



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 19 September 2018

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Queensland Police Service, Recruits**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.04 am): The Palaszczuk government is all about jobs for Queensland. As Minister for Police, I can tell the House that we are continuing to support jobs right across regional Queensland. Throughout this year, new police officers have begun their careers in all corners of our great state. Here is a snapshot of new police recruits since last December.

In the Far North district, 39 first year constable officers have joined the Queensland Police Service ranks. In the Townsville district, there are 25 new recruits. Heading south to the Gold Coast district, another 30 police academy graduates have started work. Just north of there at the Logan district, another 25 are now protecting the community. Moving back up north, the Sunshine Coast district has nine, the Wide Bay-Burnett district has 12 and the Mackay district has 12. Out west at the Mount Isa district, we have welcomed six new police recruits to the ranks. Seven of our highly trained police academy graduates now call the Darling Downs district home. Closer to Brisbane, the Ipswich district has 10 new recruits and the Moreton district has 10 as well.

Understandably, with the population concentration in the Queensland capital, a lot of recruits start out here in Brisbane. The North Brisbane district has taken on 40 new recruits since the start of the year. The same number was allocated to the South Brisbane district. All up, there have been 276 new police recruits since December last year. That is 276 new careers starting in the Queensland Police Service.

There is more to come. In the five years from last year, our government will grow the overall strength of the Queensland Police Service by 535 officers and specialists. That is more jobs for Queenslanders, more police for Queensland and a safer Queensland. That is what our government is all about—more jobs and front-line services for Queenslanders. Under Labor, there are now more police in Queensland than ever before.

Mr Speaker, given your propensity for great jokes, which I always appreciate, I am sure you will appreciate this one. Why are the opposition so negative about policing?

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr RYAN:** Wait for the punch line.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I was going to say exactly the same thing.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I will wait for silence. This had better be worth it, Minister.

**Mr RYAN:** Why are the opposition so negative about policing? On this International Talk Like a Pirate Day, it is just because they 'arr'.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I have to say, Minister, that you came close to getting a warning for that.