



Speech By  
**Daniel Purdie**


**MEMBER FOR NINDERRY**

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Record of Proceedings, 6 February 2020

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Police Station**

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (3.01 pm): I rise this afternoon to share some good news for my electorate, particularly the communities of Coolum, Peregian Springs, Peregian Breeze and surrounding suburbs, and of course our local police. In the late 2000s, about a dozen years ago when I was transferred to the Sunshine Coast as a police officer, the Coolum police worked out of a demountable police station in the middle of Coolum. At that time they were promised it was a temporary facility and that a new facility would eventually be constructed. In the subsequent 12 years the population of Coolum and surrounding suburbs like Peregian Springs and Peregian Breeze have exploded and crime has risen too. Unfortunately, our police still work in a temporary demountable facility which has not really provided them with the resources and facilities they need to police our area.

When I transferred from policing to parliament, I pledged to my police colleagues and the community that I would continue to fight to see a proper police station for Coolum eventually come to fruition. It is an issue that I have continued to rattle the cage for even before I got here and in the whole time since I have been here. Last year, after many years of waiting, I was happy to see \$2.8 million in the last budget allocated for the construction of a new police station at Coolum. The good news I want to share with everyone here today and anyone else who may be listening is that construction on the new Coolum Police Station is due to commence next week. Badge Constructions has won the tender to construct the complex and the \$2.8 million will begin to be spent. Hopefully, the new facility will be delivered by the end of this year just in time for the busy festive season, which is obviously peak time for police and emergency services.

I am looking forward to that. At the moment there are about 25 police officers working out of the demountable station and, as you could imagine, they have been hanging off the rafters. Our police require proper first-class facilities. They need holding cells for violent offenders. They obviously need gun safes and exhibit facilities as well which they have obviously struggled to have in their temporary facility. Hopefully, as of next week we will see soil turned, we will see excavators and we will see construction on the new police station commence. It is long overdue, and I would like to acknowledge all of our local hardworking police. As we have heard in this place before, the police budget is down, particularly per capita. Crime is up, particularly on the Sunshine Coast, but in other areas like the Gold Coast and Townsville crime is out of control. I want to acknowledge the hard work that our police do. I look forward to later this year when our new police station is finished and our police have the facilities they deserve.