




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 19 February 2020

MOTION

Crime

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (5.05 pm): Those opposite like to talk about crime—they certainly like to talk it up! We have to look at what they do rather than what they say. What did those opposite do? They sacked 110 senior police. Those opposite sacked hundreds of staff from the Queensland Police Service. Let us look at what else they did. They lied to police. Who can forget when Ian Leavers came out and said the LNP and Campbell Newman lied to their face. Ian Leavers said if you can lie to a police officer you can lie to anyone. What else do those opposite do? They ridicule our police. Who can forget when the member for Nanango laughed about members of the Road Policing Command being in her electorate.

Ms SIMPSON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I draw your attention to the fact that the member is using unparliamentary language. He would be aware of that. I ask that you ask for him to withdraw it. Several times he used unparliamentary language according to the Speaker's book.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, that is unparliamentary language. I would ask you to withdraw.

Mr RYAN: I withdraw. If you can be dishonest to a police officer you can be dishonest to anyone. That is what the LNP does. Who can forget when the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Nanango, ridiculed our police when she laughed about members of the Road Policing Command being in her electorate.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Apart from misleading the House, I take personal offence and I ask that the minister withdraw.

Mr RYAN: I withdraw. All members have to do is read the *Police Journal* to see what the Police Union thinks about the Leader of the Opposition. It contains some pretty insightful comments about her. What does all this say? It says that those opposite have a police problem. They certainly do not like the police. Let us have a look at what was said yesterday by the member for Everton, who swears on a stack of Bibles. I said I would have a look at the *Hansard*. Yesterday in the House when I was speaking about one of our most senior police, Townsville's new Deputy Commissioner Paul Taylor—what did the member for Everton interject and then later try to deny? He said, and it appears in the *Hansard*, 'More bureaucrats!', when he is referring to one of our most senior police. For anyone to refer to Deputy Commissioner Paul Taylor as a bureaucrat is pure folly. The only B word that I would attach to Deputy Commissioner Taylor is his nickname. His nickname is Boof. If you met him you would know why. He is a big unit. Among his many roles over the years he was the boss of the Special Emergency Response Team. It is an elite squad and only the best of the best get to be in charge. That is the kind of police officer Paul Taylor is—a copper's cop. He is elite.

When those opposite call an elite police officer a bureaucrat, it speaks volumes about their attitude to police. In stark contrast, our government backs our police.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr Mickelberg interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Weir): Order! Minister, please pause. Member for Buderim, you put in a big effort. You are now warned.

Mr RYAN: I understand that the member for Coomera used some unparliamentary language, to which I took offence. I ask that he withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): Member for Coomera, the minister has asked you to withdraw.

Mr CRANDON: I withdraw.

Mr RYAN: Our government backs our police with a record police budget and we have more police in Queensland than ever before. We are accelerating the delivery of more police to Townsville. In fact, we have already delivered 24 new officers, four months ahead of time. We have delivered 20 extra police to the Gold Coast and 10 more are on the way to Cairns. All up, our election commitment of 535 extra police personnel is on track and will be delivered on time.

We are rolling out the equipment that those opposite never delivered. When our police officers were asking for that equipment, the LNP said no. They never delivered it. We are rolling out body worn cameras to every frontline responding officer. We are providing QLITEs, more police stations, more resources. It is a plain fact that this government supports our police. There are more police in Queensland than ever before. We are funding more facilities and we are toughening up our laws.

In particular, our anti-bikie laws are the strongest and toughest laws in the nation. Our police say that they are working well. We do not see bikies wearing their colours anymore. They have to cross the border to do that. More and more bikies are handing in their colours. Patched gang membership continues to decline in this state. Many gang members are behind bars right now. There are no longer any clubhouses in this state.

Let us look at a snapshot. Taskforce Maxima is undertaking a massive operation. Major operations are being undertaken by our police to dismantle organised crime in our state. Many members of organised crime gangs are in jail right now. In fact, two members of the Bandidos are currently in custody and will face a minimum of seven years mandatory jail. Those are our tough laws. We back our police; those opposite just talk.