



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### COAG Summit on Reducing Violence against Women and their Children; Domestic and Family Violence

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.35 am): I am pleased to inform the House that last Friday I co-hosted with the Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, the Council of Australian Governments' summit on reducing violence against women and their children. This summit was an opportunity for first ministers to meet with the women's safety ministers and more than 150 experts and community leaders from around the country to discuss progress and initiatives to reduce violence against women and their children. I was also pleased that Australian domestic violence campaigner Rosie Batty and the Hon. Quentin Bryce, chair of my government's Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence, were part of the discussion.

During the summit we explored new and emerging areas of violence such as the increasing use of technology to perpetrate violence against women and, conversely, how technology and innovation can empower people and communities to address violence. The summit also focused on how best to support women and children from diverse backgrounds, women from Indigenous communities and women with disabilities. As part of the summit, COAG and women's safety ministers launched the third action plan of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022*. The plan is a mechanism to coordinate and guide action across Australia.

Communities are taking action to prevent domestic and family violence and there is much work happening at all levels of government. Last week's summit gave us the chance to profile this work and reflect on the significant inroads we have made to change the way this violence is dealt with. I was particularly proud to highlight the work of the Southport Magistrates Court and the work being done by my Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council. I also outlined Queensland's leadership on the provision of domestic and family violence leave for public servants and called for a national employment standard for all workers across Australia. This is the right thing to do and I urge Malcolm Turnbull to adopt it at a national level. However, there is still more work to be done. Today I am pleased to table Queensland's second action plan which will provide the road map for action until 2019. I table a copy for the House.

*Tabled paper:* Queensland Government: Queensland says: not now, not ever—Second Action Plan of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy—2016-17 to 2018-19 [1983].

We have already achieved a great deal. To date, we have put into action via legislation or other programs 37 of the recommendations. We are well advanced on a further 78 while the remaining six recommendations are ready for action. We have passed four priority bills to improve our current legal and justice system response to domestic and family violence and implemented the respectful relationships education program in our schools. We have opened two new shelters, in Townsville and Brisbane, with plans for new shelters in Mount Isa and Charters Towers and simplified processes faced by police for the issuing of police protection notices.

The second action plan will see the development of a communication and engagement program to help change attitudes and behaviours of Queenslanders. In order to have real progress, we need to continue the challenge and transform community attitudes in relation to violence against women. I believe that the summit has been an important step in this process, allowing governments and stakeholders to forge new connections and coordinate national leadership to take our response to domestic and family violence forward.

We have just heard today reports of what police are describing as a domestic related incident that has claimed the lives of two women. On behalf of Queenslanders I send my condolences to the Hervey Bay community. I believe that all honourable members would agree with me that this senseless violence needs to stop.