison capacity pressure as the most significant environmental factor affecting its operations in 2025-26. The QCS annual report recorded utilisation of built cell capacity at 136.1 per cent against a target range of 90 to 95 per cent. In July 2026, before the bill was introduced, the Queensland Audit Office Rehabilitating and Reintegrating Prisoners audit reported that prisoner numbers were already forecast to grow by approximately 14 to 46 per cent by June 2035, and that was without breach of bail. Analysis of public QCS data reveals that 2025 saw a five-year high for workers being attacked in our jails, painting a grim picture of what is to come as capacity pressures peak.

Well before this bill was introduced we already knew we were looking at systems under pressure and workers were already at extreme risk. However, through the committee process stakeholder after stakeholder talked about the demand these new laws would place on our system and the critical need for modelling and planning if our facilities are not going to burst at the seams.

Voice for Victims said—

> Queensland must be capable of ... ensuring victims are protected, and that offenders who pose an ongoing risk are appropriately held accountable, while simultaneously investing in sufficient correctional capacity and rehabilitation to ensure that imprisonment does not simply result in overcrowding and more hardened offenders.

QIFVLS stated that it—

> ... recommends that the Committee seek direct evidence from the QPU, AWU and Together Union as to the operational capacity to implement the Bill. The Committee should also request that the Government publish modelling of projected watch-house, youth detention and corrective services demand before the Bill proceeds.

Of course, it can be noted that the QPU, AWU and Together union did not appear before the committee, but I will repeat what they said in their submissions. The AWU said—

> The AWU have serious concerns about the impact this legislation will have on the staff that operate Queensland's Youth Detention Centres.
>
> The combination of the issues outlined ... will result in the system being stretched beyond capacity to breaking point. This will put significant pressure on the workers operating Queensland's Youth Detention Centres and the result will be more serious assaults and injuries in the workplace.

The QPU stated—

> The QPU ... urges the Committee to recommend the Queensland Government accompany these reforms with an immediate commitment to construct additional remand centres and expand detention capacity across Queensland to ensure the legislation achieves its intended public safety outcomes without further compromising the safety and effectiveness of police watchhouses and the QPU members who staff them.

As we know, a Together union survey of custodial corrections officers found 97.7 per cent of their officers expected their safety at work to worsen if prisoner numbers increase without changes to staffing and facilities.

These issues regarding demand and worker safety have been aired publicly and frequently throughout the committee process—before and since. I have heard the Premier answer questions about it, although using the word 'answer' to refer to what he said is perhaps a bit generous. He says things like, 'We have more capacity coming online,' or 'We've increased capacity by 25 per cent.' What he does not explain is that the increased capacity is actually the capacity Labor planned for and funded. It was based on figures from before the election. Because lead times are long, it did not factor in anything like breach-of-bail numbers. It was Labor that built and funded Wacol. It was Labor that planned and funded Woodford. The Premier does not tell you that they are only doing stage 1 next year—56 beds—instead of the 112 planned for, and even that will be six months late. The Inspector of Detention Services does not even know if Woodford will be sufficient to absorb the demand created by this bill.

The Premier also does not tell you that the 60 beds allocated for Circuit Breaker—that program that is about detention in all but name, a quickie, cheapy version of detention—were not going to be ready until the end of next year anyway but they are also already two months late with announcing a provider. You never hear about those things when they say they are dealing with capacity.

I do not believe we can talk about a bill that addresses crime without talking about the importance of intervention and rehabilitation. Ms Natalie Merlehan from Voice for Victims expressed it eloquently when she told the committee—

> Effective rehabilitation is a victim prevention strategy.

It is a well accepted fact that you must address the causes of crime if you are to make a real difference; you must turn around the lives of offenders if you are to stem the impact on victims. The Youth Justice Charter, noted in a committee report, references this. One in eight submissions to the inquiry referenced this including the Victims' Commissioner, QPS Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Scanlon and witnesses from the community. Many who were mainly addressing capacity issues referenced it, pointing out that where there is overcrowding in prisons and youth detention centres there is simply no capacity for rehabilitation programs.

The LNP members of the committee, including the chair, referenced the need for early intervention. He said that early intervention is important, quoting the over $500 million that the Minister for Youth Justice continues to tell us the LNP has invested in early intervention and prevention. The problem with saying it over and over again is that it does not make it true. In fact, the department's annual report and publicly available documents show that more than half of what was supposed to have been spent by now on early intervention and prevention has not been spent—and don't we love the way they explain those things in annual reports like the LNP did about these programs? It did not come out and say that it did not get around to a whole lot of the things it had promised. No, the reason the money had not been spent was that it had been 'reprofiled' and 'deferred'.

When we consider the programs these reforms are intended to support—like the Victims' Advocate Service, which is still not up and running; Circuit Breaker, which is still not in play; neither of the two youth justice schools has opened; only one of the four crime prevention schools is operating and at only one new year level; and only one provider has been announced for Proven Initiatives, which was only allocated $3 million of the total $65 million budget—people are going to stop listening if the LNP is not careful. They are going to stop trusting the government if it keeps saying things that are just not true, but the worst part is that it will be Queenslanders who are missing out and it will be victims who are missing out.

Let's not even go there regarding the bail support program, given the debacle we have seen this last week in terms of YAC, a highly regarded organisation. Not one person, aside from the Premier and the youth justice minister, would say a bad word about its work. Today we have seen reports of YAC, including 19 of its staff, being sacked from the bail support programs because it dared to criticise the government and its contract being given to organisations that have literally never run a bail support program before—and I make no reflection at all on the quality of those organisations. The Minister for Youth Justice, as she does, tries to justify this by saying variously that, one, it did not perform or, two, it was sacked because it was running Labor's program, but that did not stop her awarding the new contracts to people who had run our program up until now. It is actually a joke.

The LNP likes to refer to Labor's youth crime crisis, but I will tell you whose youth crime crisis this is: it is the LNP's youth crime crisis. We are supporting this bill because we believe Queenslanders want to feel safer, but we would like the government to ensure that all Queenslanders, including our police and our youth detention centre and corrections officers, are also safe, that the government will be accountable to Queenslanders on how youth crime is going and that it will be accountable to victims to do the things that it promised it would do to make a difference.

Mr HUNT (Nicklin—LNP) (12.42 pm): What a shame the shadow minister said nothing about victims of crime or the bill. It is the typical 'member of the Labor Party' approach not to mention victims of crime or the bill, but just ramble on about their scare campaigns. 'We could have and should have done more in government': that is the mea culpa from the opposition leader in a recent media conference, which could have and should have been coupled with an apology to the people of Queensland for the youth crime crisis that Labor orchestrated over the last decade—the youth crime crisis that our strong laws such as Breach Bail, Go to Jail continue to address as we see victim numbers falling in Queensland after the 193 per cent increase we saw over the decade of decline under the former Labor government.

'We could have and should have done more' is the confession of the opposition leader. However, I would suggest that those opposite might have had better results had they actually done less while they were in government: had they not proudly removed breach of bail as an offence; had they not proudly stood in this parliament to make detention a last resort; had they not called crime a 'media beat-up'; had they not continued to take the advice of offender advocates over victims. Those are the reasons we inherited the Labor Party's youth crime crisis and that is why we are here in parliament today bringing in more strong laws to turn things around and continue to reduce the number of victims of crime.

As chair of the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee I had the privilege of travelling with the committee to hear from regional Queenslanders living in the hotspots of the Labor crime crisis. We visited Rockhampton, Cairns, Mareeba and Townsville to hear firsthand from Queenslanders about the devastating impact of crime on their lives. Some of the evidence we heard was heartbreaking. In Cairns, Samara Laverty, whose 20-year-old son Declan was murdered in the Northern Territory by an offender on bail, spoke of the unimaginable grief she continues to endure, telling our committee—

I get up every day feeling this pain. I do not sleep and, when I do, I have nightmares.

In Mareeba, Denis McKinley described the impact of having his family home broken into twice, telling us it affects the family psychologically and emotionally. In Townsville, Kristy Cowen, a mother who was held at knifepoint during a home invasion by offenders who were on bail, told us—

The effects of that crime have been so impactful that my children and I live in fear. Every day we suffer.

These victims did not ask for this trauma and they did not ask to live in fear in their own homes, yet they are the ones left carrying the consequences long after the offenders have gone. Importantly, these witnesses expressed support for stronger consequences and for this legislation before the House. Their voices deserve to be heard and their experiences must remain at the forefront of our consideration of these laws. The anguish felt by victims of crime is exacerbated when they find out that the offender was on bail and continuing to offend.

I am proud to serve on the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee, particularly with the member for Capalaba. We know how important this legislation is to him and his family, and I am proud to stand here in this parliament and deliver stronger laws for repeat offenders that will save lives. This legislation will mean more serious repeat offenders taken off our streets. If they are smart enough, they might decide not to reoffend on bail due to the introduction of significant consequences—a 12-month minimum mandatory sentence to be served wholly in custody. This will mean fewer victims of crime, fewer lives lost and less trauma in our community.

We are a government that unashamedly puts the rights of victims before the rights of offenders. Serious repeat offenders will learn quickly that there are now serious consequences for their choices. None of the offences the bill captures can be committed by accident; these are clear decisions by offenders to commit serious crimes, and now there are serious consequences for those choices. If this acts as a deterrent, great. If it takes a serious offender off our streets for 12 months because they were not deterred by the consequences, that is a great outcome as well. During that 12 months the community is safe from an offender who has shown an unwillingness to stop offending.

It is great to see the Labor Party disregarding, at least for the political moment, its own Queensland Labor Party platform to support this legislation. We know, however, that if it were ever to get in government again it would be bound to repeal it under section 8.76 of its party policy platform, which states—

Labor will repeal legislation which fetters judicial discretion by imposing mandatory minimum sentences for criminal offences.

We also know that under the same Labor Party platform under section 8.71 those opposite would increase the age of criminal responsibility to 14 so that 13-year-old offenders breaking into people's homes and terrorising families with weapons would face no consequences for their offending. We know that those opposite are being dragged kicking and screaming to support this, we know that their hearts are not in it and we know that they will be bound by the party to repeal it at the first available opportunity. It will be interesting to see the vote on this legislation if a division is called—whether there will be headphones on and storm outs from Labor members. Labor is desperate for us to fail. It cannot stand that victim numbers are coming down. It wants to cherrypick stats across the state to create another narrative, but the fact remains that QPS and ABS data confirm and reveal the truth: victim numbers are down. Victim numbers are coming down and they will continue to come down with strong laws such as this bill. Victims' rights before offenders' rights: that is what this is about. It is about listening to victims and delivering justice and safer communities.

The bill importantly creates a 'high degree of confidence' test for the judiciary to grant bail to a repeat offender. Too many times we see people get bail over and again, despite being in a show cause situation when repeatedly offending. This new high bar provides direction to the judiciary about the community's expectation to be kept safe. The safety of the community is paramount over the rights of the offender, and that is how it should be. For too many years as a police officer I saw victims of crime let down by a justice system that did not adequately reflect the harm done in the consequences dished out to repeat offenders. The offences that this bill covers are serious offences. They cause serious trauma in our communities across Queensland. Finally, we will see serious consequences, with a minimum mandatory sentence of 12 months.

The community were clear in their support for the bill. Those who opposed the bill are the very same people and organisations that Labor listened to for far too long, watering down laws and prioritising the rights of offenders over the rights of victims. Look where that got us—a youth crime crisis over a decade of decline, a decade listening to and following the advice of anyone other than victims of crime. That is Labor's legacy, and fixing it is our government's focus. These are tough laws—the strongest in the country. Labor keeps calling our tough laws 'slogans'. Try telling the first serious repeat offender doing 12 months under these laws that it is 'just a slogan'. If Labor are actually going to support these laws they need to join with us in making the message clear to would-be serious offenders: if you breach bail you will go to jail for 12 months. So get on board, stop the political whining and support victims of crime.

I could not be prouder to stand here as part of the Crisafulli government, taking the hard decisions, delivering the tough laws needed and supporting victims of crime. Breach Bail, Go to Jail is just another step in our tough-on-crime and tough-on-criminals approach, with more to come. I look forward to our government continuing to do whatever is necessary to reduce the number of victims of crime in Queensland and to deliver real consequences for serious repeat offenders.

Hon. MAJ SCANLON (Gaven—ALP) (12.51 pm): Before I begin my speech I want to respond to a couple of things the member for Nicklin, the chair of the committee, just said. He spoke about what Queenslanders feel. I remind him of what is in the *Courier-Mail* today: 39 per cent of Queenslanders felt less safe compared to two years ago. He cannot really suggest that their litany of bills have solved the problem. He also talked about what advice Labor had received. I think it is interesting that we now have a bill that evidently was not formulated based on the advice of their so-called legal independent expert panel. Who knows what has happened to that? Who knows what happened to any of the advice for all of the other iterations of law reform they put forward. Clearly, it did not work, and that is why they did not want to show us.

As I have said in this place before, my dad was a police officer. I went into law because I believe in justice and I have also been a victim of crime, so none of this is abstract to me. I have long genuinely believed as a matter of conviction that if we are ever going to be serious about keeping our communities safe, we have to be serious about prevention and intervention and tackle the causes of crime.

Government members interjected.

Ms SCANLON: I hear the groaning. Criminal justice reform is serious. If we can try to reduce the number of victims in this state by intervening before a crime happens, we should. That should absolutely form part of this conversation. Nothing excuses acts of violence—nothing. That has to be said clearly, and I mean it.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kempton): Members on both sides, the member is not taking interjections. Could we just tone it down a bit, please, and could you address the chair.

Ms SCANLON: Perpetrators should be held to account, but when I look at the statistics that almost half of children in our youth justice system have a disability, I cannot help but think of people like my brother. He needed speech and physical therapy when he was young and he got the help he needed. He was in a loving household where he received support but too many kids in this state do not get that. Those kids who miss out are the ones who are most likely to end up in our criminal justice system. That is not conjecture; that is what the evidence tells us. That is why it is so deeply disappointing to see the Crisafulli government cut and fail to provide the supports that would give young people in this state a fighting chance. It would actually prevent crimes from happening in the first place.

Like all Queenslanders, we want less crime and fewer victims. When someone commits a serious offence while on bail there should be a consequence. In some of those cases it means they should never have been on bail in the first place. That is why Labor has said we will not oppose this bill, but not opposing a bill is not the same as handing the government a blank cheque. Our job in this place is to ask the hard questions on behalf of police officers, the youth detention workers and the corrections officers who will be left to make this law work long after the press conference is over.

Almost two years ago we did not stand in the way of the LNP's first slogan, but what is becoming very clear—as shown in today's *Courier-Mail*—is that Queenslanders feel less safe than they did two years ago, despite what Premier Crisafulli promised. The very fact we are back here with another bill and another slogan is an admission that the first slogan failed. The Premier called this the 'biggest reform in Queensland's history'. If that is true it deserves the biggest plan and, instead, we just hear another rhyme.

Let me turn to the plan or, rather, lack thereof. On the day this bill was introduced the Attorney-General was asked whether any modelling had been done on the cost. She did not answer. The government has since told us that 5,248 adults and 859 children would have been automatically jailed last year under these laws. Frankly, it is hardly the act of an integrity minister not to provide what I think is pretty basic information. That number of children is twice the capacity of our entire youth justice system—twice. Corrective Services annual report tells us that adult prisons are already running at 136 per cent capacity. Prison numbers have grown by more than half in a decade. Thousands of cells that were built for one person now hold two, and how many new beds are in the pipeline? About 1,400. However, the number I just articulated is significantly more than that—1,400 beds and more than 5,000 people. You do not need to be the Treasurer to know that that does not add up, although it may have helped if perhaps he was asked.

The people who work in these facilities have told us the situation. Together surveyed its custodial officers and 93 per cent said their centres could not safely take more prisoners without more staff and resources. These are not activists; these are the people who walk through those gates every shift to make our community safe. They are warning of triple bunking—three prisoners in a cell built for one—not enough toilets, not enough showers, kitchens that cannot feed the numbers. Their union has warned of more assaults, injuries and potentially even deaths.

The AWU, which represents youth detention workers, warn tents may have to go up in the grounds of detention centres. Those workers work under a mandated safety ratio of one worker to four young people. Break that ratio and you will get rolling lockdowns—kids confined to their rooms for 12 hours during the day then all night packed in together. That is not detention with purpose; that is a pressure cooker and it is the worker who opens the door who will get hurt.

My mum worked in the Public Service and was a workplace delegate and she taught me something very simple: when workers tell you they are not safe, you listen the first time—not after someone ends up in hospital. It is not just corrections; when detention centres are full kids end up in our police watch houses—watch houses that are built to hold adults for a day or two and are not designed for children. That means police officers who signed up to catch criminals will be running overflow detention instead. Every officer guarding a cell is an officer not on the road.

The CCC warned the committee that overcrowding heightens the risk of excessive force. Overcrowding does not just put prisoners at risk; it puts everyone inside that fence at risk, including staff. As the shadow attorney-general, I want to acknowledge a number of other submissions that were put forward—particularly those by the Queensland Law Society and the Bar Association, along with 250 other individuals and organisations. The Law Society told the committee plainly that it supports the objective of reducing serious repeat offending, but they have raised legitimate concerns. The first is the new bail test. Police and courts must now be satisfied to a high degree of confidence that a person will not reoffend. What does that mean? The bill does not actually clearly say that. The Law Society says that it is not settled legal standard. The Bar Association says the phrase has no clearly established meaning in criminal law. When the lawyers who will argue this test every single day cannot tell you what it means, the government should. The reality is that the people who are left to apply it on a Friday night are police officers and lawyers who are saying that this is not clear. Ultimately, it means there is still an element of discretion. It will still be up to the judiciary, despite what those opposite might say—

Mrs Gerber: As it should be! It is what is called the Constitution.

Ms SCANLON: I take the interjection from the youth justice minister who says, 'As it should be.'

Mrs Gerber: That is the Constitution: separation of powers.

Ms SCANLON: The Law Society warned the bill displaces longstanding—

Mrs GERBER: Oh my God, from the shadow attorney-general. She doesn't understand the separation of powers.

Ms SCANLON: I do understand the separation of powers, thank you very much.

Debate, on motion of Ms Scanlon, adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm.

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance

Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): At the outset I want to acknowledge Helen Haines, her family and her community. Our Labor team and I are sharing our thoughts with them and we wish Helen well in her recovery. I also want to place on record our shock at

the shooting incident on the weekend at Fitzys in Logan. Many of those who were there on Saturday night are members of communities represented by members on this side of the House and they are grieving alongside their communities. Our thoughts are with those families and the police and paramedics who responded.

After just two years of this LNP government, things are only getting worse. The Premier promised a fresh start. He promised to fix crime, to fix ramping, to make housing more affordable and to ease the cost of living. This government is failing to deliver on those four big promises. Today when Queenslanders ask themselves, 'Am I better off? Is life more affordable? Do I feel safer?' the ones I speak to resoundingly say, 'No'. Food keeps getting more expensive, as does petrol for the car. Then there are the water bills, the energy bills, the rego bills, the rates—bills that keep piling up on the kitchen table while families try to work out how to make their pay stretch to cover them.

Cost of living is far and away the biggest concern for Queenslanders and a reality they face at the checkout at the supermarket when they have to decide what to put back to afford the bill. It is something this Premier refuses to do anything about, even after talking such a big game—almost as big a game as he talked on crime. There is reporting today that Queenslanders overwhelmingly feel less safe than they did two years ago. Reports of domestic and family violence have skyrocketed while this government fudges the figures. Their early intervention programs are not working, and anyone who speaks out about it gets 'LNP-ed'. Anyone who tries to expose what the LNP is doing behind closed doors gets their funding cut. This government are so determined to silence their critics, so determined to use the resources of government to undermine experts brave enough to speak out, that anyone who speaks out gets their funding cut.

Then there is the housing crisis, where more records have been set for all the wrong reasons. The social housing waitlist keeps getting longer, even as this government makes it harder for people to get on that list. Ten thousand affordable homes have been cut. Developers have been told that they are not allowed to build affordable homes, even where they promoted their projects as being affordable for teachers and nurses. Homelessness is an ever-increasing, visible blight on our neighbourhoods, including in my community in Moreton Bay. Rents are up six per cent.

If Queenslanders are not stuck waiting for a home, they are probably stuck waiting to get into the emergency department or get an appointment with a doctor. For the first time, our hospitals are struggling with no growth funding. They were offered growth funding but it was then revoked by CBRC. The result is that our hospitals are bursting at the seams—pressure the minister was forced to address here today, pressure that is spilling out of the ramp and into Queensland living rooms where sick Queenslanders call for help that all too often never comes. These are sick Queenslanders like Nick Bradford. His family has questions. We have questions, such as those we put to the minister today, about how many ambulances were ramped at the PA Hospital that night and how many Queenslanders have died while waiting for an ambulance in the last year. The minister refused to answer those questions.

Here is a statistic the minister should know off the top of his head: 47.8 per cent record ramping delivered by this minister. The latest data is not much better: 370,000 Queenslanders waiting for a specialist outpatient appointment—an increase of 80,000 in just two years. The minister blames extra demand. Extra demand is not new. As our population increases, demand increases. What is new is our hospitals having to cope without growth funding. The minister knows that the hospitals need growth funding. That is why he put that in their initial contracts—contracts that he had to tear up. That is why they are struggling. While at least the minister acknowledged the pressure our hospitals were under, the Premier has refused to do so. He has chosen spin instead. So confident in his skills as the government's salesman-in-chief, he decided to try to convince Queenslanders that these figures were the best ever when actually they are the worst ever.

If ever one needed a more visible, more physical, more visceral example of how progress has stalled in our state in the last two years, it is the amount of time we are all now spending sitting in traffic. The traffic gets worse every week—

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr MILES:—whether that is dropping the kids to school, commuting to work, going to the shops at the weekend or taking the kids to school sport—times when the traffic did not use to be so bad. I say this as someone who spends more than two hours commuting every day.

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr MILES: I have seen it get worse in the last two years and it is proven in the data. People in Brisbane now spend 10 working days a year sitting in traffic. On the Gold Coast, the member might be interested in hearing, it is now up to nine days a year spent sitting in traffic. Instead of building the roads

and rail that our state needs, this government is stopping progress: cutting projects like Gold Coast Light Rail stage 4 and heavy rail to Maroochydore and delaying the Gympie Road tunnel, the Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway M1 upgrades and the Mount Crosby interchange. Queenslanders are facing a transport system that is failing them. It is about time they had a plan that would see them spending less time in traffic and more time at home with their families.

Today my Labor team releases our second issues paper, this time focused on transport. It is a peek inside a transport system that is congested, that is under pressure and that is without purpose. Queenslanders cannot afford to stand still. We cannot stop investing until after 2032 as this government would have us do. We need to keep our state moving, especially while it grows. This paper will guide our future planning to tackle this generational transport challenge. We already have a bill before the parliament that would save Queenslanders at the petrol bowser. Capping fuel price increases to five cents a day would save Queenslanders up to $1,196 a year and new Treasury modelling tells us that this would have saved Queenslanders, just last month, 2,145 times. That is how many times petrol stations put up fuel by more than five cents per litre per day, often up to 24 cents per litre. On this side of the House our approach is simple: we want a transport system that is accessible, reliable and affordable; one that works for the people who rely on it regardless of their mode of transport; and one that builds the roads, the rail, the busways and the active travel network that Queenslanders need.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Queensland Labor Opposition—Slow Lane: A state of Congestion, An issues paper on transport in Queensland' [2142].

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Before I call the Deputy Premier, I inform the member for Coomera that he is warned under the standing orders. His interjections were repeated and were not being taken. I did not want to interrupt the member on his feet. You are warned, member for Coomera.

Leader of the Opposition, Performance

Hon. JP BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (2.10 pm): As I sit here listening to the opposition leader I seriously think that at the moment he goes around Queensland with a blindfold on and does not listen to people because there is such a buzz in Queensland and a level of investment like we have never seen before, particularly in rural and regional Queensland. He would have people believe that struggles in congestion have manifested in the past two years. People do not believe him. That is why he is not up to it.

The opposition leader wants to quote statistics. A few weeks ago they put out a little post with some statistics on traffic congestion. The problem for the opposition leader is that he does not entirely give the facts all the time because the very report he is commenting on, the iSelect report, shows that in 2024-25 congestion in Brisbane actually decreased from an average of 41.5 per cent to 40.5 per cent in 2025. The statistics in the report he relies on are, in fact, not what he says. I see the opposition leader has now released another discussion paper. I hope it is better than the discussion paper he released on housing, which showed how bad it got for 10 years and that the only improvement in housing affordability in the state happened in the past two years. His own document showed that. His own statistics showed that. I hope this one is better than his last one. Maybe they have learned some lessons.

There is another point I will make about the opposition leader. Across the state there is a real buzz happening. Ambulance ramping numbers are on the way down, victim numbers are on the way down, hospital waiting lists are on the way down. I might add, so too is the opposition leader's approval ratings. On the government side, the ratings are all heading in the right direction; unfortunately for the opposition leader, theirs are tanking. In fact, I have never before heard an opposition leader say, 'I don't read numbers and I don't look at polls.'

I have been reliably informed by my Labor sources, in the cafe over the past few days, that some figures have been released recently and they are not too good for the Leader of the Opposition. Given the talk about leadership, which people in his own party are doing, is that any wonder? Then I was told that all the potential leadership contenders are heading in the same direction. They are all going down. In fact, they have gone down since the last time Labor sources told me how bad things were for the Labor opposition.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Pause the clock. Members on my left, there is too much conversation. I will point out that, with one exception, your MPI was listened to in relative peace and quiet. I expect the same for the other side.

Mr BLEIJIE: They talk of tone. The abuse and the bullying behaviour that I cop from that mob is unbearable sometimes. Today, they talk about tone. Here is a little history lesson: two weeks ago, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, in a matter of public interest speech such as he is about to give, attacked Minister Bates. He slowed his speech and imitated Minister Bates. He made out that Minister Bates was dumb by slowing his speech. The member for Ferny Grove called Minister Bates a 'stupid, dopey woman' and they want to lecture people about tone? The member for Cairns shared posts about prostitutes being filled with petrol and they want to lecture people about tone in this House?

The opposition leader says he wants to sit down with the Premier and talk about the tone of parliamentarians. I suspect he wants to stop his own members from talking about his lack of leadership because we know, as do his Labor colleagues, that time is up for the Leader of the Opposition. They know it and we all know it. We see the damning evidence coming through the commission of inquiry. We see it time and again. Look at what those members opposite, including the Leader of the Opposition, did to former minister Amanda Camm when she was on medical leave. Here we go: the Leader of the Opposition rolls his eyes. In the past two weeks, they had the hide to condemn a woman who was on medical leave, which is something that we never did when the member for Mundingburra was the child safety minister and was on leave. When Yvette D'Ath was on leave—

Mr MILES: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Pause please, Deputy Premier.

Mr MILES: I take personal offence and I ask that he withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member has taken personal offence. I ask you to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. Let everyone, including the media, look at how Labor treat women in this state and how they treat people in this parliament and then let's have a discussion about tone. I suggest to the opposition leader: look to your left, look to your right, look behind you and look to your own house.

Turning to the commission of inquiry, can you believe it: today we heard more evidence about the CFMEU and Cross River Rail. The CFMEU walked off the Cross River Rail site because of a three-millimetre puddle. That shows the cost of the Labor government's cosy relationship with the CFMEU. That is what it cost Queenslanders. There was a three-millimetre puddle and the CFMEU walked off site because they did not want to work. It is a disgrace, we are fixing it and we are returning productivity to this state.

Crisafulli LNP Government, Performance

Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.16 pm): 'Whose side are you on?' After two years of Premier Crisafulli, Queenslanders have an answer to that question because they now know the LNP government is not on their side. Two years of spin, secrecy and self-promotion at eye-watering taxpayer expense cannot hide the fact that around every kitchen table in Queensland, from Woodridge to Wujal Wujal and from Warwick to Walkerston, under the LNP, life has never been harder for Queenslanders. After two years, the Crisafulli LNP government has made no progress on the kitchen table issues that matter the most to Queenslanders. Queenslanders are worse off as a result because under this government, led by a Premier more interested in how things look than how things are, they know that the LNP is just not on their side.

The Premier promised to fix crime, fix cost of living, fix housing and fix health care—four pillars, four promises, four failures. On crime, Queenslanders know the LNP is not on their side because they have never felt more unsafe in their homes, on their streets and in their suburbs. As we witnessed in my hometown of Logan on the weekend, gun crime is out of control in this state. The shooting at Fitzys in Loganholme has sent shock waves through our city. Today my thoughts are with every victim, their families and everyone who witnessed that terrible crime.

Logan is a close-knit community where people look out for one another. It is a city of young families where an attack like this is felt far beyond those who were impacted. When one part of our community is hurt, we all feel it. Everyone in Logan is now asking how something like this could possibly happen in the city that we care for, the city that we love and the city that we are so proud of. They are asking whether their families will be safe in the future and what the government will actually do to stop gun violence. When it comes to community safety, the gap between what this Premier says and what Queenslanders are experiencing is becoming impossible to ignore. As media reports make clear, in the past 12 months in this state, the possession of firearms is up seven per cent, the possession of concealable firearms is up three per cent and the possession of other weapons and restricted items is up 50 per cent.

Criminologist and former Queensland detective Terry Goldsworthy has stated when it comes to crime in this state, 'We've got a government that's fixated on slogans,' and I would also add a Premier fixated on how things look, not how things are. Everyone in this state knows you cannot be tough on crime if you are soft on guns—everyone except Premier Crisafulli and the LNP.

I want to commend and thank the member for Macalister for the work she is doing to provide advocacy, support and assistance to those people in her electorate traumatised by this shocking crime—a member who is still waiting, more than 2½ days later, for a briefing from the LNP's police minister on this incident and its aftermath. There has been no phone call—not even a word at the back of the chamber.

On traffic and transport, Queenslanders are still waiting for the generational infrastructure promised by this Premier. Thanks to our leader and the good work of our shadow minister for transport, the member for Aspley, the extent of problems and delays on our state's road and transport networks has been exposed in Labor's new issues paper *Slow lane: a state of congestion*. Instead of generational infrastructure, all Queenslanders have received from the LNP is generational gridlock and a generational go-slow.

On cost of living, Queenslanders have given David Crisafulli an F for fail. Two years into this government, the fundamental problem for Queenslanders is simple: Premier Crisafulli is not on their side. The Premier desperately wants Queenslanders to think he is because, more than anything else, Premier Crisafulli cares more about how things look than how things actually are. It is why his government has blown nearly $50 million of Queensland taxpayers' money on advertising, just to promote himself, but when you strip away the spin campaign it is obvious who the Premier actually works for: himself and the vested interests who fill his campaign coffers. In Premier Crisafulli's Queensland, donors, multitrillion dollar AI companies and multinational mining giants who get $500 million in tax breaks sit at the front of the queue. It is ordinary Queenslanders who are left paying the price for his priorities.

Health System, Workforce

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (2.21 pm): Across the state each and every day, our hardworking staff are delivering for Queensland in Queensland Health. On this side of the House, we are backing our health workforce through a record $35.5 billion budget, including growth funding—something those opposite cannot and do not appreciate. There is more money, more surgeries and more activity underway, as the budget papers show—unlike those opposite, whose last budget would have seen the health workforce cut by 1,700. There was not enough money in the budget to pay the workforce they already had. The failed capacity expansion program had not one project deliverable on time or on budget, as the independent review showed. We invested an extra billion dollars into the Queensland Ambulance Service—the first uplift in capital funding for the Queensland Ambulance Service in more than 15 years.

The Leader of the Opposition was out of his depth when he ran a false scare campaign in the lead-up to the last election when he said we would cut health staff. We all remember it—the billboards, the signs everywhere. Instead, we now have 10,000 extra staff. He was out of his depth as 'Mr Eight per cent' in the Hinchinbrook by-election. He was out of his depth with an eight per cent swing against him in the Stafford by-election, in red deadset territory, getting over the line with the help of his mates in the Greens and the socialists—scrambling over the line.

Then he asked me, 'Well, what about some statistics?' Here are the statistics in relation to how things went under Labor. We know that they gave an ambulance ramping rate at 15 per cent and reached a quarterly record of 45.5 per cent. That is the message under the Leader of the Opposition. We know that their elective surgery waitlist increased to more than 66,000. That is the record of the member for Murrumba. As we heard from the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine report that I referred to this morning, the number of beds per thousand people stayed unchanged for the better part of seven years—2.5 per 1,000. That is the record and they are the statistics that the member for Murrumba does not want anyone to talk about. More than that, there are the people who did not survive because of that negligence—because of that failure every step of the way.

We have also seen an unprecedented increase in demand across our service. That is why we have been going so hard in relation to our Hospital Rescue Plan: additional CTs and MRIs and more money in transit lounges. It is a Hospital Rescue Plan that has 200 more beds than Labor paid for and is fully funded and will be delivered. It sees cranes swinging right now, including the operationalisation funding that was not provided for by Labor for 186 beds at Mater Springfield. That is what we are delivering. That is what Labor failed to deliver.

The member for Murrumba got up today and started his contribution by saying, 'Things are getting worse.' That is absolutely true for the member for Murrumba. Things are getting worse for the member for Murrumba. Every time a poll comes out, his favourability goes down and his disapproval goes up. Things are not only getting worse for the member for Murrumba; they are also getting worse for his deputy, because his numbers are going south as well. Then there is the deputy to the deputy, and her numbers are not getting any better either. The member for Waterford is going south. Things are going bad for Murrumba, Woodridge and Waterford. Who aren't they going bad for? We have the fireside chat from the member for Gaven, who suddenly takes a Wednesday morning off to trundle down to the RSL club for a steak and chips. Things are definitely getting worse for the member for Murrumba because the member for Gaven is coming through.

