




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 1 November 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Morayfield Electorate, Schools; Australian Federal Police

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (6.10 pm): I spoke today about the \$205 million in cuts to the Australian Federal Police budget. The AFP budget has been increasingly short-changed over the past few years. During Senate estimates in 2016 the Federal Police Commissioner acknowledged that the variety of demands in the national security environment puts pressure on staffing levels in the Federal Police. This year the Federal Police Commissioner again acknowledged that work in fighting gangs, drugs and corruption may need to be scaled back to meet the most recent budget cuts to the Federal Police. To be clear, this morning I was referring to the federal LNP government's steady and savage cuts to the AFP budget in my response to a question in the House. Our government remains committed to crime-fighting initiatives to keep Queenslanders safe. I say this to reaffirm our resolve and to add clarity to my comments this morning on those crucial issues of serious and organised crime, drugs, corruption and counterterrorism.

Mr Bleijie: Ministerial statements in the adjournment debate?

Mr RYAN: It is an important issue. I now turn to an electorate matter and that is the investment that our government, the Palaszczuk government, is making in education facilities in the Morayfield state electorate. I want to celebrate that investment tonight in my adjournment speech. We will see some facility improvements to the Caboolture State High School with a \$12 million investment in new facilities that will create a new senior learning centre as well as other facilities at the school. I am very excited that Caboolture State High School will be receiving those facilities by the end of next year.

At Morayfield East State School we will see budget money allocated for the refurbishment of the special education unit and also some funding for an exciting project for the school and that is an expanded staff car parking facility. Why that is exciting, Mr Deputy Speaker, and as a former school principal I am sure you will appreciate, is that by allowing greater facilities for our teachers we are able to free up capacity for other people to attend the school, including parents. At a growing school like Morayfield East State School, having that extra car parking facility ensures that people are able to get their kids to and from school safely and effectively.

I am pleased that the Minister for Education is here to hear this contribution tonight because she is a strong advocate for public education and investment in education facilities. She will be pleased to hear that there is some refurbishment money for Morayfield High, Minimbah State School, Burpengary Meadows State School, Caboolture State School and Caboolture Special School. One thing I do have to put on the record is that my advocacy around a performing arts centre for Morayfield State High School will be front and centre this year, next year and until it is delivered. I am looking forward to having persuasive conversations with the minister about that.