




Speech By  
**Joan Pease**

**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

---

Record of Proceedings, 16 August 2016

**APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL; APPROPRIATION BILL**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (5.43 pm): I rise today to speak to report No. 34 of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee on the 2016-17 budget estimates. The committee has recommended that the proposed expenditure, as detailed in the Appropriation Bill, for the portfolios of Justice and Attorney-General, Training and Skills and Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Corrective Services be agreed to without amendment.

Firstly, I enjoyed my experience of working in this portfolio committee environment. I thank the work of the committee—in particular, the chair and my parliamentary colleague, the member for Ferny Grove, Mr Mark Furner; Mr Don Brown, the member for Capalaba; the non-government members of the committee, the deputy chair, Mr Michael Crandon, the member for Coomera; Mr Jon Krause, the member for Beaudesert; and Mrs Jann Stuckey, the member for Currumbin. I also acknowledge that it must have been terribly disappointing for the non-government members of the committee who did not really have an opportunity to participate in the estimates process. I also thank the committee secretariat for their outstanding work and professionalism. It is very much appreciated.

I acknowledge both the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Yvette D’Ath, and the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services, Bill Byrne, who both displayed their outstandingly detailed and in-depth knowledge of all of their portfolio areas. I also thank the chief executives and departmental officials who assisted in the inquiry process, and, like the Premier, I thank them for their professionalism.

The process of estimates is an important one in providing an opportunity for the budget to be discussed in finer detail and the ministers to provide knowledgeable, succinct and detailed responses to all questions posed to them. The allocated funding of \$54.6 million over four years to support domestic and family violence initiatives as well as the reinstatement of specialist courts and court diversion programs including domestic and family violence and Murri courts, the investment of \$60 million or \$240 million over four years to deliver the successful Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, which will support up to 8,000 Queenslanders, and the implementation of the independent training ombudsman are examples of the Palaszczuk government’s commitment to all Queenslanders.

The Palaszczuk government is committed to delivering quality front-line services and to building and supporting public safety services and front-line staff to provide safer communities. The investment across the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management will fund capital works, information technology and other essential equipment.

The combined emergency training centre is an outstanding facility. Coincidentally, it is located in my electorate. This state-of-the-art training facility trains our firefighters and paramedics in a real life built environment, enabling them to provide excellent, world-class, front-line public safety services. Our

emergency service workers are some of the best trained in the world, with our firefighter training recognised across the world as best practice.

The member for Capalaba and I were recently given the opportunity to experience a small taste of the training given to all new recruits. We experienced the simulator, a tour of the training centre and then donned the gear that our firefighters don for each and every fire—boots, pants, jackets, ventilator and oxygen bottle, helmet and gloves. Once our gear was checked we were then given a live fire demonstration in the oven and had the opportunity to use the fire hoses to contain and control the fire once the fire reached high temperatures.

Our Queensland fire and emergency services workers and indeed all emergency service workers do an unbelievable job in extreme and difficult circumstances. The member for Capalaba and I had an opportunity to experience in a very small way part of the life-saving and public safety work that they do each and every day. I thank each and every one of our fire and emergency services workers, police and paramedics for putting themselves on the line for Queenslanders. The extra 300 police and the extra 45 firefighters will go a long way to ensuring public safety.

In conclusion, I again thank the Attorney-General and Minister for Training and Skills, Yvette D'Ath, and the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services, Bill Byrne, the chair, my colleagues on the committee and the secretariat. I commend the report to the House.