Then we had the member for Woodridge, who said, 'Whose side are you on?' When it comes to the member for Woodridge, we know whose side he is on: the member for Woodridge's side—always has been, always will be. He has been called out. We remember the former member for Bundamba who at an ALP conference said, 'Come on, Cameron. We know what you're all about. It's just about you.' That was the former member for Bundamba.

While we are unified, while we are focused, while we have the plans to deliver for Queensland, we are facing a rabble who cannot get their act together. Two discussion papers in two years—what a mammoth effort! Time's up for the member for Murrumba.

(Time expired)

Transport Infrastructure

Mr MELLISH (Aspley—ALP) (2.26 pm): It has been two years of living in the slow lane under the Crisafulli LNP government, and it is Queenslanders who are getting left behind. In the space of just two years, this government has delayed and cut dozens of road infrastructure projects, they have cancelled vital public transport upgrades and they have ignored sensible solutions to lower the price of petrol.

Queenslanders should not be disadvantaged by distance, reliability or a government that does not deliver equitable transport. Whether travelling to work, school, university, the shopping centre or just around the corner, you should have safe access to reliable transport that is there when you need it. Queenslanders should have a government that continues to invest in all modes of transport—from new active transport corridors to more resilient roads, better bus connections and faster rail routes. No-one should see their life go by from behind the steering wheel amidst a sea of standstill traffic. Queensland needs a transport network that works, not just for some but for all—one that is not solely built of bricks, bridge beams and concrete but rather of connections to communities near and far.

The list of road projects they have cut, cancelled or delayed is extensive. We know that this Premier is never up-front when he cuts a project. Their budget reporting has taken the state back 30 years. Some of those road projects include: Amberley Interchange, Capricorn Highway projects, Coomera Connector stage 2, Coopers Plains Level Crossing Removal, Cairns Western Arterial, Gympie Road Bypass Tunnel, Mackay Port access, Mount Crosby Interchange and Pacific Motorway M1 upgrades. Those are just some of the delayed, cut or cancelled projects under the LNP. In fact, over the weekend we learned they have spent two years fiddling with the Bribie Island Bridge to deliver the exact same outcome, and they still do not have a shovel in the ground. These are some of their key road projects scrapped, delayed or denied. Congestion in the south-east is only getting worse—

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr MELLISH: I note interjections from the member for Glass House, who said the Bruce Highway Western Alternative will not happen for decades now, under their watch. It is an absolute abrogation of their duty to the Moreton Bay region and the entire area north of Brisbane.

The post-COVID boost in public transport of around 20 per cent, catalysed by Labor's 50-cent fares, has plateaued. Increased public transport usage should have contributed to congestion relief, but the continued increase in travel times demonstrates that the gains made since our 50-cent fares have been offset by population growth and a stagnation in transport investment. After the introduction of 50-cent fares, Brisbane households recorded the largest fall in transport costs of any capital city, but the LNP have not continued our investments in the public transport network. We all know that they hate public transport. In this year alone we have seen cuts to station staffing, cuts to local bus manufacturing, scrapping electric buses in exchange for diesel buses and cuts to train services due to the complete outsourcing of bargaining to Queensland Rail by this government.

On top of that, we have seen cycling infrastructure scrapped, like the fully funded Birdwood Road bridge, and a complete botching of the e-mobility laws, showing their disdain for active transport. They broke their promise to build rail to Maroochydore—no ifs, no buts, no shortcuts—killed light rail to the airport on the Gold Coast and delayed important corridor protection for the future heavy rail extension to the Gold Coast Airport. In fact, they have even said that heavy rail to the Gold Coast Airport will not start until 2032 at the earliest. This government abandoned our level crossing removal plan and killed off the next stage of the rail station accessibility upgrade scheme, denying thousands of Queenslanders access to the public transport network.

When Queenslanders turned to public transport as an affordable alternative, this government axed 20 per cent of rail services from the timetable for months. From May to September, more than 30,000 peak-hour services were cut from our network. Peak-hour weekday services that previously ran every six to 10 minutes were slashed to every 15 minutes, or worse. This government's cuts to services saw overcrowding on station platforms, overflowing park-and-rides and commuters missing their trains because they were full. Without access to a reliable public transport system, more Queenslanders were forced back onto the roads.

More than 30,000 lost rail services resulted in additional congestion over this period. Data shows that Brisbane drivers now lose more than 77 hours per year due to congestion and delays. That equates to about 90 minutes lost per week. For Gold Coast drivers, it is 71 hours, representing an increase of one hour and 15 minutes compared to 2024. Time is not the only cost when sitting idle in congestion, and that cost is not just measured in dollars. Unreliable and longer journeys can mean less time with family, less time with friends, getting to work late and additional pressure on household budgets.

When it comes to petrol, RACQ modelling confirmed that a Greater Brisbane two-car household pays more than double the retail margin of those in Perth. Today, and most days, Brisbane motorists pay more for petrol than motorists in every other capital city—the highest in Australia. Motorists could save 23 cents a litre a day if this government adopted our private member's bill on fuel affordability. Greater price regulation is what Queenslanders are crying out for. It would cost the budget bottom line next to nothing, but as with so many other issues the Premier is choosing to side with foreign multinationals and billionaires rather than everyday Queenslanders. This government is not addressing rising fuel costs, higher rego, increasing energy bills and worsening traffic. That is why we are acting and why we have released our issues paper *Slow lane: a state of congestion*. Queenslanders have had enough.

(Time expired)

Youth Crime

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (2.31 pm): After listening to those opposite, one could be forgiven for thinking that they were not in power for the last 10 years and that the issues they are talking about were not the very same issues they created and left for the Crisafulli government to clean up. On this side of the House, the Crisafulli government have had two years of delivery. We are delivering for victims of crime, delivering strong laws and listening to what Queenslanders are calling for.

A decade of the previous Labor government systematically weakened our youth justice laws and created the youth crime crisis. Do members want to know what that resulted in? Do members want to know what mess Labor left us with, the crime crisis they created throughout Queensland? We know that victim numbers increased 193 per cent under them. Assaults also went up. Assaults went up 198 per cent under Labor. Under Labor, stolen vehicles went up 101 per cent. Under Labor, robberies also went up 101 per cent. The number of serious repeat offenders in the youth justice system went up 64 per cent under the former Labor government in their 10 years of decline.

They come into this chamber to lecture us and try to rewrite history. The Crisafulli government is cleaning up the litany of failures left behind after their 10 years in government. In stark contrast to those opposite, we will continue to deliver for Queenslanders. Those opposite are continuing to defend their failed policies. They are continuing to defend their failed legacy.

We are getting on with the job of delivering for Queenslanders. We have expanded Adult Crime, Adult Time to 47 offences. We have Daniel's Law—some of the strongest protections for children against prolific paedophiles in this state. The Morcombes called for this law for years, but they were ignored by the previous Labor government. We have Jack's Law. The police have been calling for these powers to be made permanent so our communities can be kept safe. This week we are taking the next step and delivering the strongest bail laws in the nation with Breach Bail, Go to Jail. Bail is a privilege; it is not a right. Under Labor's failed intervention programs—

Ms FENTIMAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Pause the clock. One moment, please, Minister. Do you have a point of order, member for Waterford?

Ms FENTIMAN: My point of order is anticipation of debate.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I take your point of order of anticipation of debate. Give me one moment. Minister, you have mentioned a bill that is before the House this week. If you could move on from that point to the rest of your address, that would avoid the anticipation point of order.

Mrs GERBER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. What happened under Labor's failed intervention and bail support policies—the same failed early intervention policies that they want to continue and are still trying to defend? Under Labor, 60 per cent of young offenders committed another offence while out on bail. The figure for serious repeat offenders is even worse. Under Labor's failed bail support policies, 89 per cent of serious repeat offenders went on to reoffend, yet they continue to advocate for those failed policies. They continue to stand up and defend that result. That is Labor's legacy.

We will not take a backward step when it comes to community safety. That is why we are delivering our new Risk Response Bail program, providing intensive, targeted support to young offenders and their families so they stop reoffending. In stark contrast to the previous Labor government, we are investing a record $101 million over five years in bail support services. That is a 21 per cent increase on Labor's last budget for bail support services. We are delivering a 21 per cent increase in annual funding compared with Labor.

Why are we doing this? We know that strong laws must be backed by intervention and rehabilitation—something Labor failed to do and something the data proves they failed to do. That is why we are delivering a record $560 million in early intervention and rehabilitation, including our Staying on Track program, Regional Reset, Kickstarter proven initiatives and crime prevention schools.

On top of that, we have passed our $80 million Circuit Breaker Sentencing reforms—rehabilitation reforms that the Labor opposition voted against. These reforms give courts a new powerful tool to deliver intensive rehabilitation as a last stop before detention. Labor do not support that either. We know that they talk out of both sides of their mouth when it comes to strong laws. They voted against Adult Crime, Adult Time. They voted against our laws to keep guns out of the hands of terrorists and criminals. We know that if they got the chance they would wind them back because they have said it on the record so many times.

We know that there is more work to do because Labor left us with a youth crime crisis. We on this side of the House know what Queenslanders and victims are calling for because we are listening to them and we are delivering for them. We will continue to do that, despite the Labor opposition's excuses. We on this side of the House know that victims come first, whereas Labor puts offenders first.

(Time expired)

LNP Crisafulli Government, Performance

Hon. MAJ SCANLON (Gaven—ALP) (2.37 pm): I love following the member for Currumbin in this House, and I will remind her what is in the *Courier-Mail* today. According to the paper, 39 per cent of Queenslanders feel less safe than they did two years ago. I went back through *Hansard* because I heard the member for Currumbin talking a lot about Labor in her speech. I found someone who put it better than I could—that is, the member for Kawana, whom I do not often agree with. He said in this House in 2016, a year into what was then a new Labor government—

> They have to acknowledge the fact that they have been the government for over 12 months and it is their responsibility. No-one else is to blame, but those members themselves.

I remind the member for Currumbin, who just tried to blame everyone else but herself about some of her own programs, that every single participant in the Staying on Track program has reoffended. That is their track record. In the Regional Reset program, one provider has been axed over allegations of corruption and another cancelled allegedly due to department failures. There has been no reporting on how offending is reducing. That is their track record. Now we have another bill, another slogan, to try to fix something they said they were going to fix last year.

When it comes to housing failures, I think everyone knows how bad the issue is right now. Rents are more expensive here than in Sydney. Families are sleeping in cars right now. Do those opposite have a housing plan? They do not even seem to be clear on that. We have just learned from a recent question on notice that their big launch of their housing plan was whacking it up on a website in May

2025. That is interesting, given that we have been asking questions on notice for the last two years about where on earth this big housing plan was. In fact, according to a question on notice, seven weeks after this website was allegedly released they were writing it. Six months after it was allegedly released, the housing minister said that it was going to cabinet in 2026. Then we asked him a simple question, because we were not getting very simple answers: when will we have the plan? He said that we would have it in the first half of 2026—2026, not 2025. The minister gave a launch date for a plan he had said he had already launched. None of this makes sense, which is kind of like all of their other housing policies.

What is not a mystery is how the LNP feel about affordable housing, particularly under the leadership of the Deputy Premier. They have changed 14 developments. All of their decisions have effectively scrapped 11,000 affordable homes from the pipeline. That impacts nurses, police and other frontline workers in this state. What is extraordinary is that it takes real effort to reduce the number of homes, even if they are not affordable ones, yet that is what they have managed to do at a site literally next to a hospital in the housing minister's own electorate.

I am not talking about the disused, privately owned golf course that apparently the community were really vocal about keeping as green space. It is interesting that to the LNP you are a NIMBY if you oppose a stadium but not a NIMBY if you oppose affordable housing. The housing minister was once very vocal about the fact that land in the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct should be used for frontline workers, except when they came to government and they then sold that land to a private developer for luxury housing and then managed to deliver fewer homes overall. It actually takes real skill to do that, but they managed to do that.

Mr O'Connor interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Bonney, your interjections are not being taken.

Ms SCANLON: The Deputy Premier is now writing to developers directing them not to build affordable housing and they will get an approval! That is the point of insanity we have reached in this state, where we have members of parliament literally directing people who want to build affordable homes not to. It almost sounds unbelievable, which is why I have to keep showing people the statement because it is so unhinged.

Meanwhile, we have families sleeping in their cars—mums with their children—and their response, other than axing a whole lot of affordable homes from the pipeline, is to cut $40 million in funding to homeless services. I am surprised the housing minister is not interjecting, because he usually does. He should be ashamed of the fact that his department had to leak a spreadsheet to demonstrate the reduction, yet he still continues to protest. Those opposite clearly are more interested in delivering penthouses over affordable housing for working families.

I wanted to talk about transport but I am not going to get an opportunity to. Today I am really proud of our Labor team because we have outlined a transport plan. We want to hear from Queenslanders because those opposite evidently have no plan. They axed the light rail. They axed funding for heavy rail. All we get is a bus with a funny name which is still a bus in traffic.

Housing, Indigenous Communities

Hon. ST O'CONNOR (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (2.42 pm): I thank the member for Gaven for that contribution because it shows the contrast more clearly than anything else. They are about brochures; we are about buildings. Last week in Cairns we heard the latest housing scare campaign from the member for Murrumba and the member for Gaven. This time it was about housing in Indigenous communities. On this issue, one of the former government's brochures was called 'Our Place'—their Indigenous housing plan. On that, the member for Gaven said last week—

'Removing 40% of the recommendations and basically reprioritising two-thirds of the budget demonstrates that the LNP don't really care about Closing the Gap.'

'Sam O'Connor will try and spin that this reprioritisation of funding is a good thing. All he has done is cut the very actions First Nations people ask for.'

Did First Nations people ask for these actions? Here is a direct quote from a letter sent in August 2024 on behalf of all 17 Indigenous councils from Alison Smith, the then CEO of the LGAQ, to the member for Gaven's director-general at the time, saying—

... our members have told us that they feel they were not adequately consulted during the development of the Our Place Roadmap and Action Plan and therefore do not see that their priorities or solutions are reflected in the final documents.

I table this letter.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 23 August 2024, from Ms Alison Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Association of Queensland, to Mr Mark Cridland, Director-General, Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works declining the invitation to nominate a member for the Queensland First Nations Housing and Homelessness Partnership [2143].

Labor spent years talking about consultation, partnerships and listening. When they put a pamphlet out to address it, the very councils representing those communities said they were ignored. They even declined to take part in the partnership that Labor announced as part of that plan. What does it say about Labor's approach to Indigenous housing when the very people they claim to be listening to did not endorse their plan? They did not want more talk. They did not want yet another glossy brochure. They wanted their government to build more homes, to put more into maintaining homes and to create more opportunities for home ownership. That is exactly what we are doing.

Here are some more facts for the member for Gaven. In 2026-27, in our second budget, we are delivering a $335 million First Nations housing package, which includes $157.6 million for new housing, land and infrastructure development—that is nearly $50 million more than the member for Gaven's last budget; $85 million for upgrades to our existing homes—$20 million more than the member for Gaven's last budget; $75 million for maintenance—that is nearly $14 million more than the member for Gaven's last budget; $12.8 million to support homes owned by Indigenous community housing organisations and to do the work required for home ownership transfers; and $5 million for further upgrades through the Housing Australia Future Fund.

Overall, our investment in new homes, in upgrades, in infrastructure and in maintenance in Indigenous communities is 36 per cent higher than Labor's last budget. Labor want Queenslanders to believe that redirecting funding from their failed programs means abandoning First Nations communities. Nothing could be further from the truth. The results show that this approach is working. Over the last five years of the former Labor government, just 74 new homes were delivered in Indigenous communities. In our first two years we have delivered 80 homes already and we have another 436 underway. On top of that, we are working to make home ownership a genuine possibility for more First Nations Queenslanders for the very first time.

On Palm Island, in particular, we launched the first of its kind rent-to-buy home ownership scheme. I want to commend Mayor Alf Lacey for his leadership in that community. Since that launch, we have had 11 formal expressions of interest in just the last few months and a further 60 application packs provided to interested community members on Palm. We are working with other First Nations councils to develop locally-driven pathways to home ownership, recognising that each community has different aspirations, land tenure arrangements and challenges to overcome.

That is the fundamental difference between Labor's approach and the Crisafulli government's approach. Labor produced a road map that every single Indigenous council said did not reflect their priorities. They announced a partnership that those councils did not even want to sign up to. Now Labor have the audacity to criticise us for changing programs that were not delivering practical outcomes and instead investing that funding into building and maintaining homes.

We will not apologise for listening to communities instead of following Labor's pamphlets. We do not measure success by the number of glossy brochures being announced in Brisbane. We measure it by the outcomes delivered on the ground. We are driving change for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. We are turning around Labor's housing crisis, and we are only just getting started.

(Time expired)

Cairns and Far North Queensland

Mr HEALY (Cairns—ALP) (2.47 pm): The decline of Cairns and Far North Queensland under the Crisafulli LNP government is too big to ignore. Across our region, investment is stalling, critical infrastructure is being delayed or slowed, aviation services and major events are disappearing and, most importantly, community safety is deteriorating.

Mr Powell: You are kidding, aren't you? You are absolutely kidding.

Mr HEALY: I will get to you in a minute.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order! Member for Cairns, I remind you to address your comments through the chair, not directly to other members.

Mr HEALY: Thank you for your direction. These are not isolated concerns. They represent a disturbing pattern of decisions that have left Far North Queensland questioning whether its priorities are receiving the attention, investment and political advocacy they deserve.

The contrasting priorities afforded to the Bribie Island and Barron River bridges are perhaps the clearest demonstration yet of the disparity in infrastructure investment. The Crisafulli government has enthusiastically unveiled plans for a new four-lane Bribie Island Bridge, complete with a preferred design, community consultation and geotechnical investigations. Meanwhile, the replacement of the aging Barron River bridge, which is vitally important to the community at Kuranda, is moving at a glacial pace, and even with federal funding we are seeing absolutely nothing—no announcements. We are not hearing anything. The difference is not simply one of bridges; it is a question of priorities, leadership and political influence.

The Cairns Marine Precinct common user facility represents one of Northern Australia's most significant industrial development opportunities, with the potential to generate thousands of jobs and establish Cairns as a major defence and maritime sustainment hub, yet decisive state government investment remains elusive. Instead of certainty, industry receives delays, reviews and questions about delivery models.

The government's approach to jobs and training raises equally serious questions about whether Queensland is preparing the skilled workforce needed to deliver its infrastructure and programs. Construction Skills Queensland forecasts a shortage of up to 35,000 workers by 2027-28 against a construction pipeline of up to $69 billion. As at March 2026 just 1,236 enrolments had been recorded against a target of 4,100 construction training places, which is approximately 30 per cent of the target. These are appalling figures. Despite ongoing shortages, frontline TAFE teacher and tutor numbers reportedly declined by almost five per cent to March this year. For Cairns the consequences are particularly significant. Our marine, tourism, hospitality, construction and health sectors depend on accessible training, apprentices and a reliable pipeline of qualified workers. You cannot promise more homes, hospitals and infrastructure while allowing the training pipeline needed to build them to fall short.

Our tourism industry faces a similarly troubling outlook. International aviation connections have been lost, including services linking Cairns to Hong Kong, Japan, Christchurch and Bali. Rather than an ambitious strategy to rebuild connectivity, the government has failed to demonstrate the urgency required to compete for international visitors. High fuel costs have seen an erosion of confidence in our tourism industry. There is no leadership from this government and absolutely nothing of any valid substance from the minister. Major events have slipped away. Crankworx has been lost, while Cairns has been overlooked for the Rugby League World Cup matches, which we did host—

Mr Powell: You don't want Powderfinger.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members! No quarrelling across the chamber.

Mr HEALY:—we are not getting excited over one concert in three years—and the AFLW fixture, which is an event we used to have. These developments carry real consequences for local businesses, employment, investor confidence and the future of our tourism industry.

Perhaps most concerning is the deterioration of community safety. Despite the Premier's repeated promises of crime reduction, Cairns continues to experience deeply troubling levels of offending, including reported increases in car theft and robbery. Now we learn that the Cairns CBD has been excluded from the next rollout of the government's designated business and community precincts. This is unprecedented. The tragedy is not that Far North Queensland lacks potential; it is the fact that the Crisafulli government has yet to demonstrate the leadership, ambition and commitment necessary to realise it. Our industries, particularly our tourism industry, need support and they are getting absolutely no direction. When you talk to operators in Western Queensland and when you see the significant impact of high fuel costs and the reduction in tourist numbers, this government is giving nothing to the industry to be proud of or no direction at all.

Labor Party, Performance; Burleigh Electorate

Mr VORSTER (Burleigh—LNP) (2.52 pm): Those in some distant future reviewing *Hansard* might not be able to work this out, but those opposite have been speaking very, very quickly today during their contributions. I can only wonder whether they are trying to extract every last moment they can to put things on the record because, the way I see it, they are not going to be in this House for much longer because they failed to learn the lesson that Queensland handed them in 2024. Queensland said very clearly that mistakes were made, a fresh start was needed and things had to change. Instead, we have a former premier who refused to concede an election and unfortunately over last two years in opposition simply refuses to learn the lesson, because they keep walking in here and defending the same failed policies time and again. Most galling, of course, is that they keep defending the same failed

track record. During my contribution today I want to ensure that my community and the rest of Queensland know exactly what happened so that, come 2028, they can guard against the same poor outcomes that set our state back materially.

The first issue I take umbrage with is those opposite who walk in here and pretend they were capable of delivering housing. We know, having doorknocked our communities, that communities across Queensland had been pushed to breaking point because Labor refused to deliver the infrastructure that was needed in the places it was needed and to work in partnership with local governments to ensure we could deliver new housing lots. We have heard the contribution from the member for Gaven, who somehow thinks that our government is not righting the ship, but nothing could be further from the truth.

I will point to one example in my community, and that is the land that sat vacant next to the Varsity Lakes heavy rail station. It was fenced off, boarded up and excluded from any realistic development plan. Queenslanders who were doing it tough had to drive past that vacant site—which was owned by the government—that was not put to productive use. Our Deputy Premier saw the site and he worked with me. Within weeks of making the announcement of an EOI process we awarded an opportunity to two proponents, one of which will deliver build-to-buy housing so that more Queenslanders can own the roof over their head. Importantly, it will also deliver rentals reserved for key workers who were completely excluded from the market because of the wilful incompetence of those opposite.

I know it is wilful because, as a former Gold Coast City councillor, I sat on the planning committee for eight years. For eight years we attempted to progress amendments to our planning scheme. Whether it was the member for Murrumba or the member for Gaven, they found every opportunity to say no to the housing that the Gold Coast wanted and the Gold Coast needed. In the dying days of their government, when it came time to release a plan to deliver some infrastructure, they could not deliver an actual regional infrastructure plan; it was a supplement that was not worth the paper it was written on. We know it was not because, as part of the work that our transport minister has done putting together the Gold Coast Transport Plan, we now know that those opposite cannibalised 40 per cent of the heavy rail corridor. It is probably the greatest act of public transport vandalism in the state's history. It is not that they left the corridor alone and did not do anything with it; they built it into the corridor, making it materially more expensive to deliver the infrastructure that this end of the Gold Coast is crying out for.

Whether it is housing or infrastructure, those opposite speak a big game but they fail to deliver. It is this side that will deliver housing, deliver infrastructure and deliver hope that a system, that a government, that a parliament can work for the people of Queensland. That is precisely the fresh start people voted for and it is the fresh start that we will continue to deliver.

Political Donations

Mr BERKMAN (Maiwar—Grn) (2.57 pm): Queenslanders are still feeding quite obscene amounts of money into pokies which still ends up in the pockets of the major political parties through bought- and sold-access and outcomes that we still call political donations. Mr Deputy Speaker, $1.33 million: that is how much the gambling industry has bet on the major political parties in Queensland over the last 10 years. That is only in Queensland, mind you. That is $591,000 to the Labor Party and $740,000 to the Liberal National Party, not to mention the $24,000 that has gone to Pauline Hanson's One Nation. It also does not include federal level donations, which of course tend to get moved around as the big parties please.

An opposition member: You've taken federal money.

Mr BERKMAN: It is not the cacophony I was expecting, because of course they are going to go there. I want to make it really clear that the Greens do not, as we have said time and again, take donations from gambling corporations or lobby groups. They consistently try to bang on and deflect from their closeness with the gambling industry by talking about a Greens donor who is a poker player. Let's be really clear here: he does not run the pokies; he does not race dogs; he does not target children and vulnerable addicts with Sportsbet ads; and he has no financial interest in the regulation of this industry.

Mr Mickelberg interjected.

Mr Mellish interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Hang on a second, member for Maiwar. Member for Buderim and member for Aspley, the member for Maiwar is a long way away from me. I need to be able to hear what he is saying in case there is a point of order. Can I have some quiet, please?

Mr BERKMAN: Unlike the major parties' donors, the Greens' donors are people who want to support a better world. It is an individual person who is donating based on values that our policies are trying to achieve. Our policies reflect that. We are consistently calling for a ban on gambling advertising, for pokies to be out of pubs and clubs, and for an end to greyhound racing. Meanwhile, the policies of the LNP and Labor reflect their complete servility to the gambling industry.

Let's go back to those donors. Let's do a bit of naming and shaming here. I will start with Entain. They may be one that people have not heard of, but they are one of the world's biggest online gambling and sports-betting companies. They have a lot to lose from any move to restrict gambling advertising. They make the standard $11,000 donations, which is the annual membership rate for the cash-for-access business clubs that Labor and the LNP run. Entain joined both the Labor and the LNP schemes before the 2024 election, but now they are only forking out to see the LNP. Shock, horror: why would that be?

Then there is Tabcorp, Sportsbet and Clubs Queensland. These are some of the biggest donors in Australian politics. They make a tidy buck from the greyhound racing industry. Shock, horror: over $190,000 has been donated to the major parties, both of which went on to allocate public money to this so-called sport, the blood sport that is greyhound racing. The Queensland and Australian Hotels Association benefit hugely from Australia's world-leading pokies addiction. The spend on pokies in this country is like nowhere else across the globe. These organisations oppose harm reduction policies like bet limits. They have donated over $500,000 to the major parties which has been split almost evenly each way.

These cashed-up gambling corporations are betting on continued favourable treatment from politicians and they are getting it, but they are not the ones who are bearing the cost. Queenslanders lose around $4 billion on the pokies every single year, and that is not including the casinos. That is just in our pubs and clubs. Thirty per cent of children aged 12 to 17 are already gambling. Investigations have found that the gambling industry is aiding money laundering and crime for organised crime syndicates. However, the parties that take money from these vultures will not do anything to reduce their power or their impact on people struggling with addiction.

It is time for us to remember who we are working for. It is time to cut the gambling companies off and really tackle this harm head-on. It was shameful to see federal Labor completely squib on the opportunity they had to really lead the charge here and properly regulate gambling to try to reduce the harms in our communities. They squibbed it and the federal coalition were more than happy to go along with it. We here in Queensland have the power to make real change. I implore everyone here to take steps to do it.

(Time expired)

BREACH BAIL, GO TO JAIL AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from p. 3406, on motion of Mrs Frecklington—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Hon. MAJ SCANLON (Gaven—ALP) (3.02 pm), continuing: I am glad we got that confirmation from the youth justice minister that, ultimately, it is still the discretion of judges, despite what those opposite have been saying about this bill. The Law Society also raised a range of other issues around longstanding protections against people being punished twice for the same conduct. They also raised issues around capacity. They also raised genuine issues around whether this will actually mean that people are spending more time in the courts, clogging up court resources and meaning victims of crime do not get justice as early as ideally many of them would like. Those are questions that the government have not been able to adequately address through the debate.

To conclude, as I said, we will not stand in the way of these laws but we want an ironclad guarantee that workers will not be put at risk. Release the modelling. Release the workforce plan. Tell this House how many beds, how many staff and by when. These laws start within weeks, if passed. If the plan exists, table it; if it does not, well, Queenslanders deserve to know that, too. We want early intervention and prevention actually delivered in the community and in custody, not cut. Real safety is not a slogan; it means dealing with the causes of crime—poverty, housing instability, kids falling through the cracks before anyone steps in. It means backing families early so we have fewer kids on bail in the first place. We want the LNP to support our independent community safety statistics bureau. We need

to take the politics out of crime data so that Queenslanders can judge this government on facts—not flyers, not slogans. Words that rhyme do not fix crime; plans do. Queenslanders will be watching to see if this government has one.

Ms MARR (Thuringowa—LNP) (3.04 pm): I rise to speak on a bill that matters deeply to the people of Thuringowa, to the people of Townsville and to every Queenslander who has had enough, the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. Breach of bail is not just another piece of legislation. It is the community's demand, delivered in plain language: if you are on bail for a serious offence and you offend again, you go to jail—no more soft options, no more revolving doors, no more excuses. For a decade, the former Labor government weakened Queensland's youth crime laws. They made detention a last resort and they removed breach of bail as an offence. The result was predictable and devastating: victim numbers skyrocketed by 193 per cent. What began as opportunistic crime in Thuringowa and across Townsville became something far darker: more violent, more aggressive and life-threatening.

Let us be clear about the timeline. In June 2016 Labor removed breach of bail as an offence and entrenched detention as a last resort. In November 2016 they increased the upper age of a child under the Youth Justice Act from 16 to 17. Those decisions had real consequences on real streets in my electorate. Families in Kirwan, Rasmussen, Kelso and across Townsville lived with the fallout: homes broken into, cars stolen, people threatened and elderly residents terrified in their own homes. Young people who should have been held accountable were instead released to offend again and again.

When the community finally stood up and said 'Enough', how did Labor respond? In October 2023, while 150 residents held a rally against crime in Townsville, Annastacia Palaszczuk and her ministers hid inside the stadium. I walked through that crowd. I listened to their stories. Those people were respectful. They simply wanted to be heard. They wanted their government to show up. Two months earlier, the former member for Capalaba had dismissed the crime crisis as a 'media beat-up'. Disgraceful! The former member for Thuringowa eventually appeared at the rally, only to lose his temper and lash out at the very people he was elected to represent. His words still ring in the ears of those who were there. These were his words—

When you actually want to hear from me I'll start. You called me here so I'm either going to—

I am sorry, Mr Deputy Speaker; I am not quite sure if I can say this word—

bloody speak or I'm not. I bet you if I walked around half of you are bloody LNP anyway. Old rent a crowd.

Victims standing in that crowd described it as—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Member for Thuringowa, just a second. In that context I think the word probably is unparliamentary, so I ask you to withdraw and refrain from using it again.

Ms MARR: Sure. I will refrain from using those exact words that a member of parliament said to his own electorate.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Could you withdraw, please?

Ms MARR: I withdraw. Victims standing in that crowd described it as a complete insult and completely disrespectful. One woman near me was so close to tears she walked away. That was the face of the former government: arrogance, denial and contempt for the very people who were living the consequence of their failed policies. The Labor government created the crime crisis. They treated it with no regard, no care for the victims and zero investment in the safety of North Queensland. Now, under the LNP Crisafulli government, we are doing what the community has asked for. This bill creates a standalone offence for committing a serious offence while on bail. It attracts a mandatory minimum 12-month jail sentence. That sentence must be wholly served in actual detention.

The bill goes further, and it must because our community has made it clear that half-measures are no longer acceptable. It introduces a new 'high degree of confidence' test. Police or a court must refuse bail unless they are satisfied to a high degree of confidence that the offender will not commit another serious offence while on bail. The presumption in favour of bail is reversed for those charged with serious offending while already on bail. For youth offenders, this applies to any Adult Crime, Adult Time offence. For adults, it covers those same offences as well as coercive control and Daniel's Law child sexual offences.

This is the difference between a revolving door and real accountability. Under the old Labor laws too many repeat offenders were released back into our suburbs—into Kirwan and Rasmussen—and on to the streets where our families live, work and raise their children. Under these new laws, the bar

is deliberately high. If someone is already on bail and they commit another serious offence, the starting point is that they will stay in custody unless they can prove to a high degree of confidence that they will not offend again.

The bill also removes the mandatory requirement for police to consider diversionary options before commencing proceedings against a young person. That discretion now sits properly with the officers, who see the reality on our streets every day. For too long the system was weighted against common sense and this bill corrects that. These are the provisions our community supports most strongly. They speak directly to the lived experience of people who have had their home invaded, their car stolen and their sense of safety stripped away by offenders who were already on bail. They speak to the elderly resident who no longer feels safe answering the door at night. They speak to the young family who has had enough of the same names appearing in the same local crime reports week after week.

Make no mistake, these are the toughest, most uncompromising bail laws this country has ever seen. These laws will strengthen protections for Queenslanders, support victims, prevent others from becoming victims and ensure repeat offenders are held accountable for their actions—exactly what our community has been demanding, and the community has spoken loudly.

There were 266 submissions on this bill—real voices, real people including those from North Queensland. Matthew from North Queensland wrote—

> I do not believe every young person who makes a mistake should be treated as an adult criminal.
>
> ...
>
> However, there is a significant difference between a youthful mistake and deliberately committing serious offences ... that place innocent members of the community at serious risk.

I say thank you to Matthew. That is precisely what Adult Crime, Adult Time and breach of bail are for. Alice from North Queensland said, 'Something needs to be done. The community is on its knees.' Yes, Alice, we hear you. Elizabeth from North Queensland wrote that she strongly supports Breach Bail, Go to Jail because there have been too many incidences of crime, especially by reoffenders. Residents deserve to feel safe in their homes and communities, and for that to happen change is necessary. Yes, Elizabeth, we agree. If nothing changes, nothing changes.

Just recently at Riverway shopping centre a father walked up to me, hit the 'breach of bail' sign and said, 'My son is out on bail and he thinks it's a joke. I support this bill.' Thank you, Sir. That is the real honesty of the current system: a father who knows the revolving door is failing everyone, including his own child. I am deeply grateful for that kind of courage and honesty.

