




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Counterterrorism, Training Facility

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.10 am): Last week I visited the Wacol police precinct to showcase a world first innovation where motorcycle police officers from Queensland's Road Policing Command are using drones to map traffic scene incidents. This is a world first and it is already delivering significant savings to motorists by reducing congestion.

Coincidentally, this demonstration took place immediately adjacent to the construction of our new counterterrorism facility. I saw that good progress is being made on construction. This world-class facility will be a game changer. It will include two firearms ranges, a multifunction training area and a scenario village. There will also be two railway carriages put in place for training in the scenario village—truly making this facility world class.

Construction started last month, with the first pouring of concrete tilt slab panels. I am advised that the construction program is on track with completion scheduled for next year. As previously advised in this House, once opened the centre will be formally named the Bob Atkinson Operational Capabilities Centre. This centre will be used by operational police and specialist units within the South-East Queensland catchment area to complete all operational skills and tactics training for frontline police. The centre will enhance capability training to enable a higher standard response to terrorism and other high-risk incidents. The facility will also have the ability to be used for large-scale multiagency exercises. This will aid the ability of various agencies to coordinate responses to major incidents, including terrorism related matters.

I am advised that this world-class facility will be available to other state and national agencies to enhance their own operational skills and capabilities. Indeed, so significant is this new facility that interest is also anticipated by international law enforcement agencies to use this facility. The Queensland Police Service is truly world class and this new counterterrorism training facility is already gaining a world-class reputation.