




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 6 September 2018

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Counterterrorism

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (9.59 am): Last week our men and women in blue again showed why they are internationally renowned. Last Wednesday 300 people took part in Exercise Alpha Montana, an active armed offender training scenario on the Gold Coast. Along with members of the Queensland Ambulance Service, 60 police officers tested their skills as the first responders to a simulated armed threat—and threatening it was, with simulated firearms, simulated radio traffic and realistic make-up on actor victims to depict injuries to help train our emergency response teams. The aim of the exercise was to enhance communication and working relationships between key agencies.

The Palaszczuk government is ensuring our emergency services and police have the resources and equipment they need to face any threats against the Queensland public. We have allocated over \$46 million for a world-class use of force, weapons and counterterrorism facility at Wacol. Our new counterterrorism facility will include an indoor firearms range, a scenario village and specialist training areas to increase capability in managing terrorism and other critical incidents. This facility will be co-located with the police driving skills section to enhance training on the growing issue of vehicle attacks such as those recently seen interstate and overseas.

Our government is also funding 85 new counterterrorism specialists to be embedded statewide. There will be a new dedicated counterterrorism police command. This is on top of the over \$16 million in funding over four years to enhance police counterterrorism capability in surveillance, intelligence analysis, online investigation and training. Our government has also passed significant new laws to enhance the ability to respond to a major terrorism or emergency event. Queenslanders from Cairns to Caboolture, Birdsville to Badu Island and everywhere else can rest assured that our state has never been safer. The Palaszczuk government will always support our front line and back the safety of Queenslanders.