I could read submission after submission, but time does not allow it. What my community is saying is clear: 'Keep going. Do more. Thank you for being tough on crime. Thank you for putting victims first.' This is not the LNP's bill; this is our community's bill. They are the drivers. We are simply their voice and their advocates: members of parliament on this side of the House who are finally listening, who are brave enough to stand up and say enough is enough. For 10 years under Labor our community suffered while the former government turned a blind eye to repeat offenders and at times laughed at the very people begging for help. That time is over. Consequences for actions are now a priority of this government.

I want to thank every person who attended a hearing, who put in a submission, who visited me at a mobile office, who had their say online and especially those who bravely stood up and told their stories. I just cannot imagine the absolute despair of a knife being held to your throat when you know your kids are in the house. Some of these stories have broken my heart. They have also steeled my resolve. To the victims in Thuringowa and across Queensland I say: you have been heard. This government stands with you. We will not look away, we will not make excuses and we will not stop until our streets are safer and people in our communities can once again feel secure in their homes. I commend the bill to the House.

Mr RUSSO (Toohey—ALP) (3.14 pm): I rise to speak on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. There have been nine attempts, nine changes to the Queensland crime laws and still the Crisafulli LNP government cannot deliver on its promise to make Queensland safer. Almost two years ago Queensland Labor did not stand in the way of the LNP's first crime slogan. Like all Queenslanders, we wanted to see fewer victims and safer communities. However, Queenslanders still do not feel safe and the fact that we are back in this parliament debating yet another crime slogan is an admission that the government's first slogan has failed. Instead of results, Queenslanders get another slogan, more media conferences and another piece of LNP legislation designed to repair the failures of the LNP's last piece of legislation.

Words that rhyme do not stop crime. Every Queenslander deserves to feel safe. Victims deserve justice, communities deserve protection and serious offenders must face serious consequences. When people commit further offences while on bail, there must be consequences. In most cases it means those offenders should never have been granted bail in the first place. That is why Queensland Labor will support these breach-of-bail laws. Queenslanders also deserve a government that understands the law it is changing, and that brings me to the fundamental principle at the heart of this bill: bail.

The presumption of innocence is not a loophole and we should never allow political slogans to undermine that principle. Queensland Labor supports serious consequences for serious offending while on bail. Stronger laws must be backed by evidence, proper resources and a genuine commitment to preventing crime because Queenslanders need fewer victims, not more slogans from a Premier desperate to declare victory. When someone commits a further serious offence whilst on bail there must be consequences. The question is whether this government has properly prepared our justice system to deliver those consequences safely and effectively, and the evidence raises serious concerns.

During the committee hearings we heard heartbreaking accounts from Queenslanders who continue to experience crime. In Cairns we heard from a victim who described repeated vandalism at a sporting facility, saying the previous eight months had been the worst she had ever experienced. In Townsville witnesses questioned whether the government's Adult Crime, Adult Time laws were deterring offending. The Queensland Police Service figures cited during the inquiry show reported offences across Queensland had increased by 5.8 per cent in the year to September 2026. In Townsville robbery offences increased by 28 per cent. These are not the results Queenslanders were promised, yet the Premier and his ministers continue claiming success.

We have seen overstated reductions in victim numbers, changes in crime reporting practices and the selective presentation of statistics. Queenslanders deserve the full picture. That is why Labor has called for an independent community safety statistics bureau to ensure crime data is independently scrutinised and Queenslanders can have confidence in what they are being told. We call on the LNP government to support this proposal so that we can take the politics out of policing and give Queenslanders confidence that crime policy is being driven by independent evidence, not political spin, because community safety must be measured by results, not media releases.

My greatest concern with this legislation is what happens when the government puts more people into an already overstretched detention system. These laws have the potential to break an already overstretched system without proper and careful planning—planning this government either has not done or refuses to release. Queenslanders deserve to know how the government intends to manage the additional pressures its legislation will create. Where will these additional prisoners go? Who will supervise them? How will the government protect the police officers, the youth detention workers and the corrective services officers responsible for their safety?

The Queensland Police Union has warned that overcrowded watch houses are already placing unsustainable pressure on frontline policing. When prisons and detention centres cannot accept transfers, people remain in police watch houses longer than intended. This means that officers are spending more time managing prisoners instead of protecting communities, and the government has not demonstrated that the additional demand created by this bill will be matched with sufficient staffing and facilities. The consequences are already being felt. The Australian Workers' Union reported more than 500 serious assaults on youth detention workers in the preceding 12 months. Its evidence also identified operational vacancy rates exceeding 34 per cent at one youth detention centre and 43 per cent at another.

In May 2026 alone there were 8,141 separations of children across Queensland's youth detention facilities. This means 8,141 children placed in a locked room by themselves. More than one-third occurred because of staff shortages. These are extraordinary figures. How can the government promise detention with purpose when young people are being isolated because there are insufficient staff to supervise them? How can workers deliver rehabilitation when they are struggling simply to maintain safety? How can this government justify increasing detention numbers without guaranteeing the safety of those workers inside those facilities?

Our adult prisons are under enormous pressure. Queensland Corrective Services reported prison utilisation at 136.1 per cent of built cell capacity. A survey by the Together union of 620 correctional officers found that 91.4 per cent believed current prisoner numbers had made their workplace less safe and 97.7 per cent expected their safety to deteriorate further if prison numbers are increased without additional staffing and facilities. These workers deserve better. Police officers, youth detention workers and prison officers should never become the next victim of this government's failure to plan. That is why Labor is demanding an ironclad worker safety guarantee.

We must also remember that detention alone will not break the cycle of offending. If we genuinely want fewer victims, we must stop people from committing further crimes. That requires rehabilitation, education, drug and alcohol treatment, mental health support and meaningful pathways back into the community, yet the Queensland Audit Office found that more than 1,000 prisoners were waiting for rehabilitation programs, with an average wait of 16 months. That is longer than the 12-month mandatory minimum sentence proposed by this legislation. What does that tell us? It tells us that simply putting someone behind bars does not guarantee they will receive the intervention needed to prevent them from offending again. While the Crisafulli government boasts about early intervention, its own annual report revealed millions in deferred funding across youth justice initiatives. Youth justice schools have not opened, Circuit Breaker has yet to commence and only one of the four promised crime prevention schools is operating.

Mr MOLHOEK (Southport—LNP) (3.24 pm): At the outset I want to thank the member for Toohey for highlighting all of the legacy issues that the previous government left for us to sort out. He has provided the House with a very concise list of challenges, and I think we are all well aware of the mess that we are having to clean up after a decade of decline.

Today I rise to speak in strong support of the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. For too long Queenslanders have been calling for one simple thing: to feel safe where they live, work, study and raise their families. They want to know that when someone commits a serious crime there are consequences—that when an offender is released on bail that privilege comes with responsibilities and when another serious offence is committed our justice system will respond. That is exactly what this bill seeks to deliver.

Under the Crisafulli government's reforms, youth and adult offenders who commit a serious crime while on bail will face a new standalone offence carrying a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months in custody. The bill also introduces a higher threshold for granting bail to those accused of serious reoffending. The message is clear: if you are given the opportunity to remain in the community and choose to commit another serious crime, there will be serious consequences. This is a message being overwhelmingly supported in my electorate of Southport. Southport is our city's CBD—a centre for business, education, health, tourism and community life—but over recent years I have heard far too many stories from people who no longer feel safe in their own community.

Just last week I held a mobile office at Espresso Lane Cafe in Australia Fair, inviting residents and business owners to share their concerns about community safety and antisocial behaviour. The response was overwhelming. Business owners spoke about the destruction of public property, the financial impact of ongoing crime and antisocial behaviour, and the toll these incidents are taking on their businesses. They spoke about customers being deterred from visiting the CBD and concerns for the safety of their staff. Residents spoke about their growing frustration with antisocial behaviour and the perception that offenders are not being held accountable. These are real people with real businesses, real employees and real families living with the consequences. We cannot expect our CBDs and our communities to prosper if people who live, work and invest in them do not feel safe.

Another aspect of this issue particularly concerns me as the member for Southport. Southport is one of Queensland's most important education precincts. We have Griffith University, one of Queensland's largest TAFEs and numerous international colleges attracting students from across Australia and around the world. Families overseas make significant sacrifices to send their children to the Gold Coast because of our educational opportunities, lifestyle and reputation as a safe and welcoming destination, but what happens when that sense of safety disappears? My electorate office has received many emails expressing genuine fear from students and teachers. We have heard accounts of education staff locking doors to protect themselves and their students from threatening behaviour outside. No student should be frightened to attend class. No teacher should feel the need to lock themselves into a classroom for their own protection. This is not just a law and order issue, however; it is an education issue and an economic issue and it goes to the heart of supporting our tourism on the Gold Coast. We cannot allow persistent crime and antisocial behaviour to undermine the Gold Coast's reputation as a world-class destination to live, work, study and visit.

We must also acknowledge how we arrived at this point. For a decade the former Labor government weakened Queensland's youth justice laws and failed to adequately address the escalating crime crisis. In 2016 Labor removed breach of bail as an offence for young offenders and made detention a last resort. While Labor subsequently changed its bail laws, its approach failed to restore confidence amongst Queenslanders witnessing serious repeat offending. During Labor's time in government car theft increased by 101 per cent, break-ins rose by 44 per cent and assaults increased

by 198 per cent. We know that behind every statistic is a victim. The Crisafulli government is delivering the commitments we made to Queenslanders. We promised to restore safety where you live, and that is what we are determined to do.

We have already delivered the first three phases of Adult Crime, Adult Time, covering 47 serious offences. Queensland police data cited in the government's briefing shows that victim numbers have fallen by 9.6 per cent. Australian Bureau of Statistics figures also show Queensland recorded 12,038 fewer victims of crime in 2025 than the previous year. That is encouraging progress, but there is much more to do. We must be tough on crime, but we must also be serious about preventing crime in the first place. Those objectives are not mutually exclusive. We need strong laws, properly supported police and a justice system that prioritises community safety, but we also need early intervention, education, mentoring and meaningful pathways for young people at risk of falling into crime. The best outcome is not simply punishing someone for an offence after it has occurred; it is preventing that offence from happening in the first place. This is something I have been passionate about for many years.

In Southport, we are fortunate to have organisations like the Men of Business Academy, or MOB as it is known, and the BUSY girls' campuses providing alternative education pathways for young people who may not be thriving in mainstream schooling. I have been a longstanding supporter of these organisations and worked alongside them to help secure the support they need to continue changing young lives. These organisations give young people the chance to reconnect with education, develop confidence, find mentors who believe in them and see a future that does not involve crime.

I am particularly pleased that the Crisafulli government has supported the expansion of Men of Business on the Gold Coast in Southport as part of its crime prevention schools initiative. The first cohort of year 7 boys is now attending classes in the expanded Gold Coast facilities. We know MOB are making a difference. Of the almost 200 young men who graduated last year, more than 190 graduated into clear pathways—jobs, traineeships and apprenticeships.

The government's record $560 million investment in early intervention and rehabilitation further demonstrates our commitment to addressing the causes of offending, not simply its consequences. I do not believe we should ever give up on a young person who genuinely wants to change their life but, equally, compassion for offenders cannot come at the expense of compassion for victims. Accountability and rehabilitation must go hand in hand.

I conclude by sharing a couple of comments from Southport residents that capture the frustration and concern I have been hearing. David from Southport said—

> Today a youngster with 51 rap sheets is immediately released on bail after driving over a woman with her own car and breaking her back—if Australia doesn't take action on this violent crime and jail the perpetrator, we are in extreme trouble.

Dawn had this to say—

> One of the many infuriating things when hearing about another youth crime, is when they say the offenders had previous charges and offences or were out on bail! It's an absolute crime in itself to allow repeat offenders to get a slap on the wrist, and then reoffend over and over again. The fact that not many of us feel safe in our own homes anymore is a tragedy in itself. What happened to our home being our safe haven.

Dawn's final question is particularly pertinent: what happened to our home being our safe haven? That was one of the issues that we took to the last election. We made a promise to the voters of Queensland that we would restore safety in their homes. Whether we are talking about a family in their home, a small business owner in Southport, an international student attending college, a visitor holidaying with their family on the Gold Coast or a teacher trying to protect their classroom, the message is the same: these people want to feel safe. They deserve to feel safe. They want serious repeat offenders held accountable and they want a government that is prepared to act.

We are strengthening our laws and we are supporting our police. I am pleased to see the huge increase in police numbers we have achieved in our first two years in government, with more to come. We are investing in early intervention and restoring consequences for serious offending. Every Queenslander deserves to feel safe, and every young person deserves the opportunity to build a better future. I commend this bill to the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr J Kelly): Before I call the next speaker, there is a number of members continuing to have conversations around the chamber. If you are going to have conversations, please take them outside.

Ms McMAHON (Macalister—ALP) (3.34 pm): I rise to make my contribution to the debate this afternoon. It is not up for debate that every Queenslander deserves to live their life free from crime and that they deserve to be safe and to feel safe in their communities. My community deserves to feel safe

but it does not. They are starting to realise that slogans do not keep them safe at night. Slogans do not keep them safe when they are out with their family in a public space. They are not safe when they running for their lives.

Every time the Crisafulli LNP government has returned to parliament to rewrite its own crime laws it is an admission that its previous attempts have failed, that its attempts fall short of delivering the safety that Queenslanders were promised. Four out of five Queenslanders do not feel safe in their community—that is 80 per cent of Queenslanders. Let that sink in. In fact, of the people who have changed their perceptions about community safety since October 2024, more of them feel less safe than more safe under this government. Who knew that governing by slogan would fail to work? Who knew that not listening to the experts would mean failure?

This bill is the Crisafulli LNP government's ninth attempt to introduce, amend or fix its signature youth justice and community safety laws. This represents the depth of their politicised piecemeal approach. If they keep throwing mud at the wall maybe something will stick. At this rate it will be more by luck than by design or legislation. It must have been terribly disheartening and concerning for government members to hear story after story from submitters and people attending hearings throughout Queensland recount stories about how—despite the absolute rush to introduce laws before Christmas 2024—that crime is getting worse. So much for those tough-on-crime slogans acting as a deterrent to offending behaviour.

The Premier needs to come clean with Queenslanders. He sold them a story that there would be less crime and fewer victims. There are four Queenslanders in hospital today who would say they have been sold a fairytale. He said crime rates are falling. I do not think there is anyone in Queensland who honestly believes that. Even blind Freddy's dog knows that this government is prepared to fudge figures to spin their story.

The Crisafulli LNP government have made numerous attempts to walk back statements after they rushed to claim success from crime data. In October 2025—a week after the Premier announced a drop in victims—the Premier and the police minister had to apologise, revealing that they had claimed credit for an overstated reduction in the number of victims of crime. In March this year Queenslanders learned of another overstated reduction of victims after it was revealed by the *Courier-Mail* that changes to police practices had resulted in at least 900 fewer child victims of domestic and family violence being recorded. So, sure, throw out all the figures—Queenslanders just do not believe it anymore. Queenslanders need confidence in data about community safety, yet the Crisafulli LNP government has given them good reason to question the government's account of its own performance. That is why we call on this government to support our proposal for an independent community safety statistics bureau, an independent body to oversee and audit community safety data free from government spin. That is when the community will have trust in all these numbers coming out of business.

When someone commits an offence while on bail there should be consequences and, in most cases, it is a sign that they should never have been on bail in the first place. But with strong bail laws must come strong protections for the workers on the front line who are at the coalface every day—our police, our prison officers and our youth detention centre workers. They cannot become victims themselves. This is why our team is calling for urgent action to protect frontline workers. There must be an ironclad worker safety guarantee. We know that these laws will lead to a surge in custodial figures—that is their whole intent—but the slogan needs to be backed by serious and detailed planning, not just a 'she'll be right' attitude. This does nothing for the frontline workers who will carry the burden of this bill. The question at the heart of this bill is simple: where are these additional people going to go? Police need safe places to hold and transfer people. Youth detention centre workers and prison officers need enough staff, suitable facilities and services that keep both prisoners and staff safe while delivering rehabilitation services.

There has been no modelling released and no assurance that workers can or will be kept safe. The Queensland Ombudsman and Inspector of Detention Services noted—

> It is not clear whether there has been any detailed modelling about how great the increase in the number of detainees will be, how quickly the increases will occur, or which facilities will be most impacted.

The Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support also described its specific demand modelling as cabinet-in-confidence. The QPS, meanwhile, told the committee that its modelling was still underway—

> The modelling work that we are doing continues to this day because there is a lot of work that has to come together between multiple agencies about that to truly understand what the numbers will be.

We have a bill before the House and it will pass, but not even the police who will be responsible for dealing with this influx of numbers know what they are going to be dealing with yet. While the Queensland Police Union of Employees strongly supported the bill, its submission nevertheless warned that police watch houses are already being used to hold adults and children for extended periods because prison and youth detention centres cannot accept transfers quickly enough. The QPU has warned that overcrowding and inadequate staffing increases the risk of assaults, self-harm, fatigue and unsafe workloads. They also explained what happens when there is nowhere else to send people. They said—

> When correctional facilities and detention centres reach capacity, prisoners remain in police watchhouses longer than intended. This creates a cascading effect throughout the criminal justice system and places an unsustainable burden on frontline police resources.

We know that they are stretched, yet without the proper modelling done and the resources and infrastructure in place this bill will still go through.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr J Kelly): Pause the clock. I gave some advice earlier about conversations. If you would like to have them, take them outside the chamber, as per previous Speakers' rulings. I will now issue a general warning: if people continue conversations I will be warning them.

Ms McMAHON: Like all Queenslanders, the Queensland Labor opposition wants to see less crime and fewer victims.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Caloundra, you are warned. You can return to your seat.

Ms McMAHON: Almost two years ago we did not stand in the way of the LNP's first slogan. Like all Queenslanders, we are disappointed that they have not delivered on what was promised with that legislation. Queenslanders still do not feel safe. The very fact that we are back here again for the ninth time with another slogan is an admission that their repeated attempts have so far failed to keep Queenslanders safe.

These laws have the potential to break the system without proper and careful planning. Failure to plan will lead to our police, our detention centre workers and our prison officers becoming victims of assault at a greater rate due to overcrowding and unsafe conditions. We want a safe community, but we also want safe workforces and we want detention with purpose. We will not stand in the way of these laws, but we want an ironclad guarantee that our Queensland workers will also be safe and that they will not be put at risk.

Ms JAMES (Barron River—LNP) (3.43 pm): This bill is about putting victims first. It is about recognising that behind every crime statistic is a real person, a real family and a real community left to deal with the consequences. It is about ensuring that when serious offenders commit serious crimes while on bail there are serious consequences.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr J Kelly): Pause the clock. Attorney-General, you are warned. You were here for the general warning that I gave. You continue to have conversations. If you want to converse, go outside the chamber.

Ms JAMES: It is about improving confidence in a system that for far too many Queenslanders has been a court system, not a justice system. I hear the concerns of my region regularly. Far North Queensland has witnessed deeply disturbing allegations of serious sexual violence and armed home invasions involving young offenders on bail. These cases remind us why bail decisions must carefully consider the risk to community, because no Queenslander should have to fear for their safety in their own home.

We have a responsibility to ensure that our laws protect the community, that serious offending, when proven, has serious consequences and that victims are not forgotten in the decisions about bail. That is why this bill matters. I have stood alongside residents at our community crime rallies after devastating crimes have shaken our city. I have listened to families that are frightened and exhausted and to business owners, community clubs and residents asking why the same offenders keep getting another chance.

This bill is for people like Renee and many others like her family. Renee and her family were broken into while they slept. The two young offenders responsible were on bail. Thousands of dollars worth of property was stolen, including vehicles belonging to their businesses, and the financial cost and loss of business revenue were significant, but they were not the greatest cost. Their peace of mind and their sense of security and safety were stolen from them, too. Through tears, Renee told me that

her daughter had made a sign that simply read 'No bad guys' and placed it on the front door of their home, hoping that it might stop someone from coming back. Her son now asks his parents every night to triple-check the locks before bed and it has become part of their bedtime routine. A child should not have to worry about whether their family is safe in their own home when they go to bed. That is the human cost of crime. It does not end when the police leave the scene or the stolen property is replaced.

Sarah and Andy, who run our local cafe Ten 06, have been broken into three times. The offenders were on bail. The federal Labor government is piling pressure on small businesses, making it harder and harder to survive, let alone succeed. Add the impact of crime and we are reaching a point where good, capable, successful business owners are asking themselves a devastating question: why keep on going? These are people who have worked hard, taken risks, invested in their communities and created jobs. They should be rewarded for that, not feel that the deck is stacked against them. When the cost of doing business keeps rising and the sense of safety disappears, we risk losing more businesses. We risk losing the people who built them, the jobs they created and the confidence to keep investing in our communities.

Over the past two years we have passed laws to strengthen police powers and the ability of magistrates to hold offenders accountable. Those who wreak havoc on our communities must face the full force of the law. When an offender commits a serious crime while on bail, they have effectively shown no respect to the justice system and the community that gave them that chance. Queenslanders have had enough of offenders being given chance after chance while innocent people pay the price. If you commit a serious crime while on bail, there must be serious consequences.

The figures show the scale of the challenge ahead of us. Across Queensland, 728 serious repeat youth offenders are reported to be responsible for 55 per cent of all proven youth crime. Around 40 per cent of those serious repeat offenders are concentrated between Far North Queensland, Townsville and Mount Isa. In Far North Queensland we have around 51 serious repeat offenders who are known to police, with many continuing to offend while they are on bail. Fifty-two per cent of youth offenders are reoffending while on bail. That is why one of the most significant parts of this bill is the introduction of a 'high degree of confidence' test. When someone has already been granted bail and is then charged with another serious offence, we must ask a fundamental question: what gives the community confidence that releasing that person again will not put someone else at risk? Under this bill, eligible defendants must now first show cause as to why their detention is not justified. They must then satisfy the decision-maker to a high degree of confidence that they will not commit another serious offence if released. That is a significant change. It makes it harder for people accused of specific serious offences to obtain bail again and it places greater emphasis on protecting the community from further serious offending.

This bill creates a new offence for specified serious crimes committed by adults or young people while on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear in court. This means that eligible offenders can face additional consequences for committing serious offences in these circumstances, not just the original crime. Where convicted, the new offence carries a mandatory minimum of 12 months imprisonment or detention, wholly served in custody, with sentences running concurrently where provided by law.

These laws work alongside the efforts of our Queensland Police Service. I want to acknowledge the outstanding work of our officers, particularly those serving in Far North Queensland. Queensland now has more than 13,000 police officers for the first time in our state's history. Since October 2024, more than 2,100 additional officers have been delivered, including more than 230 in Far North Queensland. Our police officers and our police dogs do an extraordinary job. They are out there every day responding to crime, disrupting criminal activity and working to keep our communities safe. We must continue to back them with the resources and laws that they need to do that job.

The consequences of decisions about bail can reach far beyond the person standing before the court. The member for Capalaba understands that devastation better than most. In his maiden speech to this parliament and at many other forums, he has spoken about the loss of his son Matthew, Matthew's partner, Kate, and their unborn baby, Miles. For those from my region who may not have heard this heartbreaking story, Matthew and Kate were walking their dogs when they were struck and killed by a stolen four-wheel drive driven by a 17-year-old repeat juvenile offender on bail who was fleeing police. They were simply walking their dogs. It was an ordinary moment on an ordinary day. They had their whole lives ahead of them. Three lives were lost, a family and community were devastated and nothing can ever give them back what was taken.

During the parliamentary committee hearings, the member for Capalaba spoke passionately about the impacts on his family and the 16 people who have been killed by youth offenders whose cases he has tracked in Queensland. He said 11 of those victims were killed by juveniles who were out

on bail. He believes that if mandatory detention had kept those offenders off the streets, there is every possibility that those 11 people, including members of his family, would still be alive today. I give my sincere and heartfelt thanks for everything he has done to advocate for victims of crime in our state. Countless crimes would not happen if those repeat offenders were in jail. That is why the 'high degree of confidence' test matters.

We cannot undo what has happened to so many victims across Queensland, but our side of politics will continue to strengthen laws and not weaken them, unlike the former government that unashamedly weakened laws across Queensland, which has impacted Far North Queensland significantly. I will keep turning up, I will keep listening and I will keep bringing the concerns of Far North Queensland into this parliament because the people I represent deserve to feel safe in their homes, safe in their businesses and safe in their communities.

I thank the committee, the ministers and all of the community members who have come forward and shared their stories with me. Many have brought me to tears. I have been absolutely saddened beyond measure at the impact not only on their families and loved ones but also on their businesses and community sporting clubs. It has been absolutely horrific in Far North Queensland for a really long time. There is a really long way to go to turn around the crime crisis facing our city. However, people can rest assured that, as the member for Barron River, I will make every effort in this parliament to strengthen laws and not weaken them because we must put community safety ahead of criminals. This bill is an important step towards stronger accountability and safer communities.

Mr BERKMAN (Maiwar—Grn) (3.52 pm): I rise to make my contribution to the debate on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. This bill, like pretty much everything we have seen from the LNP on youth justice, will not achieve its objectives. In fact, like everything we have seen from them, it is a counter-productive piece of legislation. The LNP's latest rhyming policy, again supported by Labor, will cost Queenslanders billions to keep people in custody where they will face extreme overcrowding with limited or no access to rehabilitative programs and from which they will come out even more traumatised and even more likely to reoffend.

In a very brief potted summary of this bill, it will introduce mandatory minimum sentencing, remove the requirement for police to consider diversionary options for children and override the Human Rights Act for the treatment of children and adults in prison. The LNP says they want us to believe that this bill will deter offending while on bail. The evidence says otherwise, not that that has ever mattered to them although it is clear. The theory that they posit goes something like this: increasing penalties will deter would-be offenders from committing offences. However, that assumes that people are acting rationally when they commit offences and we know that, more often than not, that simply is not the case. While the threat of imprisonment does generate a small deterrent effect generally, the research indicates that increasing the severity of penalties does not result in an equivalent increase in deterrence. Conversely, when it comes to specific deterrence—that is, preventing reoffending—the research shows that imprisonment has either no effect on the rate of reoffending or results in a greater risk of reoffending. This is such simple black-and-white stuff.

Unsurprisingly, the harsher the conditions in prison the more likely that imprisonment will lead to an increase in reoffending and more violent offending. We have a clear-cut example right here in Queensland with the Cleveland Youth Detention Centre where conditions are notoriously poor. Young people who left Cleveland between June 2024 and June 2025 increased their level of serious offending by 12 per cent compared to before their time in youth detention. It is there. It is exactly what is happening in our existing youth detention systems.

The LNP says that this bill will ensure offenders who commit serious offences while on bail will be held accountable. Again, the direct and predictable consequence of this bill will be extreme overcrowding in prisons and detention centres that are already at breaking point. That is not a system that is capable of real rehabilitation or encouraging people to take responsibility for their actions. Prisons in Queensland are already little more than warehouses. The Queensland Corrective Services annual report shows us that prisoner numbers increased by 54 per cent between June 2015 and June 2025—that is, they increased by more than half in a decade. That leads to increasing pressure on infrastructure, on staffing and on the programs that we might hope would offer incarcerated people a way out, a new avenue and a way to change their behaviour in the future.

As a consequence of this bill, advocates say we can expect to see triple-bunking—that is, three people in a single-occupancy cell with a mattress on the floor. 'Cry me a river', they might say. In fact, we have heard quite explicitly from the Premier and other government members that basically they do not care and that criminals do not deserve comfort. Surely anyone who can rub a couple of brain cells together can agree that we want people leaving prison rehabilitated. The government may be increasing

bed numbers in some respects but they are not improving rehabilitative programs. The 2026-27 budget says that the government will deliver services that reduce reoffending, rehabilitate offenders and prevent crimes, but it lists nothing that will actually do that. Instead, it cites the delivery of more beds, new razor wire, new tech for officer safety and electronic monitoring programs. Where is the rehabilitation?

All of this is not cheap. As at April of this year, 11,900 prisoners in jails across the state cost $3.8 million a day, which compounds to $1.3 billion each year. More money spent on keeping people in prison means less money to get victims the resources they need to feel safe and to heal as well as to actually rehabilitate offenders. It is obviously the case that victims suffer and they face retraumatisation through the criminal legal system as well. However, again, this bill is counterproductive. When a defendant is facing a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months, they have a far greater incentive to defend their charges rather than to seek the benefit of an early guilty plea. That means more victims more often will be dragged through retraumatising court processes.

The LNP say that this bill will strengthen community safety and improve public confidence in the bail system. It will not strengthen community safety. Instead, it will make Queenslanders less safe by releasing more hardened, institutionalised prisoners at the end of their sentence. Let's be real: sentences will end. The way they carry on you could almost assume that they are convinced they will be able to lock people up and throw away the key; that if people are incarcerated forever they cannot commit offences. That is an absolute nonsense. It is delusional. As for public confidence, the government is torching centuries of legal doctrine overnight, just in a flash. That does not exactly instil confidence.

This bill offends the presumption of innocence: a conviction will survive even where the charge for which someone was on bail has been withdrawn or they have been acquitted. It offends the rule of double jeopardy: it will expressly punish people twice for the same conduct. It offends the separation of powers, removing judicial discretion, and it limits human rights in ways the government admits are not reasonable and cannot be justified. How anyone can have confidence in a government that has so little regard for the courts or the fundamental tenets of criminal law and blithely ignores the clear evidence on what works is completely beyond me, but obviously evidence-based solutions do not always rhyme—they rarely rhyme. They do not necessarily look great on a billboard. Instead, the only answer we are getting from this government in all its ignorance is just to lock people up.

Labor is going to support this one. This bill will increase the risk of reoffending. It offends basic fundamental legal principles. It will be expensive. It will worsen prison overcrowding. It will endanger workers. I am going to vote against this bill because I do not believe any person is disposable, and we have a responsibility to build the kind of society in which people can live meaningful lives. As a Greens representative in this place, I have always voiced my position in this House honestly and fearlessly, and I have said what I mean and I have stuck by it, even when I get attacked for it.

To the members of the Labor Party who, it seems, are going to vote to support this bill, I ask: where is their courage? Where is their integrity? Where do they draw the line? Supporting this bill, which is clearly completely contrary to their party platform, shows an incredible disrespect for grassroots members and for the broader community who look to that platform as their basis for what they might expect Labor to do. It is, frankly, no wonder that people are turning away from the major parties with broken promises like this and nothing but baseless spin and rhetoric as the basis for governing. All of that is done to just then stand on the same side when it comes to a vote like this.

This government knows—it must know—deep down that to reduce reoffending you need to look at each offender as an individual, understand what is driving their offending and respond appropriately to help them turn around, to help them change that behaviour. However, to examine and resolve the underlying drivers of offending, this government would have to admit all of its failures in social policy, so maybe we shan't hold our breath.

In the moments I have left I want to turn very quickly to the defunding of YAC. I want to table this report that I referred to in my question during question time this morning that the youth justice minister so readily dismissed.

Tabled paper: Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support, Evaluation of the Electronic Monitoring Trial: Final Report, 9 October 2025 [2144].

This is the department's own report, which lays bare that kids in bail programs had a lower reoffending rate and a lower average number of offences—findings which are consistent with previous evaluations. This is poor policy.

(Time expired)

Mr HUTTON (Keppel—LNP) (4.02 pm): I rise to support the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. For the people I represent, this debate is about a family in Yeppoon and whether they can go to bed at night and feel safe in their own home. It is about whether a small business owner in Rockhampton can lock the door at the end of a hard day and reasonably expect to find their business intact the next morning. It is about whether someone who lives in Parkhurst, The Caves, Emu Park or Zilzie should have to wonder whether the offender who was arrested yesterday will be back on the streets tomorrow. This is where the LNP Crisafulli government's view contrasts so greatly with those that have been expressed by the member for Maiwar.

If you are given bail and, while on bail, you choose to commit another serious offence, we believe there must be a serious consequence: Breach Bail, Go to Jail. I have spoken in this House before about the impact crime has had on the people of Keppel—how for a decade I had members of my community calling out for change, calling out for the government to step up, to protect them, to make them safe in their homes and in their community, and those answers were let go. I have spoken about residents whose homes have been invaded. I have spoken about families who have had their cars stolen. I have spoken about businesses that were repeatedly targeted—again and again and again—the consequence of which was that the price of doing business went up, which meant every single consumer paid more. I have spoken about something that cannot be replaced by an insurance company: a person's sense of safety.

I spoke about Chantelle from Yeppoon, who was asleep with her partner when young offenders broke into homes in her neighbourhood and stole two cars. Those cars were then driven recklessly through Rockhampton, putting lives at risk. I spoke about Brad, who experienced youth crime at his home and at his business and was fed up with being targeted again and again. I spoke about Karla, who had two sets of car keys stolen from her home at 3.30 in the morning and two vehicles taken. Our hardworking police recovered those vehicles, but they had been damaged and Karla paid the price.

These are not statistics to me. These are the people I represent—people who voted for a fresh start. These are our neighbours—families who deserve to feel safe in their homes but who paid the price for a decade of weakened laws under the Palaszczuk and Miles governments. For too long, the balance was wrong. The rights of offenders were put above the rights of victims, and some in this House today would argue yet again that we should be more concerned about the consequences for offenders and less about the consequences for victims.

These stories are not isolated. I have continued to listen to people across my community—people like Maria from Parkhurst, who described waking in the middle of the night to youths on her carport roof trying to break into her home and who told her to just give them the car keys; John, who spoke about paying the price of crime at both his home and his business; David, who described a neighbourhood living through cycles of peace and crime, knowing that even when the immediate incident is over the damage and distress remain; and victims who have spent years triple-checking their locks because they no longer feel safe because the person who committed the crime never paid the price.

