



Speech By Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services, Portfolio Responsibilities

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services) (2.32 pm): Two years ago the Palaszczuk government went to Queenslanders with a plan—a plan for a better way—

Mr Minnikin interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Chatsworth, you are warned under standing order 253A. Those actions are inappropriate and disorderly. If you persist, I will take appropriate action. That is your first warning.

Mr RYAN:—a plan to protect the community and, importantly, to listen to community concerns. Our priority was to create jobs, restore front-line services, build infrastructure and keep Queenslanders safe. That is why we have delivered more than 500 additional front-line police, firefighters, prison officers and probation and parole staff—more than ever before—to meet our commitment to Queenslanders.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Members, that is not an open invitation to try to disrupt the minister. If you have an interjection, make it relevant so that I can hear it.

Mr Crandon: Can we have 50 in the Coomera electorate, Minister?

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Coomera. You are now warned under standing order 253A.

Mr CRANDON: I rise to a point of order. Mr Speaker, I seek some guidance. You asked the members of the House to make it relevant. The minister is talking about 1,500 police officers. I said, 'Can we have 50 of them in the Coomera electorate?', which is what we have been calling for. I made it relevant.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Coomera. I am not going to debate the matter with you.

Mr RYAN: We recognise that the men and women at the front line of policing and emergency services need to be equipped with the best resources to do what they do best. That is why we have started a rollout of body worn video cameras and QLiTE iPads to our front-line police. We have passed Australia's toughest, strongest, most comprehensive laws to tackle organised crime in all its forms, be it outlaw motorcycle gangs, child sex exploitation networks, fraud and boiler room scams. Over the past two months, Taskforce Maxima has made 133 arrests and laid 320 charges.

In news just to hand, today, Taskforce Maxima has arrested two men, one a confirmed member of the Mongols outlaw motorcycle gang. I am told that a police search of a stolen Mercedes SUV at Robina located Mongols OMCG patches in the front of the car and in the back a suitcase of 44 designer dresses with price and security tags still attached. I take this opportunity to thank Taskforce Maxima for taking strong, tough action on crime. We back Taskforce Maxima every step of the way.

We have also provided police with more resources to tackle child sex exploitation in a statewide blitz. We have passed stronger counterterrorism laws to boost the police response to major emergencies and provided more than \$16 million to improve police capability.

The Premier recently announced a \$200 million expansion of the Capricornia Correctional Centre to ease prison overcrowding and generate jobs in Central Queensland. That means 100 jobs during construction for Central Queensland and 70 ongoing, front-line jobs in the region. We also created 260 front-line jobs when we recommissioned Borallon as a tough, earn-or-learn training facility for young offenders. Then there is our national award-winning Project Booyah that is putting young people's lives back on track, turning young lives around.

I am told that the champagne corks were popping when we reformed the Public Safety Business Agency, which was set up by those opposite in a sneaky plan to privatise key parts of the Public Service. As the minister, my priority is to keep Queenslanders safe, restore front-line services and create jobs at a time when jobs and job security are more important than ever.