




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 4 September 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Domestic and Family Violence, GPS Tracking Devices

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.26 am): This week following a court's decision to grant bail a court ordered that an alleged domestic violence perpetrator not be released from police custody until he had a GPS tracking device secured to his ankle. This was a good decision. GPS tracking devices offer an extra layer of security in a world where, sadly, domestic violence continues to occur despite the best efforts of our government and our community. Today I can advise the House that our government will continue to rollout GPS trackers for use by the courts. The Queensland Police Service is continually looking to world's best practice in GPS tracking, with a view to secure more of the best for Queensland. It is additional monitoring, an added layer of security, another measure to keep Queenslanders safe.

The safety of vulnerable Queenslanders will always be our priority. For this very reason, laws were changed last year to give the courts the option to put GPS trackers on perpetrators of domestic violence who are granted bail by the courts. This means they are monitored around the clock, every second of every day. We have hundreds of GPS tracking devices at our disposal and, as the Police Commissioner has publicly stated, those trackers will be available whenever and wherever the courts order.

Since the end of March this year the courts have ordered GPS tracking devices be placed on 24 offenders and more than 800 parolees have also been fitted with these devices since last year alone—all monitored every second of every day. Offenders know the consequences of tampering with these devices: they are taken back into custody and dealt with. It was a Labor government that delivered GPS tracking devices for Queenslanders. It was not the LNP, and that is probably because they are not tracking too well these days.