The people of Keppel were tired of the revolving door. They were tired of seeing police do the hard work, apprehend an offender and put them before the justice system but then seeing another serious offence committed while that person was out on bail. One witness appearing before the inquiry in Rockhampton put it particularly well. They said that accountability and rehabilitation do not need to be opposites; in fact, we can give young people opportunities to turn their lives around while also recognising that victims and communities have rights and have needs. That witness told us that, in effect, our compassion for offenders cannot mean that victims become an afterthought. They must be our priority.

I believe in rehabilitation. I believe in the role of early intervention. I believe in helping a young person before they enter the justice system. I believe in the power of education, mentoring, family support and creating pathways into employment. I also believe that there should be consequences for actions. We are investing a record amount in early intervention and rehabilitation. We are rolling out Regional Reset programs. We are delivering the new Kickstarter programs. We are investing in Proven Initiatives. We are also delivering Staying on Track so that young offenders who are leaving detention can receive the intense support they need to help them break the cycle of offending. That is part of making Queensland safer.

We need to intervene early. We need to rehabilitate. However, when somebody is given bail and they make the choice to commit another serious offence, the rights of our community and the rights of our victims must come first—the rights of victims over offenders. That is what this bill delivers. The legislation creates a standalone offence for serious offending committed while on bail, unlawfully at large or after failing to appear. It carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months. It targets serious

offending. Bail is not a free pass. Bail is a covenant we make with our community. It is the trust placed in us to make a better choice. When somebody is given that opportunity by our justice system—the trust placed in them by our community—the community has every right to expect that that trust will not be repaid with another break-in, another stolen car, another assault or another traumatised family.

The Crisafulli government was elected to make Queensland safer. In 2025, Queensland victim numbers fell for the first time in five years. There is so much more to do. We now have more than 13,000 police officers in Queensland, for the first time in our state's history, and more than 2,100 new officers have been delivered since October 2024. The thin blue line is just a little bit thicker.

I acknowledge the men and women of the Queensland Police Service who are serving across Central Queensland. They are the people who are turning up to victims. They are the people who are turning up after a family has woken to the sound of someone breaking into their home. They are the people who are pursuing stolen vehicles. They are the people who are dealing with offenders and supporting our community, and they do it again and again. Our responsibility in this place is to give those officers the laws that back them.

I think about what safer communities look like in my electorate of Keppel. It is a family able to walk along the Yeppoon foreshore after dinner without worrying about antisocial behaviour. It is someone in Emu Park feeling comfortable to leave their tradie ute at home while they go away for the weekend. It is a small business owner who opens up in the morning and finds that everything in their yard or their workshop is as they left it the night before. It is a parent in Parkhurst who hears a noise outside at night and assumes it is a possum instead of immediately fearing that it is someone who is trying to break into their home. It is a resident of The Caves, Zilzie, Frenchville or Norman Gardens who knows that if someone repeatedly commits serious offences the justice system will meet the community's expectation. That is what making Queensland safer means. It is confidence. It is freedom. It is the right to feel safe where you live.

The committee heard from victims, stakeholders and community organisations in Brisbane, Rockhampton, Cairns, Mareeba and Townsville. It considered 266 written submissions. After that examination, the committee recommended that the bill be passed. I thank all Central Queenslanders who came forward. Some told incredible and deeply personal stories. Some relived experiences they would rather forget. They did this because they wanted this parliament to understand what crime looks like outside this chamber, how the consequences of crime are felt by victims not just on the day and not just in the months after but for years, and how their behaviour is changed. We heard them.

Our government's choice is clear: we choose the family asleep in their home, we choose to back the small business owner who has had enough, we choose the police officer doing the hard work on the front line and we choose the victim who deserves justice. We also choose the potential next victim because the best victim support that we can give, the best support that we can ever provide, is preventing—

(Time expired)

Mr MARTIN (Stretton—ALP) (4.12 pm): Like all Queenslanders, we want to see less crime and fewer victims, we want people to feel safe in their homes and in their communities and we want to see fewer Queenslanders become victims of crime. Almost two years ago the Labor opposition did not stand in the way of the LNP's first law and order slogan. We wanted the government to deliver on its many promises, but almost two years later Queenslanders are still waiting.

They were promised safer communities. They were told that the big issues that matter around kitchen tables would be fixed. Instead, on the measure that matters most for this debate—community safety and the reoffending that these breach-of-bail laws are meant to address—the numbers are heading in the wrong direction. The LNP has not fixed youth crime. In fact, in the last year we have seen the number of offences committed in Queensland increase by 5.86 per cent. Total year-to-date offences have increased since the election, and the overall crime rate remains at a 20-year high.

Criminologist Dr Terry Goldsworthy has described the situation as still very problematic and has said that victims of crime remain quite fearful. Plus, we see reported today that most Queenslanders do not feel safer, with 39 per cent feeling less safe. The fact that we are debating another set of laws accompanied by another slogan says a great deal about this government's record so far. Announcements and slogans have not delivered the reduction in reoffending that was promised.

When someone commits an offence whilst on bail, there should be consequences. In many cases the question should be asked whether the person should have been granted bail in the first place. That is why the Labor opposition will support these breach-of-bail laws; however, there are serious questions about how the government intends to implement these changes, particularly the additional pressures

they will place on our detention centres, correctional facilities and frontline staff. These laws are designed to respond to people who reoffend while on bail. If more people are being held as a result, the system must have the capacity to manage them safely. So far, we have not seen a clear plan for that capacity. With an anticipated influx of over 6,000 detainees, this work needs to be done urgently.

I am particularly concerned about what it means for our police officers, youth detention workers and corrective service officers. They should not be placed at greater risk because the government has failed to plan for an increased number in watch houses and custodial facilities. The AWU has warned—

> Tougher laws alone are not a solution if the government fails to adequately resource the system that is expected to implement them.

The Together union has made the same point, stating—

> The Government is preparing to send more people to prison, but the officers who will manage them are telling us the system is already unsafe.

Overcrowded facilities create dangerous conditions not only for those in custody but also for the workers responsible for their care and supervision. The same frontline officers who already respond to high numbers of call-outs will be the ones dealing with the consequences of these laws. We cannot expect these workers to bear the consequences of poor government planning. We want a safe workforce, and we want detention to serve a purpose. We will not stand in the way of these laws, but the government must provide an ironclad guarantee that our frontline workers will not be put at unnecessary risk.

We also need to see the government deliver on early intervention and crime prevention. That means having proper investment in programs within our communities and within our detention facilities that address offending behaviour and reduce reoffending. Breach-of-bail laws deal with people after they have already reoffended. Prevention is what stops them from reaching that point in the first place. We cannot simply keep introducing tougher laws without having a plan to stop people from offending whilst on bail or from entering the system at all.

At the same time, significant prevention and intervention funding has been cut or delayed. Domestic and family violence victims are no longer being recorded in the same way, following a quiet change to how police record offences. Thousands of victims are no longer being counted in the same way. If the official figures understate the true scale of offending, it becomes harder to know whether these new laws are actually reducing the very reoffending they are designed to target. Accurate data is essential if we are to judge whether breach-of-bail provisions are working. The Crisafulli LNP government should support Labor's proposed independent community safety statistics bureau so that Queenslanders can have access to independent crime statistics and judge for themselves whether the government's policies are working. Dr Goldsworthy made the same point, describing some of the current data presentation as bordering on propaganda and saying that it lends credence to a call for an independent authority that can release figures free from government influence.

Without independent and complete figures, including on the types of offending that frequently lead to bail breaches, this parliament and the public cannot properly assess whether these laws are delivering the reduction in reoffending that Queenslanders were promised. Community safety should not be reduced to political slogans. After two years, Queenslanders deserve to know whether crime is actually going down, whether fewer people are becoming victims and whether the government is delivering what it promised on the very issues that these breach-of-bail laws are meant to address. That is what Queenslanders expect. That is what this government should be focused on.

Mr BAROUNIS (Maryborough—LNP) (4.19 pm): I rise today in strong support of the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. For a decade, the former Labor government weakened Queensland's youth crime laws, including making detention a last resort and removing breach of bail as an offence, which saw victim numbers skyrocket by 193 per cent. Labor weakened crime laws; the Crisafulli LNP government is strengthening crime laws.

On 5 July 2026, the Premier announced Breach Bail, Go to Jail as the next phase of our Adult Crime, Adult Time reforms. Under Australia's strongest bail regime, the Crisafulli government's Breach Bail, Go to Jail laws will protect the community from serious offending and provide a strong message of deterrence for those offenders who continue to commit serious crimes while on bail.

Our Breach Bail, Go to Jail laws will deliver a standalone offence for committing a serious offence while on bail that will attract a mandatory minimum 12-month jail sentence, which must be wholly served in actual detention. This reform was built on the first three phases of Adult Crime, Adult Time, which cover 47 offences and are helping make Queensland safer. The Queensland Police Service data shows

victim numbers are down by 9.6 per cent. These new laws will strengthen protections for Queenslanders, support victims, prevent others from becoming victims and ensure repeat offenders are held accountable for their actions.

Serious offending committed while on bail, unlawfully at large or after failing to appear represents a significant breach of the trust placed in an individual by the justice system. These reforms form part of the government's broader approach to strengthening Queensland's youth justice laws and responding to serious repeat youth and adult offending, building on the government's previous youth justice reforms including the introduction and expansion of Adult Crime, Adult Time and the permanent statewide use of electronic monitoring for eligible youth offenders.

We have delivered more than 2,100 new police officers since October 2024, far surpassing our election commitment of 1,600 new officers. We now have 13,000-plus police, for the first time in our state's history, and we are giving them the laws and the resources they need to make Queensland safer.

Labor saw victim numbers increase by 193 per cent. During a decade of decline, car theft increased 101 per cent, break-ins rose 44 per cent and assaults were up 198 per cent. The state Labor policy platform explicitly opposes mandatory sentences. It says, 'Labor will repeal legislation which fetters judicial discretion by imposing mandatory minimum sentences.' Under the Leader of the Opposition, Labor's position on crime has only weakened. Their caucus was in chaos over the first Adult Crime, Adult Time vote, and they voted against the last tranche. There is no doubt that the Leader of the Opposition's leadership is coming to an end.

During their decade of decline in government, Labor chose to weaken youth crime laws; chose to make detention a last resort; chose to remove breach of bail as an offence for youth offenders; chose not to invest in early intervention; only had a 72-hour rehabilitation; and chose not to support our police. Labor's choices bred a generation of untouchable criminals.

This bill creates a new offence of committing serious offences while on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear; imposes a higher threshold for granting bail to youth and adults who commit a serious offence while on bail; imposes a mandatory minimum sentence of one-year detention or imprisonment—maximum three years—to be wholly served in a detention centre or corrective services facility; and removes the mandatory requirement under section 11 of the Youth Justice Act for police officers to consider diversionary options before commencing proceedings against a child, converting this obligation to an operational discretion.

Breach Bail, Go to Jail is different from the existing offence for failing to comply with a bail condition. It specifically targets youth and other offenders who are significant repeat offenders. These reforms are targeted at youth and other offenders who commit serious offending while on bail for any offence, rather than technical breaches of bail conditions. Queenslanders are sick and tired of offenders having what seems to be all the power. The Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill is taking back control over the offenders within our communities. As a government, we are sending a strong message to offenders right across Queensland that if you breach your bail you will go to jail.

Maryborough offenders have dropped significantly, especially in the past four months since the introduction of the CBD exclusion zone. The police statistics do not lie: 210 charges have been laid, 296 individuals have been wanded under Jack's Law; and police have also issued 334 banning notices, given 32 move-on directions, conducted over 300 walk-throughs in local shops and businesses, and, more importantly, engaged with the community over 700 times. This is proof that our police are gaining the laws to enable them to successfully do their job.

My community has been directly affected twice now, exactly three years apart, by very young teenagers out on bail—teenagers who have stolen cars and gone on speeding rampages. The first incident three years ago left three wonderful women deceased and another one living with the scars of the incident. The families are still desperately trying to come to terms with how the government at the time was supposed to support them but instead let them down. This year, on the third anniversary of that incident, another teenage male out on bail had a car full of friends and went on a rampage—again, in a stolen car—that caused a five-car accident, almost killing other innocent victims. That is just a typical story that I hear far too often about how the previous Labor government let families down due to a lack of interest with the breach-of-bail laws.

I would like to thank the minister the Hon. Laura Gerber, the committee and the parliamentary staff for their hard work on this bill and, of course, our government—the Crisafulli LNP government—which is listening and delivering for Queenslanders. We all deserve to feel safe within our homes, workplaces, communities and everywhere else. I commend the bill to the House.

Hon. ML FURNER (Ferny Grove—ALP) (4.28 pm): The Labor opposition has already foreshadowed providing support for the passage of this bill. Like all Queenslanders, we want to see less crime and fewer victims. Almost two years ago, we did not stand in the way of the LNP's first slogan and, like all Queenslanders, we are disappointed they have not delivered what was promised. Queenslanders still do not feel safe. The very fact that we are back here today talking about crime and another slogan is an admission that their first slogan has failed.

When people commit offences while on bail there should be consequences. In most cases it means they should never have been on bail in the first place. That is why Labor will support the breach-of-bail laws before the House today. It must be said that these laws have the potential to break the system without proper and careful planning—planning the government either has not done or refuses to release. Instead, we see more spin and another slogan. Failure to plan will lead to our police, detention workers and prison officers becoming victims of assault at a greater rate due to overcrowding and unsafe conditions.

The Miles government committed more than $260 million in funding in late 2023 to construct the new youth remand centre at Wacol and close to $150 million over three years to operate that facility. The new facility was a key pillar of our $1.3 billion community safety plan for Queensland that focused on prevention, intervention and detention. Without this investment, this bill would not have been possible. Labor and Queenslanders want a safe workplace and we want detention with purpose. We will not stand in the way of these laws, but we want an ironclad guarantee that workers will not be put at risk.

Turning to the expert evidence provided to the committee, it is becoming a hallmark of this LNP government that they fail to listen to expert evidence and the stakeholders who know better than this LNP government. One of the priorities of the Crime and Corruption Commission is corruption through excessive force against young persons, including in watch houses and detention centres. Their submission referenced the CCC's recent 2025 Corruption Perceptions Survey, where more than two-thirds of community members, 67 per cent, were 'very' or 'fairly concerned' about corruption and the use of excessive force against young people in detention centres and watch houses. Furthermore, the CCC's submission referenced that overcrowding can place significant pressure on custodial infrastructure, strain resources and change the way custodial services are delivered. The CCC recommended that a statutory review mechanism be enshrined in the bill, and I encourage the government to consider that. As stated in the Queensland Police Union submission—

... while the QPU supports the policy intent and legislative framework of the Bill, it [is] essential the Committee and Government fully acknowledge and address the significant operational consequences these reforms are likely to have on Queensland's already overstretched custodial system, particularly police watch houses.

The QPU also stated—

These reforms will inevitably increase the number of adult and youth offenders being remanded in custody pending court proceedings.

Furthermore, they said—

The continued use of watchhouses as de facto prisons and detention centres creates substantial operational, safety and welfare risks for both police officers and detainees.

I can directly relate to these concerns. While working at the Queensland Police Union in the 1990s as an industrial officer, one of my roles was to represent police in the workers compensation and rehabilitation process. One case comes to mind. I was representing a policewoman who had been assaulted by a person in custody in a Townsville watch house. She sustained both physical and psychological injuries while working in the watch house. She had several months off work before I represented her at the workers compensation medical assessment tribunal, where she was subsequently paid out for her injuries. That is just one example I can recall during my time representing police in circumstances that have been referenced in the Queensland Police Union's submission. In addition, their submission stated—

The QPU remains concerned that implementation of the bill may exacerbate these existing problems unless significant investment accompanies the legislative reforms.

The Australian Workers' Union represents custodial officers in youth detention centres. They expressed real concerns about the bill. Their submissions states—

Queensland's Youth Detention Centres are already at breaking point. The introduction of changes to legislation that will result in more Young Persons being incarcerated has the very real potential to cause the system to collapse. Inadequate investment in the workforce and inadequate investment in additional infrastructure leaves no room for additional capacity in the system.

Their submission shows that ongoing issues caused by staffing shortages have resulted in over 500 serious assaults in the last 12 months to workers at Queensland's youth detention centres. Data provided by the department has revealed that, in the 12 months to the end of March 2026, there were almost 156,000 hours of work lost to employees being absent from work on workers compensation because of injuries suffered in the workplace. These statistics are serious matters and have been raised by both unions. They need to be addressed to ensure the workplace health and safety of these workers and that additional strain is not placed upon already stretched workplaces.

This LNP government owes our hardworking frontline workers health and safety measures to ensure they arrive home after a long day's work in the same condition they left home in and, in the event they should be injured, access to appropriate workers compensation and rehabilitation coverage.

During the public hearings victim-survivors and community members spoke of continued offending, exhausting volunteers and communities still waiting for the protection promised by Premier Crisafulli before the 2024 election. The anecdotal evidence was further supported by QPS crime data released last month which showed a 6.15 per cent increase in reported offences across Queensland for the year to August 2026. Furthermore, QPS figures for the Townsville police district showed that in the year to August 2026 robbery offences were up 23 per cent and unlawful use of motor vehicle offences were up four per cent. The total number of recorded offences had also increased.

Queenslanders deserve to have confidence that the laws are working, but the facts are hard to spin. Their slick slogan has not kept Queenslanders safe. The Labor opposition wants to see early intervention and prevention delivered in the community and in custody. We want the LNP to support our independent community safety statistics bureau to ensure we take the politics out of police data and so that Queenslanders can have faith in this government's crime response.

Mr STEVENS (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (4.35 pm): I am very proud to be speaking to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail bill that the Crisafulli government has brought in to address the ongoing issue of crime throughout Queensland. We are here debating this bill today because of the 10 years Labor let crime run rampant in Queensland. It is great that the Attorney-General has introduced some very difficult and hard legislation. We understand how the judiciary would find it very difficult with this tough new legislation, but it had to happen because the issue is ongoing and will be ongoing.

The LNP government has introduced some wonderful laws such as Daniel's Law and Jack's Law. As the member just referred to, we had the slick saying Adult Crime, Adult Time. We had the slick saying Breach Bail, Go to Jail. Here is another slick saying: for 10 years Labor's time increased crime. That is just an absolute ripper. There is our new slogan! Everywhere we went there was youth recidivism in particular. One had 90 appearances and bail but still kept going because there were no consequence for their actions. If you want an example of a successful consequence for action, look no further than the Crisafulli government's e-mobility laws. I can assure members that they have flattened law-breaking on the Gold Coast—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr J Kelly): Member, I can assure you that that has nothing to do with the long title of the bill, so I ask you to—

Mr STEVENS: I am just drawing the analogy of consequences.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, I am not having a debate. I ask you to come back to the long title of the bill.

Mr STEVENS: I was basically saying that consequences are important. Consequences for actions that may occur while people are on bail are a very important part of correcting crime throughout Queensland.

One consequence of the previous government's lack of support in terms of the crime rampage—by youths in particular but also by older offenders—was the fact that the police had had enough. They were sick of it. In fact, they all came in here—no, that is not correct. The bottom line, as we heard this morning, is that we now have 2,100 new recruits, and that is because they are seeing our attempts to fix crime in Queensland and they want to fill these important roles in our community.

This law is the first of many that will follow. There will always be crime, but Labor did not address that crime for 10 years. As I mentioned earlier, the admission that there was no crime cost three Labor members in Townsville their seats. We got three good members to replace them, so that was a great thing. We even had a former ALP member in this parliament say that crime in Queensland was just a media beat-up. He is no longer here either and we have a fantastic new member for Capalaba. I am sure he will speak to this bill later, and I cannot wait to hear what he has to say about the consequences of crime.

One gentleman in my wonderful electorate of Mermaid Beach was hit by one of these youths with a golf club in his house. This fractured his jaw and he got a big black eye. This was in a very quiet residential street. There are certain streets that have been targeted by kids stealing cars after being let out on bail. The people in those streets were absolutely terrified of the youth. One former council worker came to see me—it was someone I knew very well over 30 years—and he was absolutely terrified by machete-wielding youths at his front door. He has two young daughters—they are big hits on TikTok, I am told—and they were all hiding because these kids with machetes were trying to break in.

I spent 10 years in opposition and I got very good at being in opposition; in fact, I think Labor will get very good at being in opposition after spending a long time over there. We are happy for that and supportive of that. In the meantime, we will be bringing in laws that address the crime issue. I note that there have been admissions already that the ALP members might support this bill. It has taken a long time for that to happen, because we have had other tough-on-crime bills in here that they have voted against. They have finally read the tea-leaves—or someone has, and maybe it was a few of the bosses over there—and have thought they should start to acknowledge there is crime, instead of blaming it on the Crisafulli government and our short two years in office.

We are correcting—and we will continue to correct—10 years of bad habits brought on by a lack of attention from previous Labor governments and previous Labor ministers who ignored the fact that Queensland was in the grip of a crime crisis. Guess what: even our Victorian Labor comrades think what we are doing here in Queensland is a great idea and they are adopting some of our strong laws, like Adult Crime, Adult Time.

The fact is that this is a great bill that has been introduced by the Attorney-General, and I congratulate her for her very hard work. There were other ministers involved in bringing this bill to fruition, including the police minister, who does a wonderful job, and the member for Currumbin. The reality is that there is great demand out there for residential areas in Queensland to be cleaner, healthier and safer. It does not matter what happens on the other side of the House; we will continue to bring in tough laws until crime rates go down. They have started to come down but we still have a long way to go. We will not renege on our election commitments that got us to be on this side of the House. I can tell you that it is so good to be over here after sitting over there for most of my time in this House.

We will continue all the way on crime. This will not stop; it will go right through to the works. We hope that in October 2028 we will be able to go to the election—and I am sure we will—with the facts. It will not be, 'It's their fault,' or whatever; it will be, 'This is what has happened to crime in Queensland as a result of our strong laws.' Our Breach Bail, Go to Jail law is just one of those laws.

Our police force will continue to enjoy the support of the government here in parliament. That is changing the whole ethos of the police force in terms of the positivity felt by officers as they uphold the laws in the state. Can you imagine being a police officer knowing that the kid you were going to put in jail that night for breaking into a house or stabbing somebody was going to be out the next day and you would have to chase them again? That would not be an incentive to enjoy your job, and even the upper hierarchy would feel the same as they spent all their resources reprosecuting an offender who had been dealt with the day before.

I commend the work of the Crisafulli government in this particular area. I recommend that they not stop but continue with the hard laws. The judiciary will have to get used to a government that is absolutely determined to bring down crime in this state. We have a wonderful Attorney-General, who is doing a great job bringing in those laws. I have already received emails in relation to this law, and I am very pleased to say that the ALP are finally supporting it. Well done to the opposition: they have finally woken up to crime in Queensland. We will keep going until those numbers are at rock bottom.

Mr HEALY (Cairns—ALP) (4.46 pm): Like all Queenslanders and no doubt everybody in this chamber, I want to see less crime and fewer victims. I think every single person who is elected here wants those same outcomes. Every Queenslander deserves to feel safe in their home, on their streets and in their communities. Those who commit crimes must be held accountable. When offenders breach bail conditions, there must be meaningful consequences.

They are our expectations and the expectations of our communities. That is why Queensland Labor will support the government's breach-of-bail laws, but supporting stronger laws does not mean giving the Crisafulli LNP government a free pass on its failure to deliver safer communities. Almost two years ago, Labor did not stand in the way of the LNP's signature Adult Crime, Adult Time legislation. Queenslanders were promised that tougher penalties would bring crime under control. The Premier even promised that crime would be fixed by Christmas, yet here we are—

Government members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr J Kelly): Order, members! Member for Cairns, you have the call.

Mr HEALY: Thank you for your protection, Deputy Speaker. Here we are approaching another Christmas with Queenslanders still waiting for that promise to be delivered. In Cairns, the figures tell a troubling story. Car thefts increased from 662 in 2024 to 722 in 2025. More recent police data indicates that total offences have risen by almost six per cent year on year, with vehicle thefts threatening to reach their highest level in four years. I will say that again: their highest level in four years.

For victims whose homes have been broken into or who have had their vehicles stolen, another government slogan offers little comfort. The uncomfortable truth for the Premier is that tougher laws alone have not delivered safer communities as he promised, particularly in the far north. Now, rather than confronting the shortcomings of his approach, the Premier is offering another legislative response without demonstrating that the detention system has the capacity, staffing or rehabilitation services to manage its consequences.

Police officers, detention workers and prison staff deserve better than overcrowded facilities and increased risks to their safety. Labor expects clear guarantees that these laws will be properly resourced. I can say quite comfortably that I have been contacted by a large number of people in my community who have also expressed those same views. They understand that to ensure this is effective we need to see an extension of facilities but also the protection of those workers. This is something that the Labor Party would expect.

The government's greatest failure is its unwillingness to confront the causes of crime. Talking tough is one thing, but delivering and battling the causes of crime is what the experts talk about and what the experts identify. Consider the Cairns Youth Intervention BikeShed, which engaged more than a thousand vulnerable young people and delivered thousands of hours of mentoring, education support and practical intervention. Rather than securing its future, the government allowed critical funding to lapse. Which program will be cut next? Will it be the vital work of the Clontarf Foundation, which does amazing work for at-risk youth within the school and education system? This nationally recognised and highly effective program has been the saviour for so many disadvantaged and vulnerable kids who have literally been only a step away from the criminal justice system and incarceration. The work that Clontarf does in turning kids' lives around and improving community safety is immeasurable and has been for many years.

Honourable members should also consider the police-backed engine immobiliser trial. Not one vehicle fitted with an immobiliser under the scheme had been successfully stolen, yet the LNP scrapped this practical crime prevention initiative, which was remarkable. Meanwhile, Cairns is still waiting for the promised youth justice school, clarity on detention infrastructure and meaningful delivery of the government's much publicised Gold Standard Early Intervention commitment. At this stage it appears to be just words, and there are people in our community asking for details. These are not minor administrative shortcomings; they represent opportunities lost to prevent crime before it happens.

We also know many young offenders experience childhood trauma, family violence, disengagement from education and conditions such as fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. These circumstances do not in any way, shape or form excuse criminal behaviour, but ignoring them virtually guarantees that the cycle of reoffending will continue. The disturbing reports of children confined for up to 23 hours a day in youth detention because of staffing shortages should alarm anyone concerned about community safety. Detention without education, treatment or rehabilitation risks producing more damaged and dangerous offenders. This is why Labor is calling for properly funded early intervention, FASD assessment and support, effective rehabilitation both in custody and in the community, and an independent community safety statistics bureau to restore confidence in crime reporting. The measure of success is not how many laws a government passes, how many slogans they can come up with, how many headlines it generates or how many children it locks away; it is how many crimes are prevented, how many victims are spared and how many offenders never offend again.

Queenslanders deserve accountability, consequences and genuine prevention because being tough on crime means being equally tough on the causes of crime. Until the LNP government understands that fundamental principle, Queenslanders will continue paying the price for promises made but not delivered.

Mr JAMES (Mulgrave—LNP) (4.53 pm): From 2015 Queensland's youth justice laws were progressively weakened by the former Labor government. They abolished breach of bail as an offence, made detention a last resort in sentencing and consistently prioritised the interests of offenders over

the rights of victims. As a result, Queenslanders across our state have endured a youth crime crisis that has left families fearful in their homes and communities demanding action. After a decade of failed policies, my electorate of Mulgrave sent a clear message: enough is enough. They want a government prepared to put community safety first, restore accountability and stand with victims. That is exactly what the Crisafulli government was elected to do.

Today I rise in support of the Breach Bail, Go to Jail legislation because this parliament has a responsibility to protect law-abiding Queenslanders. Bail is not a right without conditions. Bail is a privilege granted by the courts. When an offender repeatedly ignores these conditions and continues to offend while on bail there must be consequences. It is common sense. The people of Queensland understand this principle. If a person is trusted with bail and then breaches that trust by committing further offences, the justice system must respond decisively.

Behind every statistic is a victim. Behind every stolen car is a family whose mobility has been taken away. Behind every break-in is a home owner who no longer feels safe in their own bedroom. Behind every robbery is a victim left traumatised and fearful. Behind every repeat offender released back into the community is a family wondering whether they will be next. The reality is that communities across Queensland have paid the price for weak laws. The number of victims of crime increased dramatically under the former Labor government's watch while serious repeat offenders continued to cycle through the justice system with little accountability.

As the member for Mulgrave, I hear these concerns every day. The people I represent are not interested in ideological debates; they are interested in safety. They are interested in whether their children can walk to school safely, whether they can sleep peacefully at night and whether offenders who repeatedly break the law will face real consequences.

Recently I received correspondence from constituents who have experienced firsthand the consequences of repeat offending and ineffective bail laws. Shynade from Edmonton shared an experience that no parent should have to endure. She wrote—

> Last weak whilst driving home from playgroup, my young son and I were met by two stolen cars that drove on the wrong side of the road, directly at us. Individuals driving the cars were already out on bail and when the matter was brought before the court, one of the juveniles was granted bail despite the seriousness of their behaviour.

Imagine that for a moment: a mother driving home with her child, two stolen vehicles coming directly towards them on the wrong side of the road. The potential consequences are almost unthinkable and yet one of those juveniles was granted bail despite already demonstrating a complete disregard for the law. Queenslanders rightly ask: how many chances should someone get? How many warnings should there be before the justice system decides enough is enough? Shynade's story is not just about a near miss on a road in Edmonton; it is about a justice system that must place community safety above the interests of repeat offenders.

I also want to acknowledge the experience of Patricia from Mount Sheridan, a lifelong Cairns resident who has watched the character of her community change over many decades. Patricia's story is heartbreaking. She told me that her home had been broken into twice and that there had been six additional attempted break-ins. Thousands of dollars has been spent on repairs and upgraded security measures. She described feeling like she is now the one locked up while offenders continue to move freely through the community. Patricia wrote—

> The victims are not being looked after. I have spent thousands of dollars repairing my house and updating security. Two break and enters and six attempted break-ins. I am now the one locked up and on edge going about my daily business.

That statement strikes at the heart of this debate.

When victims feel imprisoned in their own homes while offenders face few consequences, something is fundamentally wrong. When elderly residents are afraid to leave their homes, when families install cameras, security screens and locks because they no longer feel safe and when people who have worked their entire lives to build a home feel abandoned by the justice system, parliament has an obligation to act. This legislation sends a clear message: if you commit offences while on bail, there will be consequences. If you repeatedly disregard court orders, there will be consequences. If you continue to place innocent Queenslanders at risk, there will be consequences.

Our Breach Bail, Go to Jail laws will deliver a standalone offence for committing a serious crime while on bail and attract a mandatory minimum 12-month jail sentence which must be wholly served in actual detention. This is not about giving up on young people; in fact, the opposite is true. The overwhelming majority of young Queenslanders are good people—they attend school, participate in

sport, work hard and contribute positively to their communities—but there is a small cohort of serious repeat offenders who have caused disproportionate harm across Queensland and in particular my electorate of Mulgrave. They repeatedly ignore opportunities for rehabilitation, repeatedly breach bail conditions and repeatedly create new victims. Those offenders must be held accountable. At the same time, our government continues to invest in prevention, intervention and rehabilitation programs because we know that long-term solutions require more than enforcement alone. Rehabilitation and accountability are not mutually exclusive; they must work together.

Queenslanders expect a justice system that balances compassion with responsibility. They expect a justice system that supports rehabilitation while protecting the community. Most of all, they expect a justice system that puts victims first. That is what these laws seek to achieve. Every member in this House has heard stories like those of Shynade and Patricia. They are not political talking points; they are real people. They are mothers, home owners, workers, retirees and taxpayers. They are Queenslanders who expect their parliament to listen. Today we have a choice: we can continue with the failed approach that allowed repeat offenders to circulate through the system with little consequence, or we can support stronger laws that restore accountability, rebuild community confidence and make Queensland safer—for the people of Edmonton, for the people of Mount Sheridan, for the people of Mulgrave and for every Queenslander who deserves to feel safe in their home, on their streets and in their communities. I commend the bill to the House.

Ms BOLTON (Noosa—Ind) (5.02 pm): We all agree: Queenslanders need to feel and be safe in our homes, workplaces and communities. Serious offending must have consequences and serious repeat offending needs to end. The government says that the reforms in this bill will deter serious offending, strengthen accountability and restore public confidence in the bail system and are about making the community feel safer, but will they? Bandaids are attractive and at times provide instant relief. Imprisoning serious offenders for longer is that relief. However, as evidence has shown, there is no rehabilitative effect, with the Queensland Corrective Services annual report 2026 reporting a 55 per cent rate of return to prison within two years.

This bill introduces a mandatory minimum 12-month custodial sentence for specified offences committed while on bail, unlawfully at large or after failing to appear. It also changes the bail test, reduces the requirement to consider diversion for children and extends human rights overrides for another five years. These are significant changes. They affect judicial discretion, which ultimately is about ensuring that politics does not interfere in our courts, and add a load to already under-resourced police and courts as well as at-capacity jails and detention centres. The QCS reports that built cell capacity was at 136 per cent last financial year. If memory serves me—and I am happy to be corrected on this—the current government when in opposition raged about this as well as bursting watch houses.

As with other legislation brought in by various governments, this bill does not address the underlying causes of offending. It also offers no evidence that adding 12 months to a sentence will deter crime; nor does it provide independent data supporting such proposals or guarantee immediate safety as, from our understanding, judges can still release offenders if they pass a new 'high degree of confidence' test. Hence, serious repeat offenders could still be within Queensland communities and able to reoffend. Does that make communities safer now?

