



Speech By  
**Hon. Bill Byrne**


**MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 May 2016

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Police Service**

 **Hon. WS BYRNE** (Rockhampton—ALP) (Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.01 am): This week the Queensland Police Service welcomes 55 new first-year constables following their successful completion of the recruit training program. This is great news for Queensland. Policing is a unique profession, and these new recruits have shown that they have the requisite skills to fulfil their duties. It means that the Queensland Police Service has recruited the very best of candidates. The training program that these new recruits have undertaken mirrors organisational requirements and has evolved over the years to ensure it remains realistic, professional and relevant to the ever-changing and dynamic nature of policing. Recruits are trained in firearms, driving, operational skills, tactics, physical education, information technology, police history, policies, procedures and legislation.

Members may be keen to hear that the new recruits will be posted across the state: nine to the Mackay district; four to Wide Bay; five to the Sunshine Coast; six to Ipswich; five to the Darling Downs; six to Logan; five to the Gold Coast district; eight to North Brisbane; and seven to the South Brisbane district. The Palaszczuk government remains committed to keeping Queenslanders safe. Not only are we delivering additional police but we are also giving them the resources they need to get on with the job of tackling crime and its causes. We are committed to providing an additional 266 police across Queensland this financial year, and we are delivering on our commitment with 530 recruits having graduated during this period.

The government expects the highest standards to be met and maintained at all times by police from the top of the organisation down, and Queenslanders expect nothing less. They also expect officers to get on with the job they do best, which is keeping Queensland communities safe and keeping a tight rein on organised crime, as evidenced by the arrest and subsequent charges laid last week against a person in Beaudesert believed to be linked to Hells Angels. This individual was charged with possession of a category D firearm, possession of category M weapons, possession of firearm magazines, possession of dangerous drugs, possession of utensils and possession of a restricted drug. These are serious offences, and I encourage the Queensland Police Service to remain vigilant and resolute in their efforts to curb crime of this nature.

Every weapon and every illicit drug which is removed from our streets is a step in the right direction, as I am sure all would agree, and I have no doubt that the new police recruits will maintain their commitment and drive to keep Queenslanders safe. I wish the new recruits all the very best as they embark upon what is destined to be an exciting and challenging career path.