




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 21 August 2019

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Corrective Services

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.11 am): There are two things I love to talk about: promoting community safety and creating jobs. This government is doing both. We are giving regional Queenslanders jobs and keeping the community safe. This is something about which even the Debbie Downers on the opposition benches can get excited. Queensland Corrective Services has embarked on a recruitment drive, with a target of employing up to 700 new staff over the next 12 months. This is a massive opportunity for people—

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Glass House.

Mr RYAN: Some 700 new staff for Queensland is significant.

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Everton, you are warned under the standing orders. I just asked the member for Glass House to cease interjecting and you immediately interjected.

Mr RYAN: They hate jobs, particularly public servant jobs, which is of course why the Deputy Leader of the Opposition—

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, that is not helpful. Please continue with the statement.

Mr RYAN: This is a massive opportunity for people in regional Queensland seeking a rewarding, satisfying and secure long-term career. Our corrective services network is expanding and we need more people. We have corrective services facilities right across the state. For example, the \$241 million expansion of Rockhampton's Capricornia Correctional Centre is well advanced, with commissioning due to start next year. When it comes online, we will need more than an extra 200 corrections staff to run the expanded facility.

It is not just Rockhampton that will benefit. There are corrections facilities right across the length and breadth of our great state. Places like Cairns, Townsville, Maryborough, Gatton, Ipswich, the Gold Coast and Brisbane all have correctional centres in their regions. We will be looking for new staff at all of them. It means that there are job opportunities for people right across Queensland. Working in Corrective Services is a rewarding career. It means working in a frontline public safety agency. It means working for the benefit of your fellow Queenslanders by keeping the community safe. I say to people right across Queensland: if you want a rewarding job, if you want a secure job, if you want a job that promotes community safety, Queensland Corrective Services wants you.

This is just the start. We are further expanding the corrections network capacity. In the budget we announced funding for the construction of a new facility at the Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct. This project will create more than 400 jobs during construction and, once complete in 2023, the new prison will need more than 500 new staff to operate the facility. We are doing two very significant things for regional Queensland: building the infrastructure our growing state needs and investing in long-term, secure jobs for regional Queenslanders. That is a win-win for Queensland.