Crime is a symptom. Neglecting its underlying causes will continue to see crime committed, regardless of increased incarceration. Housing, mental health, domestic violence and addiction continue to be causes, with rehabilitation limited and often non-existent when prisons are overcrowded. The Australian Lawyers Alliance said—

> The Bill is very likely to increase remand, contested hearings, full briefs of evidence, custodial sentences and pressure on watch houses and detention centres.

The Queensland Bar Association echoes these concerns. We already have a legal system that is choking, with years before cases are heard and determinations made.

The consequences of this bill go beyond its commendable intent. For police, Legal Aid workers, prison and detention centre staff and all who wait, including victims, for cases to be heard, the government acknowledges this yet has not provided assurances on how this will be addressed through the needed extra resources, extra judges and extra prisons—and for what? There is no evidence that there will be a reduction in offending except during incarceration. The Northern Territory Law Reform Committee's 2021 inquiry found insufficient evidence to support mandatory sentencing as an effective general or specific deterrent. This may be why the current government, when in opposition, did not support mandatory sentencing when the Katter party moved to include it for certain car theft offences during debate on the 2023 Strengthening Community Safety Bill.

Removing judicial discretion requires justification. We need evidence why it will produce better outcomes, and, sadly, I cannot find any. This is particularly relevant for children. The Australian Institute of Criminology clearly articulated again, as it has for many years, that a child's brain development requires a different response to change offending behaviours. Earlier this year I asked where the long-term wraparound supports were for them, including housing, and what targeted responses were being actioned for the 500 or so youths identified during the former youth justice select committee who were causing the majority of crime in their communities. Have I got a response to that so far? No. Removing the option of diversion and individual case management, especially with a recommendation from our police who often know intimately the offender before commencing proceedings, raises a vital question: what are we actually doing?

The Queensland Ombudsman and Inspector of Detention Services submitted that further overcrowding of detention facilities will reduce community safety, with the QAO forecasting that the adult prison population could grow by up to 46 per cent by June 2035. Under the previous government, as well as the current one, I called for an independent crime data agency to improve decision-making, support comparison between jurisdictions and end the practice of selecting statistics to suit any particular narrative. Seeing the rollout over the last two years of legislation that has no evidence base in response to community safety, I believe we now need something much more than just that independent crime statistic agency; we need a system that delivers transparent, accountable and evidence-based decisions that has a process of scrutiny that cannot be bypassed and where factual information must be provided, instead of narratives for political gain. However, that might not hold much appeal for media and clickbait which influences Queenslanders, as seen in my own online question to the Noosa community as to whether they supported this bill. Of the respondents, 55 per cent support it; however, if they knew the facts around these short-term reliefs would that still be the case? I do not know. What I do know from all the evidence is that this bandaid does not guarantee immediate safety; nor does it deliver safer communities into the future.

As analysed for two decades in various inquiries, including the Auditor-General Report No. 15: 2023-24—Reducing serious youth crime and the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee's 2014 *Inquiry on strategies to prevent and reduce criminal activity in Queensland*, reducing crime and victims is about addressing contributors. Yes, we need serious repeat offenders off our streets; however, we need to urgently prioritise an enormous amount of funding to address the contributing factors. We need governments to move beyond slogans and blame to bipartisan agreements and to commit immediate and long-term funding on housing, mental health and more.

For Noosa respondents in support of this bill, I believe if they knew that 'automatic' did not guarantee 'immediate', they might have rejected the narrative. There needs to be a clear message to repeat offenders of serious crimes. An extra 12 months in detention at least keeps communities safer for that period, and buys some time for this House to see the needed reform that can actually deliver real, long-term safety for our communities. For this reason only, I support this bill.



Mr BAILLIE (Townsville—LNP) (5.10 pm): If you breach bail, you should go to jail. That is the message from North Queensland and my electorate of Townsville. From the very first piece of legislation passed by the Crisafulli government, every change we have made is to deliver stronger laws. Detention is no longer a last resort. The courts can now consider a youth offender's offending history, and we have almost 50 offences included in Adult Crime, Adult Time. We have passed Jack's Law to take more weapons off our streets, Daniel's Law to help protect children from predators and introduced and passed laws that take a stronger stance on drugs and antisocial behaviour.

We are giving police the resources they need to make our community safer. We have more boots on the ground than ever before with over 13,000 officers in Queensland, alongside a dedicated flying squad to surge resources when and where they are needed right across the state. We have also expanded Polair in Townsville with two helicopters to enable 24/7 coverage. Furthermore, we are investing in early intervention and rehabilitation via Regional Reset, Staying on Track, and Kickstarter programs, with numerous initiatives in Townsville including the Garbutt Youth Hub and a crime prevention school on the way.

During a decade of decline with Labor weakening laws, the number of victims increased by 193 per cent, creating a generation of offenders who think they are untouchable. We are taking a different approach. Members of the former Labor government claimed the youth crime crisis we were experiencing was a media beat-up, with the former member for Mundingburra even suggesting it was not something the community raised with him when he was out doorknocking. I do not know who he was doorknocking because it was the No. 1 thing the community raised with me in the lead-up to the 2024 election.

To date, we have seen some positive signs and we are beginning to turn the tide on Labor's youth crime crisis, with the number of victims of crime falling by 9.6 per cent across the state, but we know there is a long way to go and more work needs to be done. That is why I rise today in strong support of Breach Bail, Go to Jail. It was during the now member for Hinchinbrook's by-election campaign that the push for Breach Bail, Go to Jail began. I helped doorknock in those northern suburbs of Townsville, I stood on pre-poll and I heard directly from Hinchinbrook constituents. On the back of the support in Hinchinbrook, along with the members for Mundingburra, Thuringowa and Burdekin, we asked the rest of Townsville what they thought. I thank the hundreds of members of the community who took the time to share their views and support this legislation. I would also like to share just two of the many comments from community members in response to our survey in the Townsville electorate. Leona from South Townsville said—

Myself and most people I know have been impacted by youth crime in one way or another. We keep our doors to our home locked all the time, even when home and our car doors locked when driving around town. There are certain shopping centres that I won't go to because I just don't feel safe. The criminals seem to have all the rights and aren't afraid of any accountability because there is none. Things must change.

From Grace in Belgian Gardens—

I absolutely agree that more needs to be done to tackle youth crime. In my few years living in Townsville, I have personally been affected multiple times, and like many others in the community, I no longer feel safe. Weak bail laws have eroded public confidence and allowed repeat offenders to continue causing harm. The people of Townsville deserve stronger laws, real accountability, and the right to feel safe in their own community.

It was on the back of support from members of the community like Leona and Grace—not just in Townsville or North Queensland but right across the state—that helped us get this legislation on the agenda. Once we introduced the legislation, my North Queensland colleagues and I secured a public hearing in Townsville, where the committee examining the legislation heard directly from victims of crime and engaged community members. Community members like Chris, who has been a resident of Townsville for 25 years, said he has 'watched our community slide into decline'. 'We are a city under siege.' He made the observation that, 'We are prisoners in our own homes' and said—

It is having an unacceptable level of impact on our community and our lives. The hardening of my home to protect myself, my wife and my property has literally cost me tens and tens of thousands of dollars. I can no longer live the way I used to. My wife is absolutely petrified most nights.

...

The recidivists and repeat offenders must be taken off our streets.

We heard from Noel who shared that, after being a victim of repeated crimes, his 10-year-old daughter does not feel safe in her own room or even her own house. She has said, 'The only place I feel safe, Daddy, is at school.' Lee, who is a member of our community and part of a local neighbourhood chat group, shared—

I have had elderly ladies in our suburb contact me, petrified in their own houses because something has happened virtually two doors up from them. I have spent over $40,000 on security to keep my family safe, whether it is on screens, cameras, walls.

Lynette said—

The people of Townsville are screaming out for something to happen.

She went on to say—

Everybody you talk to in Townsville says that something needs to be done. We have all been saying the same thing for the whole 10 years I have been here. Now we have a government that is going to do something about it ...

We also heard from Kristy, who has been a victim of both domestic violence and a home invasion. Kristy shared—

I have feared for my life multiple times. I am a mother of three children and I moved to Townsville in the hope to find a safer place for my children and myself. I was here for three weeks and within three weeks on Mother's Day at three o'clock in the morning I was woken up to the sound of glass smashing in my lounge room. My children and I were all asleep. We all were woken up because it was that loud. I was then held at knifepoint to my throat and to my back and had my car stolen. The effects of that crime have been so impactful that my children and I live in fear. Every day we suffer.

Kristy then went on to share that the offenders who invaded her home were out on bail, and that the person who committed the domestic violence against her was subject to conditions of court orders. She went on to say—

It feels like we suffer and we constantly pay, not just financially but mentally and physically. We consistently pay and pay again every single day. These people re-offend again and again and again and they destroy more and more lives.

Tracey, who was a victim of crime and appeared before the committee, recognised that the cost of crime goes well beyond financial costs as a consequence of property damage and that the emotional and physical costs are also significant. While the cost of repairing property, replacing cars or installing increased security measures is incredibly significant, it does not come close to the psychological cost. This includes the cost of not feeling safe in your own home, living in a heightened state of anxiety, constantly being on watch, jumping at every sound outside, experiencing disrupted sleep, double- or triple-checking that doors and windows are locked, feeling unsafe to leave the house and seeing children who no longer feel safe enough to sleep in their own beds.

It is stories like these that are unfortunately too common and that too many in our community are living with. These are the stories that drive us. It is stories like these that strengthen our resolve to keep going, to keep listening to the community, introducing and passing legislation to strengthen our laws and make our community safer.

Breach Bail, Go to Jail will apply to adult and youth offenders. It requires the courts to be satisfied to a high degree of confidence that an offender will not commit another serious offence while on bail before granting bail in the first place and it will mean that if an offender does commit a serious offence while on bail they will serve a minimum mandatory sentence of 12 months.

I would like to wrap up by thanking the entire cabinet of the Crisafulli government, in particular calling out the leadership of the Premier, the Attorney-General, the youth justice minister and the police minister for their work in putting this legislation together, as well as the committee that examined the legislation and came to Townsville to hear directly from our community. The message from my community in Townsville is clear: if you breach bail you should go to jail. That is why I strongly support this bill.

Ms BOURNE (Ipswich West—ALP) (5.20 pm): I rise to speak on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. The people of Ipswich West, like all Queenslanders, want less crime and fewer victims. In conversations with residents, business owners and community groups, concerns about crime are raised time and time again. Almost two years ago we did not stand in the way of the LNP's first slogan. Like all Queenslanders, we are disappointed they have not delivered what they promised. As the *Courier-Mail* reported today, four in five Queenslanders say they do not feel safe under this government. We are now back here for this government's ninth attempt to introduce, amend or fix its signature youth justice laws with yet another slogan. Every patch-up this government makes to its signature legislation is an admission that the previous version did not work. If it had we would be debating something else. To be clear, when people commit offences while on bail there should be consequences. In many cases the question is whether they should have been granted bail in the first place. That is why Labor will support the breach-of-bail laws.

Let me put something on the record: those opposite have been misleading my constituents. In a truly pathetic, costly and underhanded campaign, they have told the people of Ipswich West that I voted against these reforms. We know that those opposite like to fudge the facts, as we have seen time and time again with their crime statistics, but their claim that I voted against this legislation is plainly false. The House has not even reached the voting stage. Let us not let the truth get in the way of a good story. If those opposite were confident in their own record on crime, they would not need to invent mine. As I have made clear, I will support this bill, but that does not mean I will give up my responsibility to scrutinise it.

As the committee heard during its inquiry, these proposed laws could overwhelm our system without proper planning—planning that the government either has not done or refuses to release. According to the government's own figures, last year 5,000 adults would have been automatically jailed under these laws, entering a system already operating at 136 per cent of cell capacity. Around 850 children would also have been placed in youth detention—roughly twice the capacity of the entire system. The Inspector of Detention Services has warned this government that large numbers of children may end up being held in police watch houses, placing further strain on our policing infrastructure.

When the Attorney-General was asked whether modelling had been done on the cost of these laws, she did not answer. This is becoming a concerning pattern of this government. Transparency matters when it comes to major changes to our justice system, yet time and time again Queenslanders are denied access to the analysis and modelling underpinning this government's reforms that could have far-reaching consequences. Even the Queensland Police Union told the committee it was deeply concerned, warning that without urgent investment in additional remand infrastructure there was a significant risk this bill would not deliver what it promises.

A failure to plan will expose our police, detention workers and prison officers to a greater risk of assault through overcrowding and unsafe conditions. These are the people we ask to keep us safe. Residents of Ipswich West work in the Wacol correctional precinct. They go to work every day in some of the toughest conditions in the state and they deserve to come home safe. Six hundred and twenty prison officers from 14 centres across Queensland were surveyed by their union. More than nine in 10 said their centre could not safely accommodate more prisoners without additional staff and resources. The Australian Workers' Union told the committee that our youth detention centres are already at breaking point and that there were more than 500 serious assaults on workers in the past 12 months, yet, as we have heard from the government's own numbers, this bill could double the number of young people in custody without the workforce to match.

We have a mandated safety ratio of one worker for every four young people. How could that possibly be maintained without a serious increase in staffing? If additional workers are not provided, this government will be creating an environment in which the safety of both workers and young people is put at risk. That is not a sustainable solution and it is certainly not a safe one. We want safe workplaces and we want detention that serves a purpose. That time should be used to address the causes of offending through education, treatment and rehabilitation programs so that when young people leave custody they have a genuine opportunity to make better choices and build a different future. A child sitting in a watch house for weeks on end with little or nothing to do is not detention with purpose. It does nothing to address offending behaviour; it simply increases the risk that they will return to crime, creating more victims and making our communities less safe in the long run.

While we will not oppose this bill, there are three things we want to see from this government. First, give Queenslanders confidence that workers and young people will be safe. Show us where the extra capacity is coming from. Show us the additional staff, the additional beds and the modelling underpinning these changes. Second, deliver early intervention and prevention, both in the community and in custody. Time and time again we hear from experts that the greatest gains are achieved through early intervention, rehabilitation and diversion, yet, as outlined in the Queensland Audit Office's report, more than 1,000 prisoners are waiting for rehabilitation programs. The government deferred $137.55 million for youth crime prevention programs from the budget into future years. If people are going to spend longer in custody, that time must be used for rehabilitation. If we want less crime, this government must deliver the early intervention it promised. Third, support Labor's proposal for an independent community safety statistics bureau so that Queenslanders can have confidence in the data being used to assess the government's crime policies. The people of Queensland deserve statistics they know they can trust—statistics that are free from the interference and spin that we continue to see from this government. If the government truly believes its approach is working, those opposite should have nothing to fear from independent scrutiny.

My constituents in Ipswich West are tired of slogans and political pointscoring. They want what all Queenslanders want: safer streets, fewer victims and a justice system that delivers real results. Labor will support this bill because there must be consequences for serious offending while on bail, but we will also hold this government accountable for ensuring these changes are implemented safely, backed by proper resources and delivered in a way that protects the community, supports our workers and reduces the number of future victims.

Mr DALTON (Mackay—LNP) (5.28 pm): I rise today in strong support of the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. When I was elected as the member for Mackay I made a commitment to my community that I would fight for stronger laws, safer streets and a justice system that puts the rights of victims before the rights of offenders. That is exactly what we are delivering.

For far too long, Queenslanders have watched serious repeat offenders walk through the revolving door of the justice system. Police arrest them, they are released on bail and before long they are back on the streets committing more crimes and creating more victims. As a former police officer, I know firsthand the frustration our hardworking police experience when they arrest the same offenders time and again. In another way, and more importantly, I know the devastating impact on victims and their families. These are not just statistics; these are real people, real families and real Queenslanders whose lives have been turned upside down by crime.

In Mackay, I have been calling for stronger breach-of-bail laws because I have listened to victims, the police and families who are sick and tired of repeat offenders being given chance after chance. I want to share with this House what some of those residents have told me. Cassandra from Beaconsfield shared her experience of being a victim of crime. She told me—

I have been a victim of a break in, car theft, Xmas presents stolen, car burnt out from a person who was arrested the day before and released on bail the next day only to come and visit us.

She went on to say—

And there were many other victims of the same person before he was arrested again.

Let's just think about that: a family had their home broken into, their car stolen, their Christmas presents taken and their vehicle burnt out and the person responsible, according to Cassandra, had only recently been arrested and released on bail. How many more victims should there have to be before serious repeat offenders face meaningful consequences? Cassandra finished her message to me by saying—

These repeat offenders need harsher treatment. Magistrates need to step up. Plenty of people have disadvantaged childhoods and do not break the law. That is no excuse.

Cassandra is right about one thing: a difficult upbringing should never mean that victims are expected to accept serious criminal behaviour. We absolutely need early intervention. We need rehabilitation. We need to give young people opportunities to turn their lives around, but we must also have accountability. We must never forget the victims. Another resident, Heather from South Mackay, summed up perfectly her frustration. She said—

We definitely need stronger bail laws. We need to feel safe in our homes and the police keep catching them but the courts just let them out. Catch and release just like fishing.

That is how people in Mackay have felt for too long. They see our police working hard, arresting offenders and doing everything they can to protect the community, but when serious repeat offenders are released and commit more crimes then it is the community that pays the price. It is the families who no longer feel safe in their homes. It is the businessmen who have to replace stolen property and repair damage. It is the victims who are left dealing with the emotional and financial consequences long after the offender has moved on. That is why I am such a strong advocate for these reforms.

Under the former Labor government, Queensland experienced a decade of weakened crime laws. In 2016, Labor removed breach of bail as an offence for young offenders and made detention a last resort. After their decade in government, victim numbers increased by 193 per cent, car theft increased by 101 per cent, break-ins increased by 44 per cent and assaults increased by 198 per cent. Those were the consequences of a government that had lost its way when it came to community safety.

When Labor was weakening the laws, Queenslanders were demanding stronger action. The Crisafulli government has listened. We promised Queenslanders a fresh start and we are delivering the strongest bail laws in Australia. Under this legislation, youth and adult offenders who commit a serious offence while already on bail will face a new stand-alone offence. That offence will carry a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months in custody to be served as actual detention—not a slap on the wrist, not another warning but a real consequence for serious repeat offending.

The legislation will also introduce a tougher test for granting bail to those accused of committing serious offences while already on bail. They will have to demonstrate why their detention is not justified and satisfy the court or police, to a 'high degree of confidence' test, that they will not commit another serious offence if released. Bail is not a free pass to commit more crimes. When someone is given the opportunity to remain in the community, they have a responsibility not to put the community at further risk. This legislation sends a very clear message: if you commit a serious offence while on bail then there will be serious consequences.

When I have explained the bill to members in the community, I have heard the following comments: Rodney from Andergrove said, 'Couldn't back it enough'; Darrel from Andergrove said, 'It sits well with me, it is ridiculous that was not in place before'; Steven from Andergrove stated that he 'fully supports the new law'; and Michael from Andergrove stated that he supports the initiative. Recently, I have spoken to several large groups of people gathered for various events and not one person has come to me and said a bad word about this proposed legislation.

I acknowledge the incredible work of the Queensland Police Service. In Mackay, I work closely with the local police, businesses and community organisations to address crime and antisocial behaviour. We have seen what can be achieved when the police and the community work together, particularly around Bluewater Quay and the Mackay CBD. However, our police need more than just community support; they need the laws and resources to do their jobs effectively. Since October 2024, the Crisafulli government has delivered more than 2,100 additional police officers, surpassing our election commitment. We are backing those officers with stronger laws that hold serious repeat offenders accountable. We are already starting to see progress, but we have some way to go. There are more than 12,000 fewer victims compared to the previous year, but we know there is still more work to be done. That is why these laws are so important.

While we are strengthening consequences, we are also investing in preventing crime before it happens. Our government has committed $560 million to early intervention and rehabilitation programs, including programs to provide young people with mentoring, education, family support and pathways to employment because we want young people to make better choices. We want them to turn their lives around, but when they continue to commit serious crime then there must be accountability.

For years, Labor told Queenslanders that stronger breach-of-bail laws would not work. To continue with the fishing analogy raised by Heather from South Mackay, those opposite are now flip-flopping around like a fish out of water. One minute they are against stronger laws and the next they support them. Queenslanders deserve a clear and consistent position on laws that affect community safety. For years, Labor told Queenslanders that stronger breach-of-bail laws would not work. After listening to Queenslanders who are demanding action Labor have changed their position, but their own party platform continues to oppose mandatory minimum sentences. Queenslanders deserve to know whether Labor genuinely support stronger laws or whether this is simply another backflip.

When I speak to people in Mackay, they do not ask for anything unreasonable. They want to feel safe in their homes, they want to know their businesses are protected and they want confidence that when police arrest serious repeat offenders there will be meaningful consequences if those offenders continue to break the law. After all, they want a justice system that puts victims first. That is what Cassandra from Beaconsfield and Heather from South Mackay want. It is what so many families from across my electorate really want.

I am proud to stand in this House to support legislation that delivers on the commitments we made to the people of Queensland. We said we would strengthen laws, we said we would back the police, we said we would put victims first and that is exactly what we are doing. I will continue fighting for stronger law s, supporting our hardworking police and listening to the people of Mackay because every Queenslander deserves to feel safe in their own home and their own community. I commend the bill to the House.



Ms HOWARD (Ipswich—ALP) (5.38 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. The Labor opposition is committed to supporting measures that lead to less crime and fewer victims. Like all Queenslanders, we want to ensure that there are consequences for people who commit offences while out on bail, especially serious offences that make our communities less safe. However, after two years of the LNP's tough talk on crime and catchy slogans, Queenslanders still do not feel safe.

Once again, we are in this House debating another crime bill because the Crisafulli LNP government mistakes catchy slogans for good legislation. A slogan is not a plan and it does not deliver on a promise. This bill is the Crisafulli LNP government's ninth attempt to introduce, amend or fix its signature youth justice and community safety laws. Queenslanders deserve laws that protect them from crime. The LNP promised to make Queenslanders safer. Instead, Queenslanders feel less safe than ever. A new DemosAU-PremierNational poll out this week has revealed that 39 per cent of Queenslanders feel less safe than they did two years ago. That is four out of five Queenslanders.

Queenslanders have had enough of crime in their communities and of repeat offenders committing further offences while out on bail. Labor want to see fewer victims and less of the trauma that crime inflicts on innocent people, and that is why the opposition are supporting this bill. However, we do have serious reservations about the bill's impact on the corrections system if proper and careful planning is not put in place. Throwing more people into jail will place significant pressure on detention workers, prison officers and police. They, too, deserve safe workplaces and a government that takes their safety seriously. Strong bail laws must come with strong protections for the workers on the front line who are at the coalface every day. They must not become victims themselves. These laws must come with a guarantee that our frontline workers will not be put at risk.

At the core of this bill is just one question: where will all of these additional offenders actually go? Our police need safe places to hold and transfer them. Our youth detention workers and prison officers need enough staff, fit-for-purpose facilities and the support services that keep prisoners and staff safe. The Crisafulli LNP government have again not done their homework, because none of that is supported in this bill. They have not demonstrated how the additional demand created by this bill will be matched by extra operational capacity, staffing and support. They have not even released any modelling. Even the Queensland Ombudsman and Inspector of Detention Services noted in their submission—

> It is not clear whether there has been any detailed modelling about how great the increase in the number of detainees will be, how quickly the increases will occur, or which facilities will be most impacted.

This is something that is causing anxiety for many detention workers, and my own constituents have raised this with me. The measures in this bill will effectively increase the number of people in custody, in both adult and youth detention.

Queensland's Together union noted in their submission statistics from the Queensland Audit Office showing that 12 of Queensland's 13 high-security correctional centres were already housing more prisoners than they were originally intended to hold. Our prisons are overcrowded and unsafe. Our frontline detention staff are already stretched to breaking point, and still the Crisafulli LNP government wants to put more prisoners into the system without a plan to increase staffing and operational capacity. Every additional prisoner adds to the workload of correctional staff. It heightens the safety and security risk for correctional staff, and it reduces prisoners' access to normal routines, employment programs, education, exercise and, importantly, rehabilitation. These programs are crucial for not only reducing reoffending behaviours in prisoners but also making our prisons more safe work environments for our custodial correctional officers.

Together union surveyed 620 correctional workers in response to this bill and they found a system that was already putting the safety of workers at risk. Around 91 per cent of the respondents to that survey said current prisoner numbers had made their safety at work much worse; around 93 per cent said their centre could not safely accommodate a substantial increase in prisoner numbers without additional resources; almost 98 per cent expected their safety at work to worsen if prison numbers increased without changes to staffing and facilities; and almost 80 per cent of respondents said that overcrowding in the preceding three months had reduced prisoners' opportunities to participate in rehabilitation programs, education and work. When prisoners are able to access these programs, our correctional workers feel safer and they are safer. Our communities are safer when those prisoners walk out the gate.

Far too many prisoners are reoffending once they are back in the community. The best thing we can do to protect victims is to make sure prisoners can access rehabilitation, education and training, work, behavioural interventions and treatment programs. Even victims of crime believe that this is the correct course to take. Natalie Merlehan, a victim-survivor and the director of the Voice for Victims Foundation, said at the committee's Brisbane hearing that 'effective rehabilitation is a victim prevention strategy'. Effective rehabilitation is especially important for youth offenders who need access to effective education, health and rehabilitation programs to set them on a different path and to stop them from reoffending.

The Office of the Victims' Commissioner said in their submission that victims of crime want immediate respite from high crime rates in their communities, but they do not want to see non-rehabilitated offenders released back into the community to offend again and find new victims.

The Youth Advocacy Centre—the organisation that the LNP government recently pulled $3 million in funding from—said in their submission that this bill will result in disproportionately harsh and unjust sentences for young people, especially those with limited or no prior criminal history. The Youth Advocacy Centre helps young offenders on bail access vital support services and housing. They said that most of the young people they help would be caught up in the government's new laws, even if some of those offences are at the lower end of seriousness. These laws would also have a greater impact on young people living with significant disabilities, including intellectual disabilities, mental health conditions, cognitive impairments and neurological disorders.

The Youth Advocacy Centre highlighted the case of a 14-year-old girl who was on bail for stealing alcohol from a bottle shop. The submission explained that she had turned to alcohol as a way of coping with her parents' marriage breakdown. When she stole alcohol again while on bail, she became liable to a more serious charge of entering a premises with intent to commit an indictable offence. Under these new laws, that young girl could face a mandatory 12-month prison sentence. What do we think will happen to this young girl if she is thrown into an unsafe, overcrowded detention centre for a year, without access to adequate health treatment, education and rehabilitation?

The statistics paint a very clear picture of what these laws are likely to achieve. Last year, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reported that 70 per cent of young people aged 10 to 16 who had been sentenced to detention returned to detention within six months of their release. Within 12 months, that figure rose to 84 per cent. These figures suggest that detention alone is failing to break the cycle of offending and is doing little to improve community safety in the long term.

Even when I speak to residents in my area who have been victims of crime—sadly, there are some terrible stories out there—every single one of them, regardless of the story or the background of their story, understands that early intervention is key to stop this offending and to protect other people. As we heard from the shadow minister in her speech, less than half of the money allocated for early

intervention has been spent. It is incredibly important that this is a priority for the government. As I said earlier, the Labor opposition is committed to reducing crime and ensuring that fewer Queenslanders become victims of crime. Whether this bill will achieve these objectives remains an open question.

Mr G KELLY (Mirani—LNP) (5.47 pm): I rise to support the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. In regional Queensland, we know the value of looking out for one another. We know our neighbours. We support our local businesses. Our community halls, sporting clubs and schools are places that bring us together. When crime occurs in those communities, the impact reaches well beyond the immediate victim. It affects the family who no longer feels safe in their own home, it affects the small business owner who wonders whether they can afford another break-in, and it affects the volunteers who arrive at their community hall to find that someone has taken what they have worked so hard to build. That is why the people across the Mirani electorate have been telling me they want meaningful consequences for serious offending.

During the community consultation on these reforms, Roy from Sarina put it plainly. He said that when people 'get bail and carry on, it is time to take them out of circulation for the sake of society as a whole'. His words reflect a frustration I hear across our communities: people want to know that when someone is released on bail there are consequences if they go on to commit another serious offence.

Another respondent, Wallis from Mirani, wrote, 'We need repeat offenders off the streets.' Wallis also shared the devastating loss of a father-in-law in a road crash and the family's deep disappointment with the justice system. I acknowledge that no legislation can take away the pain of losing a loved one. This bill alone cannot address every concern Wallis raised, but that contribution is a reminder that behind every discussion in this House about crime and sentencing are real people and families living with the consequences.

The bill before us responds to a clear concern: a person who is granted bail and then commits a serious offence has shown disregard for the conditions under which they were released. The bill creates a new offence for someone who commits a serious offence while on bail. It also applies when someone commits a serious offence after their bail has been revoked and they have not returned to custody or after they have failed to appear in court. A person must be found guilty of the serious offence before they can be found guilty of this new offence. If found guilty of the new offence, they will face a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months. The bill applies to both youth and adult offenders, with the relevant serious offences defined for each group.

It is also important to be clear about what these laws do. They target serious offending committed in those circumstances. They do not impose the new mandatory minimum sentence simply because someone breaches a condition such as a curfew.

The bill also introduces a tougher test for bail. A person charged with a relevant serious offence that was allegedly committed while on bail, while unlawfully at large or after failing to appear will need to show why their continued detention is not justified. They will also need to satisfy the police officer or court to a high degree of confidence that they will not commit another relevant serious offence if released. These are substantial changes, and they send a clear message about the responsibility that comes with being granted bail.

We do not have to look far to understand why community safety matters so much in regional Queensland. At Armstrong Beach police charged a man with a number of alleged offences, including unlawful possession of motor vehicles and breach of bail. At Westwood police alleged that a community hall was unlawfully entered and had items stolen. In Mount Morgan the owners of the Top of the Mount restaurant announced its permanent closure following an alleged carjacking incident. These matters are examples of the concerns facing our communities. Each reminds us that, when an offence occurs, the impact is felt locally. A community hall is not just a building. A local restaurant is not just a business. They are places where people meet, volunteer, work and connect. When that sense of security is shaken, it can take a long time to restore it.

In regional areas, people can live some distance from a police station or from the services they need after a crime has been committed. Police cover large regional areas, and local business owners and volunteers often have limited resources to repair damage or replace stolen property. Our police officers work hard to protect these communities, and I thank the officers across the Mirani electorate for the work they do.

My communities are starting to notice a difference, with a greater police presence and early intervention programs getting underway across our region. These are positive steps, and I acknowledge the police officers, community organisations and local people who are working hard to make our community safer. We know that there is still more to do. That is why I am proud to be part of the Crisafulli

government, which remains determined to deliver on its promise of fewer victims, and that determination is driving serious change. This bill is another part of that work—strengthening consequences for serious offending while on bail and helping to restore safety and confidence in communities like mine.

People need to face consequences for their actions, but we also need to help them turn their lives around. When a young person is heading down the wrong path, we need to act early. That is exactly what this government is doing through our early intervention programs.

In Sarina, Miller House's Kickstarter program and the Agri Engage program are helping young people who have become disengaged. Agri Engage gets young people out on a farm where they learn practical, hands-on skills as well as the business side of running a farm. These skills are opening up jobs and opportunities they may never otherwise have been exposed to. We are also seeing a noticeable change in these young people. They now want to go to school. They are learning new skills and starting to see what is possible in their future.

This bill forms part of a broader approach that includes early intervention, rehabilitation and support for victims alongside stronger laws. I have listened to people across Mirani—from Sarina and the Pioneer Valley through to Westwood and Mount Morgan. They want to feel safe in their homes and businesses, and they want to see confidence in the justice system restored. The contributions from Roy and Wallis show how strongly people feel about this issue and why this debate matters to our region. I support the bill and commend it to the House.

Mr POWER (Logan—ALP) (5.55 pm): With your indulgence, Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to carefully and solemnly pay my respects to the four victims of the senseless and shocking shooting on the weekend. Four victims were actually shot, but hundreds of others who were at the site and thousands of others who live nearby are terrified. I especially recognise the young woman, Vana-Reese. She is a resident of Jimboomba—an area I represent—and her family is waiting anxiously by her bedside. My thoughts and prayers are with them all, and I hope all in this House feel the same way.

I rise to speak because I want to see policy that reduces and prevents crime in the communities I represent, and I want to see consequences for those who do the wrong thing, who hurt others and who break our laws. That is why prior to and during this week the Leader of the Opposition has made it clear that Labor members will be supporting the bill.

This is the LNP government's ninth attempt to make its crime slogans work. We should remember that Premier Crisafulli told Queenslanders that he would hold a special sitting to solve crime before the first Christmas after they came to government. It was on that basis that many in Logan voted for the LNP. Is it worth examining whether Queenslanders actually feel safer? I would argue that in Logan they do not, and that was before the mass shooting at the pub next to the M1. They see the lawless hooning and the police minister refusing to give local police the resources they need. We eventually forced TMR to deliver anti-hooning measures, even when the roads minister was refusing to help.

Logan residents have seen the lights out on the Mount Lindesay Highway for more than two years, and the LNP government does not seem to care. That tells criminals that this government does not seem to want to help Logan. As a former police officer, Mr Deputy Speaker, you would know about the broken window theory of policing—that is, where a community is seemingly uncared for, crime will increase.

It is not just Logan that feels less safe under the LNP. Surveys in the *Courier-Mail* show that residents all over Queensland feel less safe under the LNP. That is a hard statistic. I have talked about emotional things, subjective things, for the people of Logan. We should look at the statistics that our police measure, too. We have heard many criticisms of the police minister changing police statistics or misinterpreting police statistics and of his having to come into this House to apologise or retract statements.

