




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Police Resources

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.08 am): Community safety is a key priority for the Palaszczuk government. It is why this year we delivered a record police budget and it is why we are delivering an extra 535 police personnel across our great state. It is that commitment to community safety that underpins our investment in building a state-of-the-art, world-class Counter Terrorism and Community Safety Centre at Wacol. This morning I visited the Wacol construction site and witnessed how advanced the project is. The project is on time and on budget, and it is rapidly taking shape.

The new complex includes two indoor live firearm ranges—the walls are up and the roof is on. The facility will also include a scenario village for specialist training. It too is rapidly taking shape. This facility will truly be world class, and it is already generating interest from other law enforcement agencies across Australia and overseas. It will give our police access to the best training in the world. The scenario village is being constructed in such a way that it will replicate a real-life urban environment that police could be required to conduct a counterterrorism operation within. It is this investment in training that helps make our police world class.

Over the last few weeks we have seen more police join the ranks of the Queensland Police Service. In fact, more than 110 new police officers have graduated from our police academies over the last few weeks. I will say that again: over 110 new police officers have graduated in the last few weeks.

They underwent the most rigorous training, and that training never stops. The Queensland Police Service is providing serving police officers with new training aimed at providing police with learning opportunities on sexual violence awareness. This training is initially being offered to officers across Logan and the Gold Coast. The collaborative sexual violence education and awareness program is underpinned by a presumption of belief when crimes involving sexual violence are first reported. The program ensures that what follows is a course of fair, impartial and thorough treatment.

Police officers across Logan and the Gold Coast have been extensively engaged for many years on issues of domestic and family violence, and this training aims to enhance officers' understanding and capacity around the issues of sexual violence. Victims need to know that they are believed, they are understood and they are able to seek support and resources during and after an incident. This police education program is an Australian first and is further evidence that the Queensland Police Service will always strive to serve and support the community with the very highest standards.