




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 14 June 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Budget, Law and Order

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (9.51 am): More police, more police stations, more technology, new police boats, more specialist officers, more support for at-risk young people—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr RYAN: They like to talk, but that is all they do. They talk but never do. Unlike them, we are delivering for our police. These are the Palaszczuk government's commitments. What do they mean? They mean a safer Queensland. They are advancing Queensland's priorities. This is the Palaszczuk government delivering for Queenslanders and the Palaszczuk government honouring its commitments. This is the Palaszczuk government giving the Queensland Police Service the resources and personnel that it needs to keep Queenslanders safe. We have more police personnel in Queensland than ever before. They are better qualified, better trained and better equipped than ever before. After a recent trip to Kowanyama and Thursday Island, I came away from those far-flung places reassured that the Queensland Police Service is properly resourced to keep Queenslanders safe no matter where they live.

The Palaszczuk government is building on its commitment to invest in policing, but it is also looking to the future by allocating funds in this year's budget for emerging threats such as terrorism. There will be 85 new counterterrorism specialists embedded statewide. There will be a new dedicated counterterrorism police command. In addition, we will be investing in new police facilities—\$2.4 million to start construction on a new policing hub at Arundel. We will also continue to invest in our Water Police, with \$5.4 million to develop new Water Police boats to replace existing vessels.

Technology plays a big part in modern policing, enabling officers to be more mobile and rapid-response ready. That is why we are rolling out an extra \$1,400 QLiTE mobile tablet devices. We are also making sure that vulnerable people in our community get the support they need, with \$4 million to fund 24 new domestic and family violence coordinators. These specialist officers will be allocated across the state to provide direction, guidance and training to other officers.

The best crime fighting is crime prevention. That is why my government is continuing its support for the award-winning Project Booyah program for at-risk young people—a program that has steered hundreds of young people away from crime and back to education, training and employment, a program that we back to the hilt and one to which the federal government has recently demonstrated its lack of commitment.

When it comes to law and order, that is what the Palaszczuk government is about. We do not just talk; we also act. We back our police to the hilt and we give the police the resources they need. I take this opportunity to commend our Queensland Police Service officers for their tireless efforts in keeping us all safe. There is no greater calling and no higher priority than that.