It is important to note that, for example, police measure the number of cars stolen in Logan. In the Logan police district, that number was at a record high last year—the first full year of the LNP government. Unfortunately, the number of cars stolen in Logan is set to hit another record this year. That is a record that no-one in this House should want for Logan. It means that a record number of Logan people have returned home to find the car they need to get to work, to get to the shops or to take their kids to school has been stolen.

People hear the ministers and the Premier boasting and see the blue ads that crow about this government. It must be particularly galling to have an empty garage and be bombarded with that boastful propaganda from this government while sitting in the lounge room. Worse still, Logan residents are paying for these LNP blue advertisements. Every dollar that the LNP uses to promote itself in its blue ads is a dollar taken off the thin blue line of policing.

I am calling on this LNP government to stop boasting about themselves with our money and instead put all of that money into extra police overtime and special high-visibility operations in Logan. I have heard it said many times—and I am beginning to hear it in our community—that 'slogans that rhyme don't solve crime'. That is true, of course. They do not by themselves, but it is equally true that wasting taxpayers' funds on partisan blue advertising to help promote the LNP does not help, either.

I know that those on the ministerial benches like rhymes, so I have one for them: if the ad is in blue then it probably isn't true. Logan residents know from lived experience that these advertisements do not reflect the reality of life in Logan. Rightfully, they feel betrayed. This is not what was promised. Almost two years ago, we did not stand in the way of the LNP's first slogan and, like all Queenslanders, we are disappointed they have not delivered what was promised. Crime has increased. Queenslanders still do not feel safe. A recent survey showed that twice as many Queensland residents feel less safe under the LNP. Twice as many Queenslanders feel less safe now. It is an indictment on the LNP. It is also why they are spending so much money to convince us, in blue, that we do not know what we are talking about. Logan residents—Queenslanders—know better, and they will not be fooled.

I find it strange that the partisan ads identify this already tired, two-year-old LNP government as 'new'. Queenslanders know that they have been in government for over two years. They know that this is the ninth attempt—the ninth failed attempt. The very fact that we are back here talking about crime and another slogan is an admission that their first slogan has not delivered what they wanted. We know that crime has increased in Queensland. We know that Queenslanders feel less safe under this two-year-old, tired Crisafulli government.

Implicitly, the LNP members in this place recognise that the nine times they have introduced what I think is very political legislation they have not made Queenslanders feel safer. With each new piece of legislation, whether it rhymes or not, Queenslanders are likely to be more cynical. This is more about the politics of crime than the reality of delivering greater safety. They have heard the police minister, for instance, tell a magazine that his main aim as shadow minister was to use crime to win seats. They have a right to be cynical.

Now that this is an established, somewhat shabby and tired government, any further pieces of legislation will be viewed in the same light. Logan residents will rightly ask: if this legislation is the key to reducing crime, why did you wait more than two years before introducing it? We should also recognise that this government is not investing in the places we need to hold prisoners safely—safely for the workers who work in those centres. We rightfully should be concerned for the workers in our watch houses, prisons and youth detention centres—that is, our police, our corrections officers, our youth detention centre workers. They, more than anyone, want a community and a workplace that is safe from crime. These workers deal every day with overcrowding and the overcrowding that will occur as a result of these laws. They deserve to be kept safe.

The director-general of Youth Justice, as was revealed in a leaked email, said, 'I recognise reforms of this scale are likely to have implications across the youth justice and broader justice systems.' Even knowing that, the LNP government has done very little to ensure the safety of those workers. The Queensland Branch Secretary of the AWU, Stacey Schinnerl, said—

> Over 500 serious staff assaults have occurred in these workplaces in the last 12 months.

These assaults are not included in the statistics. She went on to say—

> That is over one serious assault every single day. You simply cannot pile young person upon young person ... into these rooms.

These are serious criticisms—that this government fails to do the hard work and put in the investment to make a difference. It is good that they are finishing the investment into more places that we started under the Labor government, but there are no new initiatives. In fact, from the description—and I need to hear more about it—there have actually been delays.

I want to leave members with a quote from Natalie Merlehan from Voice for Victims. She said, 'Effective rehabilitation is a victim prevention strategy.' I was very moved in 2012 when I met a tradie who was doing metalwork in our youth justice prison. He was very passionate about it. He was sacked by many of those who are still on the frontbench today. They were not serious then about rehabilitation, and their failure to invest shows that they are not serious about rehabilitation now, and Queensland victims will be worse off because of it.

Mrs YOUNG (Redlands—LNP) (6.05 pm): Feeling safe in your own home, waking up in the morning to find your car still in the driveway, arriving at work to unlock the front door of your business rather than finding it smashed in: these are reasonable expectations for any Queenslander, yet for too many families and small business owners crime has made these everyday things a source of worry.

During the decade of decline under the former Labor government, Queensland experienced a 193 per cent increase in victim numbers. In 2016 Labor removed breach of bail as an offence for young offenders and made detention a last resort. By contrast, the Crisafulli government is taking a different approach. We are strengthening bail laws, increasing consequences for serious repeat offending, investing in more police and supporting early intervention and rehabilitation—because Queenslanders should be able to go out and about their daily lives without the constant fear of becoming another victim of crime. That is why I support the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026.

I hosted a victims-of-crime barbecue at the Victoria Point Sharks Sporting Club, where I heard firsthand from local residents about the impact crime has had on their lives. One of those residents was Bec. Bec and her family had their home broken into, four cars stolen and even her daughter's medication taken—four cars, one family. The financial cost and disruption was significant, but there is something much harder to recover from—that is, the feeling of being unsafe in your own home. During our conversation, Bec wondered whether, if these laws had been in place, her family might have been spared what they had endured. I cannot say whether that would have been the case, but her question goes to the heart of this debate. What more can we do to stop serious repeat offenders from creating more victims?

I also think about Mark from The Hair Boutique on the Bay, whose business was broken into three times in less than 12 months. Having run my own business for more than a decade, I know the commitment and sacrifice involved in building something from the ground up. For Mark, each break-in brought damage, repairs, insurance claims and disruption—time and money taken away from running his business and serving his customers. Repeated crime also changes how people live. Families become more conscious of securing their homes. Business owners invest in cameras, alarms and additional security instead of growing their businesses. No small business owner should have to accept repeated break-ins as part of doing business in Queensland. These are the people I have in mind when we debate stronger laws.

Under this bill, someone who commits a serious offence while already on bail will face a new criminal charge. If convicted of that offence, they will face a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months served in custody—12 months actually served behind bars. The bill also makes it harder for serious repeat offenders to be granted bail again. If someone is accused of committing another serious offence while on bail, they must convince police or the court to a high degree of confidence that they will not commit another serious offence if released. They must also show why they should not remain in custody. That is a significant change to how we deal with serious repeat offending. We are not talking about minor breaches here. We are not talking about missing a curfew. We are talking about serious crimes—burglary, robbery and stealing cars—offences that have real consequences for Queensland families and businesses.

When someone is granted bail, they are expected to obey the law while their matter proceeds through the courts because bail is a privilege, not a right. With that privilege comes a responsibility to obey the law. Bail allows an accused person to remain in the community while their case is being dealt with. It should never be treated as permission to continue offending. The bill also covers serious offences committed whilst someone is unlawfully at large or after failing to appear before court. The consequences of serious reoffending should not depend on whether someone has complied with the requirements of their release.

Another important change is giving police greater discretion when dealing with young offenders. Currently police must consider diversionary options before commencing proceedings against a child for certain offences. This bill removes that mandatory requirement. Diversion remains available where appropriate, but police will have greater discretion to consider the seriousness of the offence, the circumstances and the young person's history.

Our police officers respond to break-ins, investigate stolen vehicles and deal directly with victims. They see the consequences of crime firsthand. We have a responsibility to give them the laws that support their work and allow them to exercise their professional judgement. The Crisafulli government has introduced Adult Crime, Adult Time, expanded those laws to cover 47 serious offences, and is now strengthening the consequences for serious offending committed while on bail. Stronger laws are only one part of our response. Since October 2024 the government has delivered more than 2,100 additional police officers across Queensland and committed $560 million to early intervention and rehabilitation. We need to intervene before young people become entrenched in crime, reconnect them with education, support their families and address behaviours that lead to offending in the first place.

For those already in the justice system, rehabilitation must provide structure, education, skills and support to help them make different choices. Programs such as Staying on Track provide post-detention support, monitoring and pathways into education, training and employment. If we want fewer victims we must reduce the number of offenders who return to crime. Rehabilitation cannot replace accountability. Rehabilitation and accountability must work together if we are serious about breaking the cycle of offending. There are encouraging signs of this progress. QPS data shows that victim numbers have fallen by 9.6 per cent, while ABS figures recorded the first annual reduction in victim numbers in five years. That is progress, but our work is far from finished.

During the committee's consideration of this bill the Victims' Commissioner spoke about the profound frustration and distress experienced when offenders released on bail commit further crimes. We spent considerable time discussing the rights of accused persons and the operation of our justice system. Those are important matters, but we must also consider the person who lives with the consequences of serious offending: the family whose home is broken into, the worker whose car has been stolen and the business owner who has been targeted repeatedly. Their experiences deserve to be heard when we make decisions about community safety.

One of the strongest messages I took away from speaking with victims at Victoria Point Sharks was their desire to see meaningful action. They want to know that serious repeat offending is being addressed and the risk to the community is being taken seriously. Bec's question about whether these laws may have prevented what happened to her family is one I will not forget. We cannot change what happened to her family or undo the three break-ins at Mark's business, but we can strengthen the laws that deal with serious repeat offending and work together to prevent others from experiencing the same harm.

For the people of Redlands this bill means tougher consequences for serious offenders who commit further crimes while on bail, a higher threshold before those accused of serious reoffending are released again and greater discretion for police. Alongside more police, early intervention and rehabilitation, these reforms are part of our government's commitment to making Queensland safer. The people of the Redlands deserve to feel safe in their homes, their businesses and their neighbourhoods, and they deserve a government that listens to their concerns and acts on them.

Mr KNUTH (Hill—KAP) (6.13 pm): I rise to support the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Let's not pretend this is a new idea. The KAP has been fighting for tougher breach-of-bail laws for more than five years. In fact, on 24 February 2021 I formally questioned the then Labor youth minister and called on the government to reintroduce breach of bail as an offence for repeat youth offenders. I followed this up in March 2021 by sponsoring a parliamentary petition specifically demanding the reinstatement of breach-of-bail offences, strong bail restrictions and relocation sentencing. I table that petition.

Tabled paper: Webpage titled 'Queensland Parliament—Paper Petition: 3495-21 Stop Youth Crime' [2145].

Fast-forward to February 2026, when I was again on my feet in parliament challenging the LNP government over its failure to deliver its Breach Bail, Go to Jail election promise laws. While the LNP might have come up with the catchy slogan, the KAP was demanding tougher breach-of-bail laws years before the government introduced the legislation.

The KAP also consistently called for relocation sentencing to end the youth crime revolving door problem. I acknowledge that the government has now partly adopted our relocation sentencing policy through the Circuit Breaker program, which I fully support. Well done! I commend you for that. It is all about getting these youth out of the city and sending them out bush to teach them values, teach them skills, teach them how to drive front-end loaders and graders, and teach them how to build cattle yards and muster. You can guarantee that, if you send them out there, when they come back the last thing they will want to do is go back out there. It is a good policy.

The reality is that both sides of politics dodged, weaved and hid until they could not hide anymore from the youth crime problem. Now we see both sides here today agreeing to something they both avoided like the plague in the past. I have been in this parliament long enough to remember when we were told that tougher penalties were the answer, that locking offenders up would not work and that we needed to keep giving repeat offenders another chance. What about the victim and their second chance? What about the elderly person who had their home trashed, the small business owner who was robbed repeatedly or the families who no longer feel safe in their own homes? In communities like Innisfail, Atherton and right across regional Queensland, people have had a gutful of repeat offenders treating bail conditions like they are optional.

Police are just as frustrated. They do the hard yards, arrest offenders and put together the evidence, only to see the same individuals back out on the streets. Tougher bail laws are only part of the solution. That is why we have consistently pushed for a suite of changes, including one that is currently before the committee which I cannot mention otherwise it will be 'point of order, Mr Speaker'. The other is relocation sentencing. The government has now taken up KAP's longstanding policy but the test will be in its implementation. The government needs to ensure properly resourced facilities and effective rehabilitation.

People deserve to feel safe in their homes, their businesses and their communities. I am pleased that our policies are finally receiving serious attention. I support the bill and will continue to push for practical measures that protect Queensland communities and hold repeat offenders accountable.



Miss DOOLAN (Pumicestone—LNP) (6.17 pm): I rise today in strong support of the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. I believe the ultimate duty of any government is to keep citizens safe. I believe in smaller government. I believe the government should stay out of people's lives wherever possible, allowing individuals and families the freedom to make their own decisions. There is one fundamental responsibility the government cannot walk away from and that is the safety and security of its people. If you cannot feel safe in your own home, if you are afraid to walk down the street at night or if you live in fear of becoming a victim of crime, then something is fundamentally wrong. Freedom means very little if you do not have the security to enjoy it. For too long under Labor's soft-on-crime decade of decline Queenslanders were ignored and left to feel unsafe in their own homes.

The Crisafulli government has come in and we have legislated Adult Crime, Adult Time. We have not claimed that Labor's youth crime crisis could be fixed overnight; we always knew there was more work to be done. Queenslanders have been asking a very simple question: how can someone who commits a serious crime be released on bail, commit another serious crime and still expect to walk free? It is a question victims of crime have asked. It is a question our hardworking police officers have asked. It is a question that families across Pumicestone have asked me as they have watched the revolving door of serious repeat offending undermine their confidence in the justice system.

Queenslanders deserve better. Bribie locals Heidi and Clint Luck should feel safe in their home. Toni from Ningi should feel safe working in her pet shop without the fear of a car ramming into her store. Greg and Dawn should be able to walk down their street without the fear of a youth criminal targeting them or their house. They all deserve to know that when someone commits a serious offence there will be serious consequences. Above all, they deserve a justice system that places the rights and safety of victims first. That is exactly what this bill seeks to deliver.

Breach Bail, Go to Jail: they are five simple words that happen to rhyme, but the words are fundamental in principle. Bail is not a free pass to commit another serious crime. It is a privilege to have bail; it is not a right. When someone is granted bail, the justice system places a degree of trust in that individual. When someone abuses that trust by committing another serious offence, there must be consequences. This legislation delivers exactly that. It creates a new standalone offence for committing a serious offence while on bail, unlawfully at large or after failing to appear before a court. Following conviction, that offence will carry a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months in custody, with a maximum penalty of three years. That is 12 months in actual detention or imprisonment.

This bill also introduces stronger tests for granting bail to those accused of serious reoffending. These individuals will be required to demonstrate why their detention is not justified and satisfy the court or police to a high degree of confidence that they will not commit another serious offence if released. This is an important distinction. We are not talking about someone who misses a curfew by a few minutes and we are not talking about a minor technical breach of a bail condition; we are talking about people who have already been granted bail and are then accused of committing another serious offence such as robbery, burglary, serious assault, dangerous driving and other significant crimes that can have devastating consequences for innocent Queenslanders. For adult offenders, the legislation also captures additional serious offences including coercive control and child sexual offences.

When we talk about these offences it is important that we remember the people behind them, because every crime has the potential to leave a lasting impact. A family whose home has been broken into may never feel safe again. An elder Queenslander who has been assaulted may lose the confidence to leave their home. A small business owner who has worked tirelessly to build a livelihood may find themselves facing thousands of dollars in damage. A young person who has experienced violence may carry that trauma for years. A parent whose child has been harmed may spend the rest of their life wondering how it could have been prevented. These are not simple numbers on a spreadsheet; these are real people and they deserve to know that their government is listening.

I have the enormous privilege of representing the electorate of Pumicestone. From Bribie Island to Beachmere, Ningi, Sandstone Point, Toorbul and Donnybrook, I represent a wonderful community made up of retirees, young families, small business owners, volunteers and hardworking Queenslanders. They are people who contribute to our state—people who ask for very little in return. They want to raise their families, run their businesses, enjoy their retirement and feel safe where they live. That is not an unreasonable expectation; it is one of the most basic responsibilities of government.

I think particularly about the older residents in my electorate. For many of them, the fear of crime can be just as damaging as the crime itself. When someone becomes frightened to answer their front door, frightened to walk to the shops or frightened to leave their home unattended, their freedom has already been diminished. That is something we should never accept as normal, because the freedom of law-abiding Queenslanders should not be compromised by the repeated actions of serious offenders.

One of the most powerful messages to emerge from the committee process came from Victims 1st. They highlighted the gap between what offenders are told will happen and what actually happens, and I think that goes to the very heart of this legislation. When someone commits a serious offence, is released, commits another serious offence and is released again, what message does that send? What does that teach the offender? What does that tell the victim? What does that say about the credibility of our justice system? It tells offenders that the consequences they have been warned about may not eventuate, it tells police officers that their hard work can feel undermined, and it tells victims that the system may not be doing enough to protect them.

This is simply not good enough. The Victims' Commissioner also highlighted the profound frustration and distress experienced by victims when offenders who are released on bail go on to cause further harm. I think we should reflect on that. Imagine being the victim of a serious offence. Imagine having the courage to report that crime. Imagine going through the police investigation and the court process only to discover that that person accused of harming you has allegedly committed another serious offence while on bail. How could that not shake your confidence in the system? How could that not leave you questioning whether your safety was ever truly prioritised? This is why this bill matters—because victims deserve more than sympathy after the damage has been done. They deserve a justice system that takes meaningful steps to prevent further harm.

We also need to acknowledge how Queensland reached this point. For a decade, the former Labor government presided over a significant deterioration in Queensland's crime statistics. During that period, car theft increased by 101 per cent, break-ins rose by 44 per cent and assaults increased by 198 per cent. Victim numbers climbed dramatically. In 2020 Queensland recorded approximately 165,000 victims of crime. By 2023 and 2024 that figure had risen to more than 289,000. Behind those statistics were hundreds and thousands of Queenslanders whose lives were affected by crime, yet over that same period the former Labor government made decisions that weakened important elements of our youth justice framework. In 2016 Labor removed breach of bail as an offence for young offenders and made detention a last resort in sentencing.

I recognise that youth justice is complex. There are many factors that contribute to offending and there is no single piece of legislation that will solve every problem. What I cannot accept is the suggestion that accountability somehow has no place in the justice system, that consequences are incompatible with rehabilitation or that protecting the community must always come second to the interests of the offender. The two are not mutually exclusive. We can believe in second chances, we can invest in rehabilitation and we can support vulnerable young people, but a second chance cannot become an unlimited number of chances to cause serious harm to others. That is where the former approach failed to provide Queenslanders with the confidence they deserved.

The Crisafulli government was elected with a clear mandate to restore safety where Queenslanders live, and we have been getting on with the job. Through our Adult Crime, Adult Time reforms, we have strengthened consequences for serious offending. We have expanded those laws to cover 47 offences and now, through Breach Bail, Go to Jail, we are taking that next step. We recognise that serious offending committed while on bail is particularly concerning. It is not simply another alleged offence; it is conduct that, if proven, demonstrates a serious disregard for the trust placed in an individual by the justice system, and that disregard must be addressed.

I also want to speak about the extraordinary men and women of the Queensland Police Service. Our police officers are on the front line every single day. They respond to emergencies, they investigate serious crimes, they support victims at some of their most difficult moments, and they put themselves in dangerous situations to keep our communities safe. In my own electorate, I see the dedication of our local police and the important relationships they build with our community. They are the people we turn to when something goes wrong, they are the people we expect to respond when we need help, and

they deserve to know that the justice system is backing their efforts. There is nothing more frustrating than the prospect of police working tirelessly to apprehend a serious offender only to see that individual allegedly commit another serious crime while on bail. That is why these reforms are so important. They provide clearer consequences and a stronger framework for protecting the community.

The Crisafulli government promised Queenslanders that we would restore safety where they live. We promised to put victims first and we promised to restore consequences for serious offending. Breach Bail, Go to Jail is another important step in delivering those commitments because every Queenslander deserves to feel safe and every victim deserves to be heard. I am proud to support this legislation. I commend the bill to the House.

Hon. AJ STOKER (Oodgeroo—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (6.27 pm): I rise to speak on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Yesterday morning I sat down with victims of crime, their families, local business owners and community leaders in the Redlands alongside the Premier, the Minister for Youth Justice, the Attorney and my local colleagues in the members for Redlands and Capalaba. We were there to listen and to hear directly from locals who have experienced for themselves the consequences of crime. Those people are not statistics on a spreadsheet. They are not a crime rate. They are people whose lives, livelihoods and sense of security have been directly affected by experiencing the effects of crime. They are families who have experienced unimaginable distress. They are business owners who work hard, employ locals and contribute to our community.

Redlanders want to feel safe, they want their families to be protected and they want a justice system that puts the rights of victims ahead of the rights of offenders. That is precisely what the Crisafulli LNP government was elected to deliver and it is why I am proud to support this bill. I acknowledge my colleague the member for Capalaba. This is a bill that means a lot to him. He has paid a heavy price for not having legislation like this in place. Member for Capalaba, we owe it to you and every family like yours to do the right thing and make sure we learn from your experience.

Bail needs to mean something. When an offender is granted bail, they have been given an opportunity to remain in the community under conditions imposed by the justice system. It is not a licence to continue offending and it is not a free pass to disregard the law. Bail is a privilege; it is not a right. In my time as a prosecutor I saw over and over again magistrates, members of the bench, treating bail as a question that was a formality and you never really saw it get denied. Of course we have to consider each case on its merits, but that is a pattern worth observing.

Sitting suspended from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Mrs STOKER: Before the break, I was articulating my experiences as a prosecutor where so often when the matter of bail was discussed it was treated as a formality to be touched on. It did not ever seem to matter what additional offending had occurred; it never seemed to get revoked. In that context, Queenslanders watched serious repeat offenders pass through a revolving door of crime, arrest, release on bail and reoffending with nothing to break the circuit. Police would do their jobs, offenders would be apprehended and communities would be left wondering how those same offenders could return to the streets and commit further crimes. That kind of practice undermines confidence in the justice system and it puts the lives of innocent Queenslanders at risk. This is a problem that the former Labor government created. They made this crisis when they weakened our laws, particularly with respect to youth justice. Then they had a decade to address Queensland's escalating crime crisis but, instead of strengthening accountability, they continued to dilute the laws.

In 2016 Labor removed breach of bail as an offence for young offenders and made detention a last resort in sentencing, and what happened? Victim numbers increased by 193 per cent, car theft increased by 101 per cent, break-ins rose by 44 per cent and assaults increased by 198 per cent. It is not a good record, but, again, they are not just numbers. Each is a family waking to discover their home has been broken into; a small business owner arriving at work to find their storefront damaged or their property stolen; or a family whose car has been stolen not once, not twice—repeatedly. The consequences of these crimes do not simply disappear when the offender leaves the scene; they change the way that people live day to day. That is why conversations like the ones we had yesterday in the Redlands matter so much, because this government's approach to community safety must always be grounded in the experiences of the people we are elected to represent.

This bill introduces a standalone offence for serious offending while on bail, while unlawfully at large or after failing to appear. Upon conviction, that offence will carry a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months in custody with a maximum penalty of three years. Importantly, that mandatory minimum

sentence must be served wholly in actual detention or imprisonment, not in the community or through a suspended sentence. The bill also introduces a tougher test for bail for adults and young offenders who are charged with serious offending in those circumstances. Under the new 'high degree of confidence' test, a defendant must first show cause why their detention is not justified. They must then satisfy the court or the police officer to a high degree of confidence that they will not commit another offence if they are released. The message that sends is really clear: if you are already a part of the justice system and you choose to commit another serious offence, there is going to be a real consequence, and that represents a meaningful change. These laws are not directed at minor technical breaches such as missing a curfew. They are targeted at serious criminal offending, because the safety of the community must be at the centre of our bail system.

The bill also removes the mandatory requirement for police to consider diversionary options before commencing proceedings against a young offender. We retain a discretion in this for police to use diversion where they think it is appropriate, but they will no longer be compelled to force the round peg into a square hole if it is not appropriate for the case they are dealing with. It is a vote of trust in our police to exercise their professional judgement because they are the ones who are dealing with the situations on the ground. Since October 2024 the Crisafulli government has delivered more than 2,100 additional police officers, far exceeding our election commitment of 1,600. That means for the first time in Queensland's history we have more than 13,000 Queensland police officers and those officers deserve to be backed in by the government of Queensland. Those stronger laws must also be supported by the infrastructure and the capacity needed to hold serious offenders accountable once police have done their good work.

The former Labor government did not just leave behind a crime crisis; they also left behind a corrections system that was under enormous pressure with overcrowded prisons and youth detention centres. Those failures cannot be fixed overnight but, unlike those opposite who allowed it to get worse and worse, we are addressing the problem. Since coming to government, we have increased youth detention centre capacity by 25 per cent with further capacity to come through the new Woodford Youth Detention Centre next year. We are also introducing Circuit Breaker Sentencing by the end of this year and that will give courts another option to order eligible young offenders into intensive rehabilitation programs as an alternative to detention. Across our adult correctional system we have made record investments of more than $2 billion in Queensland Corrective Services over two consecutive budgets. We have opened the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre, the first new high-security prison in more than a decade, and we have delivered more than 2,000 beds across Queensland's correctional system with a further 1,400 in the pipeline.

The Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee heard evidence that reinforces why these reforms are necessary. The Victims' Commissioner highlighted the profound frustration and the distress that is experienced by victims when offenders who are released on bail go on to cause further harm. Victims 1st also drew attention to the harm that happens when there is a gap between the promised consequences and what actually happens. When serious offenders repeatedly break the law there need to be consequences that are certain, meaningful and understood. Victims deserve confidence that the justice system takes the risk of further offending seriously—not just a recognition of their experience, but as protection for others in our community.

The record of those opposite is very different. Not only did they spend years dismissing the rise in crime as simply a media beat-up; they spent years dismissing calls for stronger breach-of-bail laws. Even today I am not convinced they really believe in this. They say they are going to vote for it, but then they all spend their speeches listing out all the reasons they think it is a terrible idea. It is like they are speaking a little out of both sides of their mouth. However, they cannot have it both ways. Either they think this is something worth doing or they should vote against it. They seem to want to be able to say one thing in one room and another thing in another room. What people will get from the LNP Crisafulli government, though, is clarity: they know where we stand. We are here for victims to be heard. We will always line up on the side of victims and not on the side of offenders.

Ms McMILLAN (Mansfield—ALP) (7.38 pm): I rise to contribute to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Like every Queenslander, the people in my electorate of Mansfield want less crime and fewer victims. They want to feel safe in their homes, on their streets and at their local shops, and at the moment they do not. Almost two years ago Labor did not stand in the way of this government's first slogan. Being back here with a second slogan is an admission that the first has failed. Queenslanders still do not feel safe and those in my electorate still do not feel safe. What they tell me is that they are tired of the slogans.

When someone commits an offence while on bail there must be consequences. In most cases that person should never have been on bail in the first place. That is why Labor will support this bill. However, without careful planning, these laws could break the system and put our police, detention workers and corrections staff at further risk of becoming victims of assault. Once again, this government has either failed to plan or refuses to release its plans—no plans, no modelling.

The Inspector of Detention Services told the committee that it is unclear whether any detailed modelling has been done or how many more detainees there will be or which facilities will be hit the hardest. Even before this bill was introduced, the Audit Office forecast prisoner numbers to grow by up to 5,200 people by 2035. I have spoken with Mansfield constituents who work in corrections and detention across Brisbane and they say that they are already at breaking point. Youth Justice data shows that in May this year children were placed in separation over 8,000 times across our youth justice facilities. More than a third of those were because there were not enough staff. As the Inspector of Detention Services said—

Such separations are not only harmful to children but also undermine the capacity of youth detention centres to deliver meaningful education and rehabilitation.

Alarmingly, the AWU, citing departmental data, told the committee that 60 per cent of new youth detention recruits do not last their first year and reported more than 500 serious assaults on workers in the last 12 months, yet not one representative of these workers was invited to give evidence at the public hearings. Do they not deserve a voice?

Mr Hunt: How do you know that?

Ms McMILLAN: Together Queensland, representing correctional officers, was not invited to address the committee—

Mr Hunt: How do you know that?

Ms McMILLAN:—so it surveyed its members on the bill instead.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): One moment, member for Mansfield. Member for Nicklin, your interjections are not being taken.

Ms McMILLAN: I will not be bullied by the member for Nicklin. Over 93 per cent of the 620 officers surveyed said their centre could not safely accommodate a substantial increase in prisoner numbers without additional resources. Our frontline staff have a right to be safe at work. Failure to plan will see more of them assaulted in overcrowded and understaffed facilities. Labor will not oppose these laws, but we want a binding guarantee that these workers will not be put at risk.

In my time as a school leader I sat across the desk from young people whose lives were already unravelling—no stable home, untreated trauma and families in crisis. Complex problems need complex responses, and my electorate of Mansfield will not accept simple responses to complex societal issues. Stakeholders told the committee that there are still gaps in housing, mental health care, alcohol and drug treatment, family violence responses and education. Leave those gaps open and we set young people up to fail yet again, and that means more crime, more reoffending and more victims. Queenslanders who have been affected by crime have every right to feel frustrated and afraid. Victims deserve accountability and a genuine effort to stop the next person suffering the same harm. That is why Labor continues to call for sustained investment in early intervention, prevention and rehabilitation in our communities and in custody. This is the hard work. It is easy to create tough laws and be tough on crime, but the hard work really is in the intervention, the prevention and the rehabilitation.

Finally, Queenslanders deserve the truth. Just like child safety data, we have seen changes in how crime data is measured and reported. Only flattering figures get promoted to serve a political narrative. Again, my community is awake to this. It makes the government's sweeping claims harder to trust. Members of my community are smart, they are educated and they want transparency. Slogans do not address crime. I call on the LNP to support Labor's independent community safety statistics bureau and take politics out of crime data. We want less crime and fewer victims. We want a safe workforce and detention with real purpose. Before these laws take effect, we want this government to be accountable and show Queenslanders and show my community the real plan.

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (7.43 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. The legislation before us tonight is a significant and landmark reform. It reflects the Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government's determination to restore safety where Queenslanders live, to stand with victims of crime and to ensure that serious repeat offenders face real consequences for their actions. Queenslanders have made their expectations clear: they want to feel safe in their homes, in their businesses, in their cars and in their communities. They expect that when a person is granted the privilege of bail and then commits another

serious offence there will be a clear and meaningful consequence. For too long, that confidence was undermined. Queenslanders watched as serious offenders were given countless opportunities, only for more people to become victims of crime.

The Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government has listened and we are acting. This legislation sends an unequivocal message: if you are on bail and commit a qualifying serious offence, you will face a mandatory minimum sentence of 12 months in custody. That sentence must be served in actual detention or imprisonment. It is a clear consequence for serious offending committed by a person who has already been granted bail. This legislation also introduces a higher threshold for certain youth and adult defendants seeking bail after allegedly committing a serious offence whilst on bail, unlawfully at large or after failing to appear. Before granting bail in those circumstances, the court must have a high degree of confidence that the person will not commit an offence whilst released.

These reforms are directed at serious offending. They are not about a technical breach of a bail condition such as missing a curfew; they are about responding to people who commit qualifying serious offences whilst on bail, unlawfully at large or after failing to appear. This legislation also removes the mandatory requirement for police officers to consider diversionary options before commencing proceedings against a child. Police will retain the discretion to consider diversion, where appropriate, based on the circumstances before them. Together, these measures represent another important step in the government's commitment to make Queensland safer.

I want to acknowledge and thank the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Integrity, the Hon. Deb Frecklington MP, for her leadership in bringing this important legislation before the House. I also want to acknowledge the Premier, the Hon. David Crisafulli MP, and the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support, the Hon. Laura Gerber MP, for their commitment to delivering the stronger laws and broader reforms that Queenslanders expect. This builds on the government's Adult Crime, Adult Time reforms. It forms part of a comprehensive approach that includes stronger laws, more police, early intervention and rehabilitation, because making Queensland safer requires us to act at every point—to intervene early, to hold offenders accountable, to support victims and to give those who have offended a genuine opportunity to change.

The former Labor government had a decade to act. It had a decade to listen to Queenslanders who were frightened, frustrated and demanding that their safety be taken seriously, but Labor ignored all of those concerns across Queensland. Instead, Labor weakened Queensland's youth justice laws. In 2016, Labor removed the offence of committing an offence whilst on bail for young offenders and made detention a last resort in sentencing. As the consequences became increasingly apparent following these changes, Queenslanders were left asking why their government had made those choices. Labor subsequently reinstated a youth breach-of-bail offence in 2023, but only after years of defending its earlier decision and dismissing calls for stronger action. Queenslanders remember countless Labor ministers and Labor members of the then government telling them that breach-of-bail laws did not work. They remember the excuses and the changing positions and they remember the real consequences for families, businesses and communities across our state.

Under the former Labor government, far too many Queenslanders became victims of crime. They deserved a state government that listened and acted sooner. The question for Labor today is not simply what its members say about this legislation in this chamber; it is about what Labor would do in government. Queensland Labor's published policy platform states—

Labor will repeal legislation which fetters judicial discretion by imposing mandatory minimum sentences for criminal offences.

Those are Labor's own words. They directly raise the prospect that these reforms would be repealed under a future Labor government. The Labor opposition cannot expect Queenslanders to ignore its record or its published policy. Queenslanders are entitled to a clear answer: will Labor guarantee that it will keep these laws, or will it follow its own party platform and repeal them? After a decade in which Labor weakened laws and failed to keep Queenslanders safe, there is every reason for the community to question whether Labor can be trusted to maintain these reforms.

The Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government is taking a different approach. We have listened to Queenslanders and we are delivering the stronger laws they have called for. We are also backing the frontline police officers who work every day to protect our communities. More than 2,100 new police officers have been delivered since October 2024 and Queensland now has more than 13,000 police officers for the first time in the state's history. Importantly, a strong response to crime must also look beyond the moment an offence is committed. If we can help a young person make better choices before they become entrenched in serious offending, that matters. If we can support someone leaving detention to return to education, training or employment, that also matters.

Every young person who turns away from crime is a potential future victim spared the harm that crime causes. That is why the Crisafulli LNP state government is investing significantly in early intervention and rehabilitation. This government is committed to prevention, to rehabilitation and to early intervention programs. There has been a significant investment in alcohol and drug programs and family programs as well as mental health services. We will continue to invest in early intervention and rehabilitation. As one example, our $50 million Kickstarter program supports community-led initiatives that help young people at risk of reoffending reconnect with education, develop life skills and build a more positive future. Through our Staying on Track program, our government is also investing in intensive support for young people after detention including mentoring, family support and pathways into education, training and employment. These investments sit alongside our stronger laws. Accountability and rehabilitation have an important role in building safer communities.

In the electorate of Moggill I have seen the value of this approach through the work locally of Reason to Thrive. Reason to Thrive recently received funding through the Crisafulli LNP state government's Kickstarter program to deliver its Equine Assisted Learning life skills program. The program supports young people aged 10 to 17 through animal care, outdoor learning and mentoring. Working with horses helps participants develop skills in emotional and behavioural regulation, communication and confidence. I was pleased to welcome the Hon. Laura Gerber MP, Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support, to see the program in action at Kholo and to hear from participants about the positive outcomes they are experiencing. It was a great opportunity to see how a community-led program can connect with young people, provide them with practical support and help them build skills that can make a difference in their lives. I want to thank Michelle Beatty, Julie Tom and the whole team at Reason to Thrive for their dedication to the young people they support and for the work that they do with schools, families and the wider community. Their program is an example of what early intervention can look like in practice—local people working with young Queenslanders to give them guidance, support and a reason to make positive choices.

The Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government understands protecting the community means being prepared to take decisive action against serious offending, while also investing in the programs that can prevent crime and reduce reoffending. That is the comprehensive approach Queenslanders voted for, and it is the approach this state government is delivering. This landmark legislation places community safety and the rights of victims at the centre of our response. It sets clear consequences for qualifying serious offences committed on bail and strengthens the test applied when certain repeat offenders seek bail. Queenslanders have waited long enough for a government prepared to take action. The Crisafulli LNP state government is delivering on its commitment to restore safety where Queenslanders live. As such, I commend the bill to the House.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): Before I call the next speaker, I remind the chamber that the background noise is rising again, so if people can either talk very quietly or go outside to have their conversations.

Mr VORSTER (Burleigh—LNP) (7.53 pm): It gives me great pleasure to rise yet again to make a contribution on another bill that is another concrete step forward that this government is taking to restore safety where we live. It is in the DNA of this government to put the rights of victims ahead of those of offenders—not so that there are more offenders incarcerated, nor that victim numbers come down, but so we give every Queenslander the opportunity to live a full and productive life free from the fear of being attacked in their homes, in their workplaces and in their open spaces. We pursue this because it is the primary purpose of government. I would have thought that this is not a partisan issue. It is but common sense that an obligation falls to the government to ensure there is safety for its citizens.

During the course of this debate, we have had those opposite stand up and pledge support for this bill introducing Breach Bail, Go to Jail. I think the member for Moggill asked a very germane question. He asked the opposition whether they would guarantee that, should they sit on the government benches, they would keep these laws. Would they keep faith with the community that voted to ensure there were consequences for actions? I would hazard a guess that those opposite will make no such undertaking. I do so on the basis that their party platform clearly sets out an agenda to begin putting the rights of offenders ahead of victims—first, by increasing the age of criminal responsibility, which was a feature of a motion considered by this House not so long ago that those opposite voted against.

I think the Queensland community should regard the contributions of those opposite with suspicion. It is not their words in the chamber that they need to listen to, but the actions of those opposite when they have a chance to implement their policies. We saw when they formed government in 2015 that one of their first acts was to weaken youth justice laws. It is not the words Queenslanders need to

pay attention to; it is their actions. I draw a stark contrast with the actions of this government, which made a commitment that Adult Crime, Adult Time would be law before Christmas. We took action and we delivered. We said that we would strengthen those laws by introducing new offences. We took action and we delivered. We came back with a third tranche of reforms to Adult Crime, Adult Time which introduced other ways of keeping Queenslanders safe, including providing police with extra powers to deal with antisocial behaviour in designated business and community precincts. However, those opposite could not find their way to support those laws. This leads me to believe that, although they feel the political pressure of voting for them in this instance, if given half a chance they will walk them back and they will heed the direction of their party puppetmasters.

I asked this chamber to consider the contrast. We have not only delivered that legislation but also delivered the resources to support the enforcement of those rules. In my own community of Burleigh, a $4.1 million package has delivered a new police beat with two dedicated police officers. We have delivered a late-night support service on Friday and Saturday nights to ensure young people can get home and ease the burden on police. We have delivered $500,000 of extra CCTV to Gold Coast City council to keep that precinct safe and we have fully reversed the cuts to full-time equivalent positions at the Palm Beach Police Station that we saw under the former government. This means more police with greater resources backed by the not-for-profit sector to deliver safety where my community lives. I am very proud of that track record. It is a track record that offers a strong contrast to the track record of those before us. Those before us promised a police beat in Burleigh—the former former member issued a media release—but, alas, no police beat was delivered. When our government speaks, we speak with purpose, we speak with commitment and we can be trusted to deliver.

This legislation does precisely what we promised to do—that is, to keep going; to walk into this place time and again and keep strengthening the laws. While I have an opportunity to make a contribution in my own words this evening, I thought one of the most powerful things I could do was to allow my community to speak for itself. I will speak into the record some of the contributions of those who have been affected by Labor's crime crisis.

Debbie in Varsity Lakes said of these reforms, 'There have to be consequences for their actions otherwise it will continue to happen.' Mary in Burleigh Heads said, 'I'm sick and tired of seasoned criminals being allowed out only to reoffend. They need to include that judges need to start using these laws.' The mandatory minimum 12 months is our way of ensuring that decisions of the judiciary begin meeting community expectations. Hardy in Varsity Lakes said to me, 'I support stronger bail laws in Queensland. Recently my car was stolen and I was helping police to recover it and caught the thief onsite, but the thief was released in the court immediately the next day, which is a second hurt to us as a victim. We need stronger bail laws.'

Ms Grace: Recently.

Mr VORSTER: I say to these residents: I hear you, I see you and we will do something about it. While I will not take that interjection, it does prompt me again to draw a contrast with those opposite. I cast my mind back to the last state election, the first time that I contested the seat of Burleigh. I went to my community and I said, 'As somebody who founded the Gold Coast District Neighbourhood Watch Inc. with some good people, who found council funding to support the work of Volunteers in Policing, and Crime Stoppers, I hear you, I understand you and I am on your side. Your fight is mine.'

I thought the Labor candidate might have been hearing the same thing I was hearing as I knocked on doors across my community, but I can only surmise that the Labor candidate did not because partway through the election campaign it was revealed that that Labor candidate had a history of attacking hardworking police officers on social media. Hardworking police officers were insulted and attacked by the Labor candidate. It offered those opposite an opportunity to stand with victims and to stand with the police by dealing with that candidate. Instead, the two potential opposition leaders of the Labor Party, the member for Gaven and the member for Waterford, were dispatched into the media to defend that candidate—a candidate who carried the Labor brand but had been attacking police on social media. That said unequivocally to my community that only one party of government could be trusted with their safety. It is trust that I do not take for granted.

I had an opportunity on the weekend to organise and host a breakfast, together with the Premier and the member for Currumbin, the Minister for Youth Justice. It was a great opportunity to sit with and listen to the victims of Labor's crime crisis. They had a message that the Premier has repeated time and time again, which is 'keep going', and that is precisely what we will do. If there is something within my power to make our community safer, I will take that step even though those opposite will take one step forward and two steps back. I say to my community that this is just the start. I will redouble my efforts to deliver that designated business and community precinct in the heart of Burleigh to deal with

the antisocial crisis created by Labor. It is a set of powers under laws that those opposite voted against. If you live in Burleigh, if it is a treasured place to you and your family and you want it to be safe, you can trust us by looking at our track record. You can never trust those opposite.



Mr HEAD (Callide—LNP) (8.03 pm): These are great laws before the parliament thanks to the Crisafulli government. They will be much welcomed right across Queensland and certainly in the electorate of Callide. These reforms will build upon the first three phases of Adult Crime, Adult Time, which have already led to a decrease of 9.6 per cent in victim numbers across Queensland. The Breach Bail, Go to Jail legislation will further strengthen protections for Queenslanders, support victims and ensure repeat offenders are held accountable for their actions. This bill will deliver a standalone offence for committing a serious offence while on bail, unlawfully at large or failing to appear. This offence will attract a mandatory minimum 12-month jail sentence which must be wholly served in actual detention. That is a big step forward from what we have seen previously.

The position of the Crisafulli LNP government is that youth and adult offenders who are granted bail and then commit another serious offence should face clear and certain consequences as they are breaching the trust placed in them by the justice system and, in turn, the community. As has been well articulated by my colleagues in this House, the reality is that bail is a privilege, not a right, that we have in the justice system. It is clear that it has been abused time and time again.

In the early stages of their last reign in Queensland the former Labor government weakened Queensland's youth crime laws, including making detention a last resort and removing breach of bail as an offence, which in turn saw victim numbers skyrocket by 193 per cent. Through the course of this debate those opposite have stated that we are here passing more laws because clearly to date our laws have not been working. The reality is that until you eliminate crime there is always more that can be done to improve the systems. While we can always strive to eliminate crime, that is something that will be virtually impossible to ever achieve. Nonetheless, a good government will continue to review laws and make hard decisions. We are not afraid of making hard decisions such as this to bring the toughest bail laws in the country to Queensland.

Only a few months ago Labor members voted against a motion that supported the principle of mandatory minimum sentences for those who commit an offence whilst on bail and now they are all in favour of it. I wonder if we will see certain members opposite contribute their passionate support for this legislation. I wonder if the member for Cooper will provide a contribution outlining her support for this legislation.

Ms Grace: Just worry about yourself. You have run out of things to say already.

Mr HEAD: I take the interjection. If only the Labor government at the time had worried about victims of crime in Queensland, member for McConnel.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): Member for Callide, address your comments through the chair, thank you.

Mr HEAD: Queenslanders could not worry about themselves because they had to worry about locking their doors each night against offenders who may break into their house because of the crime crisis created under the decade of decline of those opposite. I do wonder if the member for Cooper is going to come in here and passionately advocate for these laws and outline why she and her party are going to be supporting them. I do not agree with much of what comes out of the mouth of the member for Maiwar as a member of the Greens, but he made the point that he is well aware that the Labor Party do not fundamentally believe in these laws. Tonight they might be supporting these laws, but I have not heard them articulate they genuinely believe in them. I would love for them to correct the record and articulate that. We will see what happens.

To give the House a history of what those opposite have said, in 2019 the member for Bulimba said—

> If we persist with a 'lock them up and throw away the key' approach we know that there is an almost 100 per cent chance that young people will reoffend.

That is interesting. In 2022 another member opposite said—

> I know that the LNP are calling for a return of the offence of breach of bail but I want to be very clear with all of you and Queenslanders, that offence did not work when it was in place ... They received no additional penalties. It was not a disincentive. It did not stop young people re-offending.

If those opposite were so confident in their comments previously, why are they in here supporting these laws? The statistics show that victim numbers are falling. They are down 9.6 per cent in the 2025-26 year compared to Labor's last financial year. Since October 2024 we have delivered more than

2,100 new police officers. For the first time in the state's history we now have over 13,000 police officers in Queensland. It is not just the number of police officers on the street that matters. More coppers on the beat only delivers outcomes if they have the laws to support them and what they do. With these laws the government gives police the support they need to get on with the job of keeping our communities safe. What does this mean for people across the electorate of Callide? Don from Chinchilla said—

> We do need to strengthen bail laws for ALL offenders. Offenders in Queensland, youth and adult, need to be sentenced to longer custodial terms. As a recent victim of a serious assault with a weapon, I had to watch the person who assaulted me released out on bail, before I was even discharged from hospital. My attacker continued to harass and intimidate me and my family. The system is broken and victims like myself have less rights than our attackers.

John from Biggenden said—

> Totally agree with these proposals. I now class ourselves as senior citizens, and it is a concern when you can't feel safe in your own home.

> Anthony from Hookswood said—

> I was recently involved in an incident. A house invasion where keys were demanded at gunpoint ...

He noted that he strongly supports any law to stop these people from stealing again.

There is a great community group in Calliope, the Calliope Community Hub. With Strong Communities Ltd, a lot of great work has been happening that I have been proud to support and work with the team on. Unfortunately, recently they have suffered significant vandalism. In case people are wondering, I can confirm that this is not subject to sub judice, even though it is recent, given what has happened since. Certainly, that group has done great work to set up the hub, which brings a lot of benefit and support to the community. In this instance, because the offenders are kids and I understand it is their first offence, they received a caution.

We have been talking about the different pathways of rehabilitation and so on. I make the point that not only the Calliope Community Hub and the team but also the police have been working with those offenders to rehabilitate them and make sure they learn right from wrong. On the flip side, given we are putting all the time, effort and energy into those kids, if they keep committing crimes in the future and do not learn their lessons then these new laws that are before the House tonight will play their role. We are not afraid to be tough on crime. On the one hand, we have processes such as what is happening in my own electorate where kids are not thrown in jail but are given the opportunity to work and participate in cleaning up their own mess following that vandalism incident. We will also have tough laws on the other end so that if they do not change their behaviour and learn the lessons then they will suffer the consequences through these new laws.

Mr McDonald: But we're investing in early intervention.

Mr HEAD: I take that interjection from the member for Lockyer; we are investing heavily in early intervention. Finally, I want to touch on drug use across society, which I think often goes unmentioned when it comes to crime and, in particular, serious crime and repeat offenders. Recently, the AFP chief commented that illicit drug use does threaten our nation's security. It is behind a lot of crime that we experience in our communities. Fortunately, we have brought in tougher drug laws. Again, those opposite watered down the drug laws in Queensland. I think a broader part of our issue in society is the soft-on-drugs approach and the soft-on-crime approach that we saw from those opposite. These are great laws and I commend them to the House.



Mr McDONALD (Lockyer—LNP) (8.13 pm): Of all the bills that have come into this House, I can say that this is the best bill that I have been able to speak on. I was very proud to be a police officer and the officer in charge of police at Laidley. I was there from 2004 to 2017. I was elected in 2017 because in 2015 laws were introduced, which came into effect in June 2016, that weakened the bail laws and weakened the youth justice laws. I was telling my officers that they could no longer arrest offenders because the then government had changed the rules for police. There were no crime statistics for that cohort. Over the next few years, that cohort became a generation of untouchables with no consequences for action. Those opposite should go back in their memories to when they were in government because they caused the problem that existed for the next 10 years.

I am proud to stand here to support this bill. However, I am disgusted at all those opposite who say there have been nine changes to the Making Queensland Safer and the Adult Crime, Adult Time laws and that those laws are not working. They try to make up some sort of evidence to show that they are not working, but they are working. There has been a reduction in victim numbers. There has been an improvement but there is more work to be done. Those opposite who come in here and mislead this House should hang their heads in shame.

I have reviewed a number of contributions to see exactly what was said and how they have misled this House and the community, because they also say that they will support these laws. They know what Queenslanders are saying. They go to barbecues and other places, just like we do, and they hear exactly the same things that we hear. Their social misfit ideology to reduce the criminal age of responsibility and weaken other laws is not palatable to Queenslanders and that is why this bill should be supported.

I place on record my appreciation to the Attorney-General and her team, the Premier, the Minister for Police, the Minister for Youth Justice and the committee members who worked on this bill. I acknowledge the member for Nicklin and his cohort including the member for Mundingburra and the member for Capalaba.

A government member: Thuringowa.

Mr McDONALD: I am sorry; the member for Thuringowa. I sit next to the member for Mundingburra, who is also a former police officer. I am sorry for the mix-up. I acknowledge the work done by those members and also the Labor members of the committee. They heard from Queenslanders. They know what Queenslanders said to them. They know that this is important. The most important thing that Queenslanders are saying is that there are no consequences for actions. Those opposite are saying the nine changes have not worked. Their changes made the laws weaker and weaker. We are changing the culture of youth offending and the culture of criminal offending. We have done work on the Making Queensland Safer laws, which covered a couple of the suites in three of four different tranches. Now we are making more changes to the Adult Crime, Adult Time laws.

If I could go back 10 years to before I was in this place and point to one cohort that we needed off the streets—one cohort across the whole criminal divide from young offenders of 10 through to the most serious offenders—it is the cohort who are on bail and commit an Adult Crime, Adult Time offence. There are 47 of those offences. That cohort are the ones who are absolutely—I was going to say some unparliamentary language. I was going to say ripping 'the guts' out of the state, but I cannot say that. They are ripping the intestinal fortitude out of the state.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): Member for Lockyer, can you withdraw that unparliamentary language?

Mr McDONALD: I withdraw. Thank you for your guidance, Madam Deputy Speaker. It is that cohort that committed so many offences that affected so many victims across the state. As our Premier rightly says, I would much rather see that cohort in jail than in my lounge room. I support those comments and the actions of this government to further support our communities because we are listening. Those opposite come in here trying to mirror their ideology and say they support this. Then they talk about other things to get some grabs on their social media, to appeal to some of their community or their supporters, or to try to get Greens support so they might get elected next time. I can tell the House that there are many opposite who should be worried because Queenslanders support these changes. Other states, including Labor states, are actually copying these laws because they know they work. The evidence shows they work.

A government member: That's right; Victoria.

Mr McDONALD: Including the state of Victoria; I thank the minister for his contribution. It is not the only thing that we have done, though. As I said, we have made a number of different changes. We gave a commitment to put in place Jack's Law. We made it permanent, which is great, and expanded on that again.

I have to go back to my colleague the member for Capalaba. I met the member for Capalaba a number of years ago after the terrible Australia Day tragedy when he lost his son Matt and his daughter-in-law, Kate, and their baby, Miles. I was fighting at the time for changes in legislation to Sophie's Law. Together with Peter and Sarah Milosevic, we ended up meeting up and could come into this House when, on 13 September 2023, laws were passed. I appreciate we changed the legislation to make sure there was the protection of those rights. This is important for the member for Capalaba because that offender was on bail. I stand with him and my colleagues to support this bill, because it is that cohort that is the most important cohort we can take off the streets. It is a message to all those in Queensland who think they are going to do the wrong thing: stop it.

I can tell members that the cohort in the youth detention system is talking about Adult Crime, Adult Time. They have even confronted the minister and said, 'Have you made that the law?' She said, 'Yes, I have,' and they said, 'Thank you, because I can stay in here and enjoy a good lifestyle for the time being.' We are changing the culture of youth offending.

I say to those opposite who think they know better and were listening to some statistics about reoffending when people go to jail: those offenders who go into jail have been through the cycle—their system's cycle—three, four, five, nine or 10 times before they get to jail. They are the three per cent who are the worst of the worst. Of course they are going to reoffend again! Members come in here and talk about statistics of above 60 per cent or 84 per cent over a few years. That is because they are the worst of the worst, and some of them want to stay in there. This legislation will make the changes that will help those kids. I am very proud that we are not only being tough on crime but also putting in place early intervention.

Another tragedy that comes to mind is the murder of Vyleen White at Redbank Plains. I was very pleased, along with others in this House, to support Victor White and his daughter, Cindy, after the terrible tragedy of their loss. That offender was also on bail. Victor and Cindy last week and this week said to me, 'If these laws were in place, our wife and mum would still be alive.' They are so grateful to our team, the Attorney-General and the Premier, that these laws will be in place after this week, and I look forward to catching up with them. Closer to home, Chris from Laidley contacted me to say—

Youth crime has been out of control for too long. Stronger bail laws are long overdue. Repeat offenders need real consequences, not a revolving door back on the streets.

My thanks to Joanne from Woodlands, who wrote—

You need to give the courts the legislation to impose tougher sentences especially for people on bail. If I didn't pay my tax, the Federal or State Government would jump on me like a ton of bricks. Listen to the public—we want tougher laws.

I will finish where I started, by saying to those opposite: think about what you did for 10 years and the results you achieved. Our government has invested in 1,200 extra police—over 13,000 for the first time—and these laws, together with the other legislation, are part of the laws and the resources we are giving the police to change the criminal offending culture in Queensland forever. Other jurisdictions across Australia will continue to copy us. I commend this bill to the House.

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (8.23 pm): I wish to make a contribution to the debate on this very important piece of legislation, but I want to start by saying that this could be the most unnecessary piece of legislation that has ever been brought to this House. It could be the most unnecessary piece of legislation ever brought to this House had the Labor government under Annastacia Palaszczuk and Steven Miles actually listened to what was being said in this place and what the constituents in their electorates and our electorates were saying.

I well remember back in 2016 and 2017 when the weakening of the laws started. I well remember when they reversed breach-of-bail laws in this place—laws that we had introduced that were having an effect in lowering the rate of recidivism and making sure people were safe in their home. I well remember when they weakened the bikie laws—the VLAD laws—because they said they were unnecessary. I well remember when they started changing the laws and inserted detention as a last resort, shackling the hands of the judiciary, telling them what they could and could not do.

All of those laws were changed under the Labor Party in 2016 and 2017. We fought every one of them. Sixteen times Labor weakened the laws. Sixteen times they brought legislation into this House in those 2½ years. Sixteen times we voted against those laws. Sixteen times we said, 'This will lead to a generation of untouchables.' We said it would lead to a revolving door of crime, and we said it would lead to more people being injured, being robbed and having their cars stolen.

That is why this law could be the most unnecessary law brought into this place. If only Labor had put ideology aside and dealt with the realities that they faced at the time—the realities that were pointed out not once, not twice and not three times but over 16 times in that first 2½ years of the Palaszczuk Labor government. That is the record of Labor in this place.

I heard the member for Lockyer say that he went back 10 years. He has a few more grey hairs than I do. Age has not been kind to him, but, nonetheless—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr O'Shea): Member for Clayfield, you have now spent 25 per cent of your speech. I would like you to return to the long title of the bill, thank you.

Mr NICHOLLS: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I thought you were going to pull me up for being unparliamentary, but then I was waiting for the member for Lockyer to take offence as well! As I say, for 10 years those opposite weakened Queensland's youth crime laws, and what we saw was an increase in victim numbers of 193 per cent. The numbers have been spoken about by many who have preceded me in this debate: car thefts increased by 101 per cent; break-ins rose 44 per cent; assaults were up 198 per cent. These should not be new figures or surprising to anyone who has been listening to debate in this place.

I can recall in 2018 and 2019, when I was enjoying a period of solitude on the backbench, being able to stand up and make a few comments in relation to how things were going in the Clayfield electorate at that time. I recounted how a young lady had written to me explaining how her house had been broken into and two family cars had been stolen. Not only that but their records and their alarm system indicated that people had been living in their house for two days, including using their showers and sleeping in their beds. That was the extent of what was happening.

As I say, this legislation is now necessary, yet it could have been so unnecessary. We saw an increase in crime: the thefts and the cars being stolen but also, most importantly, the lives that were lost which cannot be replaced. No amount of insurance is going to make up for the loss suffered by the member for Capalaba or, as we heard from the member for Lockyer, the loss suffered by the White family. We have spent many times with them about what it is. We cannot make up for those losses, but we can make amends with this legislation.

This Breach Bail, Go to Jail legislation, which will be Australia's strongest bail regime, will protect the community and protect the vulnerable from serious offending, and it will provide a strong deterrent message for those offenders who continue to commit serious offences while on bail. It will deliver the standalone offence for committing a serious offence while on bail that attracts a mandatory minimum 12-month jail sentence and must be wholly served in actual detention. People will know that, coming from a legal background, mandatory sentencing is not something I immediately go to—I prefer the judges to have the discretion they need to apply it—but in these circumstances, where people have been granted the privilege of bail and they abuse that privilege, it is important that we send a strong signal that you do have obligations—that as a community, as a society, we expect you to behave in a certain way and, being granted the privilege of bail, you cannot take it and use it to go and commit further crimes.

These new laws will strengthen the protections for Queenslanders. They will address that issue. They will support victims. They will prevent others from becoming victims and ensure repeat offenders are held accountable for their actions. Are they going to be everything we need? Of course not. We are doing so many other things to support the enforcement of these laws. Whether it is the employment of more police, whether it is the investment the youth justice minister is making in further detention facilities or whether it is the investment that we are making into Gold Standard Early Intervention and everything that goes with it, this is one key component that must go with it all the way through.

As we deliver more police and as we enhance our investment in early intervention and rehabilitation, we are attacking all of the sources of crime in this state in the best way we can—the way we took to the people of Queensland and the way we said we would deliver. We are doing it properly and calmly. We are telling them what we are doing, and this legislation shows that.

I have been listening on and off to the debate in this place today in relation to this legislation. I heard those opposite come in here with their weasel words and saying, 'We support the bill.'

Mrs Gerber: But?

Mr NICHOLLS: Thank you, member for Currumbin. They start with their weasel words, but then there is a 'but' or 'however' and they trundle off onto a range of different side issues. Not once do they say, 'We hope these laws work.' Not once do they say, 'We're going to get behind them and promote them in our community.' Not once do they say, 'Great job, police officers. We're really supporting you.' They hedge their bets so they can go back to their comrades at the state convention and say, 'We had to vote for it, but we really don't believe in it. Look at my speech. Read between the lines.'

Labor have shown time and again that they cannot be trusted to be tough on crime and that they cannot be trusted to act in the best interests of Queensland. Time and again they cannot be trusted to deliver what the people of Queensland require. One would have to say that, under the leadership of the member for Murrumba, time is well and truly up. He is as weak in his leadership as he has been on crime throughout this state.

A litany of people in the Clayfield electorate have written to me. Eddie told me, 'This reform is absolutely necessary. Finally, Queensland has a government that is making policy for all Queenslanders.' Natalie says, 'Crime is one of the most important things a government can fix. Keep up the great work.' Patricia from Albion said, 'Thank you for delivering tougher laws on youth offending and also adult crime. Keep up the good work.' It is clear that Queenslanders from all walks of life and from all parts of the state are keen to see this government continue to make the effort, to work hard for them, to back our strong laws and to support making Queensland safer.

Before I finish, I would be remiss not to thank those hardworking members of the police force in the Clayfield electorate—those from the Hendra division and partly from the Stafford division—who work day and night to ensure our communities are kept safe. I live relatively close to the Hendra division and I hear their sirens up and down Manson Road and Nudgee Road. I know that they are being called upon time and again, as is our Ambulance Service and many of our other first responders.

I acknowledge and recognise the people who make that contribution. Two of them came to our seniors forum last Friday and spoke about personal safety to the seniors who had gathered at the Allan Border Field. People will understand how good this is: they also brought along their trainee police dog Pirate and his handler, Jim. Pirate stole the show. We had the Premier there as well, but he played second fiddle to Pirate, who was four months old. The Queensland Police Service do an amazing job. These laws will aid them in doing their job. Are they a total cure? No, they are not. Are they necessary? Yes, they are, only because Labor turned them around—

(Time expired)

Hon. FS SIMPSON (Maroochydore—LNP) (Minister for Women and Women's Economic Security, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Multiculturalism) (8.33 pm): I am delighted to speak to these extremely significant laws. These laws will bring about the toughest bail laws in Australia, and that is necessary because those opposite failed significantly. For the last 10 years of Labor, they denied that there was a problem. In fact, they used to laugh it off and say that it was just a media beat-up, despite hearing some of the most tragic stories of offenders—predominantly youth offenders with long criminal records and, in many cases, on bail—committing horrendous crimes.

The Crisafulli government gave a commitment to focus on crime—to bring about stronger laws and to bring in tranches of laws that would progressively address Labor's decade of failure that created the youth crime crisis. We did that with our Adult Crime, Adult Time legislation covering a range of significant serious offences. We recognised that there had been a cycle of terrible abuse where youth offenders were getting away with an escalating pattern of behaviour, which was having a significant impact on the community and destroying lives. The former Labor government refused to acknowledge—in fact, refused to concede—that they had it wrong while victim numbers were escalating and the community was being impacted significantly.

The legislation that we have introduced into the House this week is the next step in addressing people committing serious crimes while on bail. Breach Bail, Go to Jail is going to address that. This morning, Minister Gerber, the Minister for Youth Justice and Minister for Corrective Services, outlined some astounding figures about the former Labor government's failed bail programs. Their failed bail programs saw 60 per cent of youth offenders reoffend. When it came to serious repeat offenders, the number was even worse. Under Labor's failed bail programs, 89 per cent reoffended. We are saying that enough is enough. This legislation, which reforms bail laws, brings in mandatory 12 months jail for those who commit a serious offence while on bail. That is a very strong law.

Consistent with our approach, we are bringing in not only stronger laws and consequences for actions but also Gold Standard Early Intervention, with a record spend on a range of programs to try to break that cycle. The greatest impact of crime is on the victims. There is also a lost generation of young people who could have potentially done amazing things if they had not been caught in that vortex of destruction—destroying other people's lives and their own future opportunities. The bleeding hearts think we are too tough, but I say that they should look at how they are conceding to wasting the young lives that have been sucked into a life of crime and that go on to destroy the lives of so many others.

These stronger laws are being accompanied by early intervention and more police. Unfortunately, a lot of people did not want to work under Labor's laws because they were the punching bags. They were the ones who were turning up, but before they had even charged somebody the offenders were going out the door again.

Mrs Gerber: Labor's revolving door of youth crime.

Ms SIMPSON: That's it: Labor's revolving door of youth crime. Victims were impacted, as were those who were sworn in to do their job and keep us safe but were not equipped with the necessary laws to do that. This legislation is about reforming Labor's weak laws. It is part of our ongoing reform to bring about a safer Queensland. It is about breaking the cycle of crime, accompanied by early intervention. It is also about cracking down on those who are committing serious offences while on bail—mandatory 12 months jail.

In fact, we do not want to see people do the crime in the first place. If you do not do the crime in the first place then you are not going to face the tough laws, are you? I stand in support of this legislation. I stand in support of the community who asked us to do this. It is about their future. They wanted a government that would not laugh it off and say it was a media beat-up. They wanted a government that would get on with the job of creating change, delivering a fresh start and giving them an opportunity to thrive in the future without someone else ripping them off by their destructive behaviour.

Hon. LJ GERBER (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (8.40 pm): Imagine being too afraid to sleep in your own home, afraid for your children, afraid of what might happen during the night. That was the reality for Marcelo, a father on the Gold Coast. In 2024, his family home was invaded by eight youth offenders armed with knives. He later told the parliamentary committee that his family was so frightened that they were sleeping in one room all together. No family should have to live like that. Queenslanders deserve to feel safe in their homes and they expect serious offenders to face real consequences for their actions. That is why the Crisafulli government is delivering these Breach Bail, Go to Jail reforms: to hold serious offenders accountable and to put the rights of victims before the rights of offenders.

To understand why these reforms are so necessary, we need to look at how we got here. For a decade, under the former Labor government, our youth justice laws were systematically weakened. Labor removed breach of bail as an offence. They made detention a last resort. They closed the Childrens Court to victims and their families, and they failed to deliver the detention centre capacity that Queensland urgently needed. Under Labor's decade of decline, victim numbers increased by 193 per cent and serious repeat offenders increased by 64 per cent, and Queensland families were left to pay the price.

Labor says they will support the bill, but that support comes with plenty of conditions because Labor has spent this whole time debating why it does not really support the bill. The shadow attorney-general spent her speech talking about the number of offenders who will be captured by these laws like it is a bad thing. Think about what that actually means. Every single one of those offenders committed a serious offence while out on bail. Behind every single one of them is a victim who did not deserve to be a victim in the first place. Labor look at those numbers and they see a problem for prisons. They see a reason not to act. We look at those numbers and we see a victim who should not have been impacted. Quite frankly, we would rather have those offenders in a prison than in a victim's lounge room.

Labor talk about capacity and safety in our facilities. Where was that concern during Labor's decade of decline? Where was that concern when corrections was heading into triple-ups under them? One of the first briefs I received as the minister for corrections was that corrections was going into triple-ups because Labor failed to deliver and open a single new prison in Queensland—not a single new correctional facility in a decade in Queensland. Corrections was heading into triple-ups as a result. What did we do? The Crisafulli government got on with the job of delivering the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre. We delivered that centre and we narrowly avoided triple-ups, but Labor were already on that trajectory because they failed to deliver the capacity in this state.

Mr McDonald: Now they're in denial.

Mrs GERBER: Exactly, member for Lockyer. We will not be lectured to about capacity or frontline safety from the party that failed to deliver the safety and capacity needed in the system in the first place. Let's be clear about what Labor's support for this bill really looks like, because Queenslanders can see straight through it. You either stand on the side of victims or you do not. There is no 'but' attached to that. There is no: 'I support the bill but …' You either stand on the side of victims or you do not, and Labor clearly do not. Those opposite had a decade to listen to victims and restore accountability in this state. Instead, Queenslanders were left with repeat offending and a system under pressure.

On Sunday, I attended a community breakfast and heard firsthand from southern Gold Coast residents about the impact of crime. Les, a Coolangatta small business owner, described repeated threats and violence from young offenders. He was attacked by a group of teenagers, stomped on and kicked in the back of the head, leaving him with a concussion. Carl told me about his 16-year-old son's e-bike, which had recently been stolen by a man reportedly affected by drugs. Carl also had his car stolen and his neighbour's home was broken into. Sue, a 72-year-old local, has taken it upon herself to revive our local Neighbourhood Watch committee as a result of her concerns about Labor's youth crime crisis.

These are families, small business owners and community minded locals who deserve to feel safe. Their message was clear: stop serious repeat offending, back our police and make sure there are real consequences for actions. That is exactly what the Crisafulli government is delivering with our new Breach Bail, Go to Jail laws—a new offence for offenders out on bail who commit a serious offence. They will face a mandatory period of 12 months behind bars. Not only that; we are raising the bar to make it harder for those serious repeat offenders to get bail in the first place.

In addition to that, we are unshackling our police by changing section 11 of the Youth Justice Act. The bill removes the mandatory requirements for police to consider a diversion under section 11 of the Youth Justice Act, giving our frontline police officers the discretion to respond to offending appropriately—no more slaps on the wrist as happened under Labor. We are on the side of Queenslanders who would rather see three of these crooks in a cell than in their lounge room—not Labor, because Labor has spent this debate crowing about capacity. Labor had a decade to build the capacity that is needed in the system. Instead, they left projects delayed and critical correctional facilities under pressure. Now they want to lecture this government about delivery. Let's look at what actually happened.

Labor announced a remand centre for Queensland in 2023. They promised they would deliver in 2024. Did they deliver that youth remand centre? No, they did not. In August 2024, when the member for Bulimba was the youth justice minister, she said, 'Oh, no. It's on track. I'm going to open it in December.' Did she do that? No, she did not. She sits in this House and criticises our government for delivery and criticises our government on capacity when she failed to deliver the capacity that she promised to Queenslanders.

Then there is the Woodford Youth Detention Centre—another promise made by the Labor government that they failed to deliver on. Woodford was announced by Labor and they said it would be delivered this year. When I became the minister, incoming briefs revealed that Labor absolutely intentionally misled Queenslanders. They told Queenslanders that it would be open this year when the brief said the cost of the facility had blown out by $350 million and it would not be open until the end of next year—2027. Those were the facts that were handed to the Crisafulli government. This government has funded the Woodford detention centre with a further 32 beds, taking the total planned capacity to 112 beds. That is the distinction. Labor made announcements and failed to deliver on them, whereas the Crisafulli government has got on with the job of delivering the capacity the system needs.

In corrections, we know that Labor failed to deliver a single new prison in Queensland over a decade. Not a single new prison opened in Queensland over a decade. We have delivered two record budgets, backed our frontline correctional officers and are progressing a further 1,400 beds across the correctional system including at Townsville and Arthur Gorrie. We have already delivered a further 2,000 beds across the correctional system. On top of this, we are delivering the rehabilitation and intervention needed to turn young lives around. We are funding more than $101 million over five years for bail support. That is a 21 per cent increase on Labor's annual funding for bail support—and they have the hide to say we are not delivering bail support!

It does not stop there. Our $225 million Staying on Track program is providing 12 months of post-detention rehabilitation support, including at least six months of intensive rehabilitation, for every single youth offender who leaves detention. We know there is a lot more work to be done because Labor left us with a youth crime crisis, with detention centres critically overcrowded and with a correctional system that was not invested in. We are committed to delivering those strong laws. We will not go back to Labor's weak laws. We will not stop strengthening our laws and we will not stop working to reduce the number of victims of crime in this state.

Breach Bail, Go to Jail is the next phase of Adult Crime, Adult Time. It is delivering stronger laws, consequences for actions and making sure serious repeat offenders are held accountable. We are backing our strong laws with a record investment in early intervention, rehabilitation and detention centre capacity to break the cycle of crime. Our commitment to Queenslanders is simple. We have committed to them that once again they can feel safe in their communities, that once again they can have safety restored. We are backing our police with resources and these strong laws. In conjunction with these laws we are delivering the early intervention and rehabilitation needed to turn young lives around. That is in stark contrast to the previous Labor government, which speaks out of both sides of their mouth when it comes to these laws. Let's listen to the next speaker and all the 'buts' they provide in relation to their supposed support of these laws.

Mrs KIRKLAND (Rockhampton—LNP) (8.50 pm): I rise to speak to the Breach Bail, Go to Jail and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026. It is 2 am in the morning. You have not slept properly for over a week now since the entire street had their vehicles either broken into or stolen. The dogs start

barking and now you are wide awake. Eyes open, you are listening with acute attention to every little creak and practically inaudible sound. Your mind turns back to the side door. Did I lock it? You whisper to your husband, 'Babe, did you check all the doors before you came to bed? The side door?' You cannot rest; you simply have to get up and double-check. You peek out the window to make sure the car is still in the driveway. The dogs keep barking. You return to bed, only to continue tossing and turning. Now completely unsettled, you decide you might as well get up and get some housework done. You turn the lights on and now the rest of the family is awake. You turn the kettle on and wonder 'when will we ever feel safe again?'

This is how too many of our community now live, having fallen victim to the youth crime crisis that was enabled under the previous Labor government's watch. Labor made youth detention a last resort. Labor failed to fund effective early intervention. Labor left our police without adequate resources and with skeleton workforces, and Labor removed breach of bail as an offence for youth offenders. This bill will deliver the strongest bail reforms in the nation. Serious youth offenders who abuse the privilege of bail by committing another serious crime will go to jail for a minimum mandatory sentence of one year, up to a maximum of three years. Those opposite refuse to acknowledge it was their direct actions that created the youth crime crisis that smashed our communities. It was the Labor government that created communities full of victims who sleep uneasily, whose lives and businesses have been impacted. In some of the more devastating outcomes we have seen families left behind whose lives will never be the same.

Labor's weak-on-crime stance created a generation of untouchables. By December 2023 our communities had set up Neighbourhood Watch, Facebook pages, suburb crime pages and stolen car list pages, all in an attempt to intercept and inform around the escalation that, under Labor, saw Rockhampton's stolen car offences rise by 226 per cent. Across the state our victim numbers rose by 193 per cent. The people of my community voted for a fresh start. The victims of Rockhampton called for justice. They joined the chorus across Queensland calling out for consequences for actions committed by these youth offenders.

Within two months of taking government we introduced the first of our Adult Crime, Adult Time legislation, directed at finally putting victims first. Over the last two years the Crisafulli government has continued expanding our laws to unravel a decade of decline from those opposite. We are turning the tide on the crime that was shaping our region and destroying lives and livelihoods. The victims of our community have stepped up and shown incredible bravery to make certain the parliament learns of the impact of Labor's youth crime crisis and what it brought upon them. They have completed community surveys, spoken at community forums and expressed their growing frustrations on social media, by email and in person at mobile offices. The community has now said 'keep going'.

'Enough is enough,' said Kyralee, trembling from head to toe as she spoke of the impacts of a home invasion and having their two cars, their pride and joy, stolen by youths known to police. Her husband, working out of town, left Kyralee in a Groundhog Day state of fear for herself and her two daughters. In Rockhampton at one of the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee hearings a witness spoke of the need to balance compassion for offenders with the greater needs of the community. She said—

I also want to make an important distinction:

Those opposite should listen to this. She said—

I do not believe accountability and rehabilitation need to be opposites. We can support rehabilitation while also expecting accountability. We can provide young people with opportunities to change their lives whilst recognising that victims and communities also have rights and needs. Compassion for offenders should not mean that victims become an afterthought and rehabilitation should not mean that repeat serious offending has no meaningful consequence.

Other members of my community completed an overwhelmingly supportive survey. In response to the question, 'Do you support Breach Bail, Go to Jail?' Jody from Park Avenue wrote—

Absolutely, and not just youth crime. We've had 2 attempted break ins to cars and someone was under our house in the past three months. Thank goodness for my guard dog. You only have to go to the courthouse and watch them come out laughing because they've yet again got just a slap on the wrist for a crime. Even if their record is long, recent or if they've just got arrested. They don't care and aren't scared of any of it. The justice system is a joke and the community is sick of it.

If only the Labor Party had been brave and chosen to listen to the voices of victims over those advocating for offenders. Labor claim they support this bill, yet they submitted a 23-page statement of reservation and they have spent the bulk of their speeches tonight arguing how the bill will not work. In representing my community of Rockhampton and Gracemere, and as part of the LNP government, let me say that, unlike Labor, we have no reservations about putting the rights of victims before the rights

of offenders. The arguments and scaremongering of those opposite propose there will not be enough detention space for youth offenders who breach bail. This is rich coming from a party that claimed the youth crime crisis was a media beat-up and who, since being thrown out into opposition, appear to have suddenly come to the realisation that there was actually a problem.

Already the Crisafulli government has delivered more than 2,000 beds across the correctional system to expand capacity across the state. We are delivering a further 1,400 beds with more than $2.3 billion in funding in this year's budget. We have increased youth detention capacity across the state by 25 per cent, with more beds on the way. We are building the new Woodford Youth Detention Centre, adding an extra 112 beds which will come online next year. We have increased detention centre staff by 17 per cent statewide, more staff than ever before. We are delivering detention with purpose across Queensland's youth detention centres, restoring discipline, accountability and rehabilitation. Our reforms focus on compulsory education, structured rehabilitation, stronger behaviour management and a zero tolerance approach to violence against staff.

We are restoring consequences for actions while ensuring young offenders receive the education, skills and rehabilitation they need to break the cycle of crime. We have also passed legislation introducing Circuit Breaker Sentencing, which will add additional capacity to the system. Our communities, which have already seen a 9.6 per cent drop in victim numbers, have called out for us to keep going and have appealed to us for stronger bail laws. Angela from West Rockhampton said—

As the victim of a break & enter and my step daughter being assaulted by someone who should have still been serving time for her former crime, I can't agree more with stronger laws and actual jail time for reoffenders who prove they can't be rehabilitated and are a risk and burden to our community. What we've had to endure psychologically and financially as a result of her actions are significant! I was still dealing with the insurance company when she was eligible for parole and RELEASED. She is back in the community already and it is not acceptable or fair.

Today, this bill continues to lead the way in turning back the tidal wave of crime that Labor allowed to terrorise our state. It delivers the strongest bail reforms in the nation. I commend the bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Mrs Kirkland, adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (Leader of the House) (9.00 pm): I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Moreton Bay, Traffic Congestion

Mr WHITING (Bancroft—ALP) (9.00 pm): Today, Labor released our issues paper on transport. It can be said that we are in a state of congestion under the LNP. Moreton Bay residents are living in the slow lane under the LNP. Every day, people from North Lakes, Deception Bay and Burpengary East are spending more and more time on congested roads. The tragedy is that it will get worse under the LNP because of their cuts or delays to road projects. If you are a car commuter from my area, this is what you are facing. We spend about 90 minutes a week stuck in congestion. That is more than 77 hours a year. That is 10 working days a year that we are sitting in traffic in the Brisbane area.

Unbelievably, the LNP have cut or delayed three congestion-busting projects in our area. The LNP are about to make congestion worse. Firstly, the Gympie Road tunnel is badly needed. Many of my residents crawl along Gympie Road each day at 30 kilometres an hour from Beams Road to the Pine River bridge in the afternoon. The Gympie Road tunnel and bypass between Carseldine and Kedron could change their lives. There was $355 million allocated for the first steps of this project, but this project has been cut or delayed by the LNP. The Gympie Road crawl will continue.

Secondly, the LNP's cut to the Bruce Highway Western Alternative is a huge loss in our area. This is what a community leader said to me: 'Don't even talk to us about placing thousands of new houses in our community until you talk about when the Bruce Highway Western Alternative will be done.' We all want more housing, but the LNP are not providing one new school or one new bus route, and they are not delivering the most significant arterial road project in the Moreton Bay area. There is a *Moreton Daily* article on this congestion crisis which I will table.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Moreton Daily*, dated 22 October 2026, titled 'Commute getting worse for Moreton Bay drivers' [2146].

One online comment on this article by Shirley said—

… can't wait for those 19,000 new dwellings in Narangba, State government has given the go ahead for, thanks Qld Govt

The member for Glass House said it would not happen for about a decade. They have effectively scrapped it. Not only that, they have cut off the top end of it so it does not actually connect to the highway itself. It is another cut by the Crisafulli government that will make congestion worse.

Thirdly, the Deception Bay Road widening project is also a classic. The LNP have already cut it once from QTRIP. We put money into the first stage and promised money for the second stage, and we have heard nothing from the LNP government. The LNP government will make congestion worse for our area.

Bonney Electorate

Hon. ST O'CONNOR (Bonney—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth) (9.04 pm): It has been two years since I had the privilege of being re-elected to represent my part of the Gold Coast, so I want to take this opportunity to run through what we have achieved together so far. Our LNP government was proud to make Jack's Law permanent and to expand these police powers to detect knives and save lives into more public places. I want to acknowledge the police minister who is in the chamber tonight. Jack's Law was named in honour of 17-year-old Jack Beasley, a young man from our community who was tragically murdered on a night out in Surfers Paradise. Since these laws came into effect, over 1,400 weapons have been taken off the streets across Queensland. I want to acknowledge, of course, the tireless advocacy of Parkwood locals Brett and Belinda Beasley, who are working every day to make sure other families do not go through what they have. Our entire community is proud to call them our own and to see the change they are driving in Jack's name.

We are bringing the next line of the light rail to Harbour Town to better connect thousands of people in Labrador, Arundel and Biggera Waters with world-class public transport. Early work is underway in the corridor and we will have plans out for consultation on how it is going to look along Olsen Avenue and Oxley Drive in the coming months. After a decade of Labor delays, construction on our local alternative road to the M1, the Coomera Connecter, is finally powering ahead and we are working on the next section all the way up to Pimpama. We had locked in Labrador to host the hockey in the 2032 games. We saved Arundel Hills, overturning Labor's rezoning of Arundel sport and recreation land, a completely inappropriate, politically motivated proposal that was strongly opposed by our Gold Coast community and the City of Gold Coast.

Where more housing should go, we are enabling development with our Residential Activation Fund to upgrade the sewerage and power infrastructure in Parkwood and unlock over 230 homes. Over the last two years we have also built 40 social homes across projects in Labrador and Biggera Waters and we brought in a new antisocial behaviour policy to crack down on the small number of our public housing tenants who do the wrong thing and make life hell for their neighbours.

We have delivered a covered viewing area at the Labrador Tigers—

Mr Stevens: The old stomping ground.

Mr O'CONNOR:—a long overdue upgrade at a great footy club where I used to work behind the bar, thank you, member for Mermaid Beach. We have also delivered a fantastic playground project at Southport Special School. We are cleaning up our Broadwater through MSQ and the Gold Coast Waterways Authority, who have been removing dodgy boats and increasing their compliance actions.

To everyone in Labrador, Biggera Waters, Parkwood, Arundel and surrounds and the northern part of Southport I say: thank you for the opportunity to serve you and to deliver for our community. It has been a big two years and we are only just getting started.

Pine Rivers, Road and Transport Infrastructure

Ms BOYD (Pine Rivers—ALP) (9.07 pm): While this Premier spends the day spinning the news his government is just spinning its wheels, taking Queensland backwards. For my community in outer suburbia the daily commute gets even more intense under the LNP's watch—increased congestion, higher fuel prices and an unreliable public transport system. Under the LNP, cost-of-living measures have been abandoned, population pressures have increased and major projects are gridlocked. The congestion-busting Gympie Road bypass tunnel, the project set to save northsiders 19 sets of traffic lights for seven kilometres along Gympie Road, was called a 'critically important project', a 'no-brainer infrastructure project' and 'Brisbane's most important future project bar none' by the LNP's Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner prior to Queensland going to the polls. Now Premier Crisafulli has stated that the Gympie Road tunnel has to happen because people could not be left at the mercy of one congested

road. How is it then that this Labor project, one that everyone is in furious agreement about, the one that saves commuters up to 30 minutes during peak hour, is trashed? Queenslanders will see an Olympics completed before this tunnel sees the light of day.

If only that was the only thing Queenslanders were being hoodwinked on. The rail system folded on this government's watch with over 30,000 peak-hour train services cancelled. Trains are not a 'nice to have' for my community; they are a necessity. We depend upon them. I heard what a catastrophic disruption this 20 per cent reduction in services had on the lives of people in my community. The rolling program station accessibility upgrade saw Bray Park station locked in under Labor. In 2025 I made inquiries and was told the LNP 'would look into it'. The 2026 budget laid the truth bare. This project has been 'LNP-ed'. Our community will not cop it, which is why we have kicked off a local campaign to get the LNP to stop the rot and deliver this project for our community.

I am so proud to acknowledge my community's collective win on the dedicated turning lane for Eatons Crossing and Mount Samson Road. This outcome is evidence that when we work and rally together we can deliver meaningful, beneficial things for our community, and we are not slowing down. We need a transport system that works for all, not just for some. We cannot afford to pay more in petrol, have more precious time with loved ones lost to congested roads or be stuck at dangerous level crossings or clapped-out stations. We cannot afford this tone-deaf LNP government, which is bereft of solutions, ideas or plans. Rhyming slogans cannot govern a state; leadership can, and our community is stepping up, taking the lead and fighting for what matters to us every day. The transport plan that was announced by the shadow transport minister today is a real step forward, and it is time that this state sees real ideas and real solutions put forward and discussed. We are the only side that is doing it here in this chamber, and I am proud to back it in.

Moggill Electorate

Dr ROWAN (Moggill—LNP) (9.10 pm): I rise to update the House on a number of significant developments and community events across the electorate of Moggill. Recently I was delighted to welcome the Minister for Sport and Racing, the Hon. Tim Mander MP, to announce a $1.4 million investment by the Crisafulli LNP state government for a new clubhouse at our local UQ Football Club. Having worked closely with UQFC over many years, I have strongly advocated and fought for this investment and I am delighted to have helped deliver this important outcome for our local community. Along with a co-contribution of $1.4 million by the club, this $2.8 million project is very much needed. With existing amenities dating back to the 1970s, the new clubhouse will provide modern, accessible change rooms and facilities for players, coaches, volunteers and visitors. Importantly, it will better support the more than 525 women and girls who play at UQFC each season, as well as local school football programs and visiting teams. UQFC was the first club announced under round 2 of the Crisafulli Liberal National Party state government's Games On! Grassroots Infrastructure Program, and I thank the club for its significant contribution to growing sport and participation across the western suburbs of Brisbane.

Last week I had the pleasure of welcoming 100 seniors to the Queensland parliament for a special afternoon tea and tour to celebrate Queensland Seniors Month. It was an opportunity to recognise the contributions our seniors make through volunteering, community leadership and supporting their families. I particularly want to thank our special guest, the Hon. Fiona Simpson MP, for joining us along with councillors Greg Adermann and Penny Wolff for their attendance. I was also honoured to present a special Moggill Electorate Community Award to Mr Ian Kilpatrick in recognition of his many years of service to our community, including through the Rotary Club of Kenmore and the Brookfield Show.

It has also been wonderful to again host the outgoing Kenmore State High School captains, vice-captains and senior leaders at the Queensland parliament, recognising their service to their local community. I congratulate each of them and wish them all of the very best for their upcoming examinations and future endeavours. On the subject of school leadership, I recently joined Brookfield State School's year 5 students for their Leadership Lounge series as they prepare for leadership opportunities in year 6. We discussed listening, respect and leading by example. There were some truly fantastic questions during the question-and-answer session and I congratulate all of these enthusiastic future leaders.

Finally, community consultation is now open to inform the detailed business case for a new high school for the western suburbs of Brisbane, delivering on my election commitment to secure this important business case planning work. I know that a significant number of responses have already been received and I encourage local residents to have their say before consultation closes on

13 November 2026. Investing in local school infrastructure is something I have strongly advocated for since first being elected in 2015 and it is something that I have delivered on with respect to existing schools, and the Crisafulli LNP state government is certainly delivering for residents in the electorate of Moggill.

Kurwongbah Electorate, Traffic Congestion

Mr KING (Kurwongbah—ALP) (9.13 pm): Tonight I rise to talk about traffic congestion on the north side of Brisbane and across my electorate in the City of Moreton Bay. I want to start by recapping what we achieved for Kurwongbah residents during Labor's time in government. We fixed a major bottleneck in Petrie by replacing the old Petrie roundabout with lights. We delivered huge highway interchanges at Boundary Road in Narangba and Deception Bay-New Settlement Road in Burpengary, and it was Labor that commenced the planning and committed the first funds for highway upgrades from Pine Rivers to Caboolture, so let's hope the LNP does not take that out of QTRIP like we have seen with other local road projects before. We delivered safety improvements along state roads like Dayboro Road and Morayfield Road, including new turning lanes, traffic lights and a better bus stop placement outside the seniors village Burpengary Pines.

Labor delivered train station upgrades at Dakabin and Burpengary stations, with more parking currently under construction at Narangba thanks to funding I secured in the 2023-24 and 2024-25 state budgets. We also delivered a new commuter car park for Lawnton station and, of course, we introduced 50-cent fares. There is more I could list, but I have some requests for my community. Firstly, where are we at with the Bruce Highway Western Alternative? The member for Glass House is happy—he has got his bit—while planning seems to have stalled on the other sections.

We all know the LNP scrapped the Gympie Road bypass tunnel, frustrating the many commuters who travel from our region to the city for work. I have heard crickets from the Premier and the transport minister about an upgrade for Petrie station, including more parking—likewise on my request for more parking at Burpengary station. Both of these stations need to accommodate growing populations, with Burpengary servicing thousands of new homes at Kinma Valley and Morayfield South and Petrie station in the middle of a priority development area and next door to a planned Olympic venue. We need the state to step up and help council with a plan for local level crossings. These issues are not new. I wrote to the Premier about a few of them before the budget and I have written to the transport minister numerous times. Residents need to know that some relief is on the way.

Putting up blue billboards and bombarding us with ads full of LNP spin does not pay the bills. This Crisafulli LNP government has had two years now to work on the issues that Queenslanders worry about, like the cost of living, how to pay the rent or the mortgage and how to feed the family. There is worry about petrol prices and crime in our communities. The stress about the extra time needed in the car to navigate through the northside congestion that impedes on family time, complicates kids getting home from school, kindy and child care leads to family dinners being later every day and causes sports activities and the gym to fall off the agenda because it is just too hard to fit it all in. The ripple effects of not reducing traffic congestion are real in our region and they are hurting households. I am calling on the LNP to have a look at Labor's record in our region and do better for our community.

Keppel Electorate, Events

Mr HUTTON (Keppel—LNP) (9.16 pm): World Teachers' Day gives us an opportunity to say something that perhaps we do not say often enough—thank you. Thank you to the amazing teachers across Keppel who each and every day step into classrooms and take responsibility for educating the next generation of Queenslanders. Teachers recognise when a student needs encouragement, challenge a young person who is capable of more and each and every day help young Queenslanders discover who they are and what they might become. I particularly want to acknowledge Mr Willis from Yeppoon State High School, Mrs Kelso from Frenchville State School and Mrs Witts from Emu Park State School. They are three wonderful examples of the educators we are fortunate to have serving our community. For year 12 students final exams are now under way. After 13 years of schooling, this is one of the final hurdles before an exciting new chapter begins. To each and every year 12 student across Keppel: good luck, back yourself, eat well, get some sleep, do the prep and know you will do brilliantly.

This time of year also means school awards nights. I have had the privilege of attending a number across the electorate, and there is something wonderful about students arriving in their cleanest shirts, ties on, uniforms looking immaculate and families sitting proudly in the audience. We celebrate academic achievement, sport, culture, leadership, service and those students who have simply worked

incredibly hard throughout the year. To our principals, deputy principals, teachers, administration officers, teacher aides and everyone behind the scenes: thank you. You create moments that students and families will remember for years to come.

At the other end of the educational spectrum, this week also brings Queensland Seniors Month to a close. It has been a fantastic October across Keppel and I am particularly excited to join members of my community this Friday for our free seniors movie session at Yeppoon Cinemas. I want to thank the Keppel Coast Country Music Club, the Capricorn Adventist Retirement Village, my spectacular electorate office staff and the federal member for Capricornia, Michelle Landry, for helping make October such a great month to celebrate seniors across Keppel.

That brings me to Michelle. Late last week my good friend Michelle Landry announced she will not contest the next federal election. Michelle has never served in this place but, over the years representing Capricornia, has worked with Queensland governments led by premiers Newman, Palaszczuk, Miles, and now Crisafulli. Michelle's determination to ensure Central Queensland is never simply flown over is legendary. Tonight, as a colleague, as a fellow representative of Central Queensland and, most importantly, as a friend I simply want to say this: Michelle, thank you.

Morayfield Electorate, Transport

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (9.19 pm): The reports are in, and the LNP government is failing our community. On the big issues facing Queenslanders—the cost of living, housing and essential services—families are under increasing pressure and it is because of this LNP government. In the growth areas of Moreton Bay, such as Caboolture, Morayfield, Burpengary and Caboolture West, there is another crisis staring us in the face, a crisis that this LNP government is doing nothing about: traffic congestion. The roads are clogged, the population is growing and families are spending more time in traffic while this LNP government fails to progress the infrastructure and public transport services our community needs. While this LNP government spends its time spinning the news, commuters in Caboolture and Morayfield are sitting in traffic watching the clock and wondering when someone in this LNP government will finally take their daily struggles seriously.

It is time to cut the spin and face the facts. Our area is rapidly growing and this LNP government has missed the bus. Over the coming decades, more than 100,000 additional people are expected to move into these growing communities. While Labor committed to progressing important transport projects like the widening of Caboolture River Road, stage 2 of the Morayfield Road upgrade between Gympie Creek and the Bruce Highway, the Buchanan Road upgrade planning, the Bruce Highway widening program and the Bruce Highway Western Alternative planning, this LNP government is well and truly off track. Despite the massive and rapid growth, where is the progress from this LNP government on those projects? For example, the Bruce Highway Western Alternative is critical. Changes to the northern section have now raised serious questions about whether it will actually deliver the connectivity our region needs. An LNP member has even been caught out admitting that under this LNP government this critical road project is now decades away. Are they serious? More than 100,000 people are moving to this local community and the critical road project will now not be delivered for decades? Are they seriously deluded?

These roads are only part of the equation. The answer is also in public transport connectivity. That is why I have been running a 'Where's our bus?' campaign to demand from this government the additional public transport services our growing community needs. Quite simply, the LNP government cannot just keep expecting massive and rapid population growth while leaving residents without a plan to address road congestion and rolling out more and better public transport. The government has to stop making things worse for local people.

Gold Coast City Plan

Mr STEVENS (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (9.22 pm): Last week I had the pleasure of being briefed on the draft Gold Coast City plan being prepared by the Gold Coast City council to support the state government's draft regional plan, which is due for release in December this year. I would certainly like to thank the diligent Gold Coast City council officers who gave me a comprehensive briefing, led by the extremely competent Mick Moran. However, I was gobsmacked to notice that in planning for the increased densities and heights in the city to accommodate the expected hordes of new coasters to the year 2046 they had failed to include the expected 120,000 people who would populate 'Sugar Town' in the north of the city where cane fields currently exist. This is despite their admission that council officers and state government officers were deep in discussion about how that development would come about. Their claim that it required state government approval first before it was included in planning documents

makes no sense. They were indicating that they were waiting for state government to approve development under the priority development area designation before they added it to housing available to the hordes that are coming in the future. This directly puts more densities and housing in other areas of the city, which in some cases are bulging at the seams already. This follows a 'sardine city' mentality of the people's representatives at the top of the planning tree in council which many in the electorate disapprove of.

On top of this, there is another abstract figure of an additional 23,000 extra homes added for tourist accommodation, over and above the state government target number of houses. That begs the question: why? We have plenty of hotels, units for short-term accommodation and Airbnbs now, and residential areas are best served by enforcing their peaceful and local environment through maintaining their existing character. I have always supported the provision of more affordable housing in the city in the more western and northern corridors, but jamming people next to the beach is no solution to our future housing demands. They are not affordable dwellings.

Sensible planning and development has not been the hallmark of this council, and the judiciary kicking their 50 per cent uplift for developers into touch signifies how negligent the council has been to the interests of existing Gold Coasters with their planning incompetency. People need to know how dense, how high and what their neighbouring properties are entitled to rather than an abstract maybe development parameter decided by a bureaucrat in council, whether it is good design or not. Any and every developer will go for the maximum output every time. It is not rocket science. I am a long-term supporter of the growth of the city by sharing the brilliant delights of the Gold Coast, with its superb geography and climate, with new residents.

Members of Parliament, Conduct

Ms BOLTON (Noosa—Ind) (9.25 pm): Forty-four—yes, 44—is the number of times AI says I have spoken in this chamber since 2018 on the unacceptable behaviours and system failings of our parliament. There were a further eight, plus posts, columns and media interviews. Regardless of appeals for reform, better behaviours, greater accountability and scrutiny, we saw no change. There have been lots of words, including of condolence and outrage after tragedies as well as requests to lower the temperature, but no real change. There has just been ongoing anger, disengagement and declining mental health in our communities and, horrendously, also violence.

No-one should feel fear when doing their job, whether a shop attendant, nurse, teacher, frontline worker or politician. No-one should be abused. Mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, brothers, sisters and friends are being subjected to the preventable. How did we get to this point in our homes, workplaces and country where nastiness, abuse and blame are tolerated? Common courtesy, decency, respect and kindness should be the standard and should be promoted.

As I have said before, if we as MPs in this chamber or governments cannot fix this, Queenslanders and Australians need to by holding elected representatives, political parties and our system to the highest standards and by holding each other to those standards. We all have a responsibility in this by saying, 'No more!'; by not engaging in online or in-person abuse; by treating others as you wish to be treated; by putting a line in the sand and ending relationships with those who incite or abuse; and by no longer supporting parties or candidates who incite or abuse.

Parliamentary reform is needed. Dorothy Dixers need to become obsolete. Absolute power for any government needs reassessing. Flawed sets of standing orders, protocols and a system geared to diminish scrutiny, accountability, transparency and representation need an overhaul. Enough is enough. As the Speaker said this morning, a reset is needed.

In closing, Noosa continues to send love and wishes to Dr Helen Haines MP, her family, staff and community and to all who have been senselessly injured or murdered for doing their job helping others. Our hearts are broken, but our resolve is stronger than ever. I ask all members of parliament in this House to sign a pledge to bring decency and integrity back to our chamber. That is not a lot to ask, to end what is happening in our communities.

Hinchinbrook Electorate, Events

Mr CHIESA (Hinchinbrook—LNP) (9.28 pm): Throughout October, I have had the privilege of attending community events across our patch of paradise. Each event has been different but behind every one is the same thing: dedicated volunteers and committees giving their time to bring their community events to life.

It started in Innisfail, where thousands gathered for Riverfest, which is a fantastic event that celebrates diversity, heritage and community connections across the Cassowary Coast. This free event was held on the Johnstone River and families enjoyed rides, fireworks, great food, local entertainment and a concert headlined by Eskimo Joe. An event of that size takes months of planning, lots of sponsors and much hard work from a committed volunteer committee.

On the same weekend, at Forrest Beach, a place where I spent just about every weekend in summer when I was growing up, hundreds of competitors from nippers through to masters represented their clubs at the annual Forrest Beach surf lifesaving carnival. On the Sunday morning, we paused to honour Kauko 'Kauk' Kaurila, the club's patron and life member who recently passed away. Kauko served as patron for 70 years and was a champion belt and surf swimmer, achieving state and Australian honours. He was the North Barrier branch champion for 10 years and won the inaugural Magnetic Island to Townsville swim in 1954. We remembered his dedication, his kindness and his proud and lasting Forrest Beach legacy.

Recently I as in Tully where I joined around 200 people to celebrate 100 years of the Tully Tigers Rugby League Football Club. I grew up in Ingham and I remember watching the Tully Tigers play at the Ingham Showgrounds in the late eighties and early nineties. I remember names like Clifford, Jones and Blennerhassett. It was wonderful to see those familiar faces again, along with former Australian representative and Tully Tigers legend Angelo Crema. Current NRL players Jake Clifford and Thomas Flegler were also there. They have achieved success at the highest level but have never forgotten where they came from. Let us not forget Craig Teitzel who played for the Cowboys and his daughter, NRLW star Romy Teitzel. Yes, Tully is a proud rugby league town. For a country football club to reach 100 years takes generations of coaches, officials, canteen workers, sponsors and committee members. The Tigers history belongs to all of them.

Cardwell has also been busy, first with Cardwell Seafest and then, last weekend, with the 20th annual Cardwell Barra Bonanza. Run by the Cardwell Sportfishing Club, the competition attracted 350 anglers, 50 of whom were juniors. This event bought visitors from around the country to compete for over $100,000 in cash and prizes. There was even a random draw of a fully equipped boat package worth nearly $40,000. Yes, they know how to do things in Cardwell.

To wrap up October, this weekend I will be back in my hometown for the Maraka Festival, one of the biggest events on Ingham's calendar and another proud tradition made possible by volunteers. These events bring our communities together and support local businesses. They also allow me to get out and about, meet people and listen to what matters to them. To the hardworking volunteers who bring those community events to life, thank you. Our communities are stronger because of you.

Question put—That the House do now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 9.30 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Asif, Baillie, Barounis, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Bourne, Boyd, Bush, Chiesa, Crandon, Crisafulli, Dalton, de Brenni, Dick, Dillon, Doolan, Dooley, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Field, Frecklington, Furner, Gerber, Grace, Hatcher, Head, Healy, Howard, Hunt, Hutton, James B, James T, Janetzki, Katter, Kelly G, Kelly J, Kempton, King, Kirkland, Knuth, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Lee, Linard, Mander, Marr, Martin, McCallum, McDonald, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Mickelberg, Miles, Minnikin, Molhoek, Mullen, Nicholls, Nightingale, O'Connor, O'Shea, Pease, Perrett, Poole, Powell, Power, Pugh, Purdie, Richmond, Rowan, Russo, Ryan, Scanlon, Simpson, Smith, Stevens, Stoker, Vorster, Watts, Weir, Whiting, Young