



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 December 2020

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Budget, Police Resources**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (9.57 am): The last election shows, and yesterday's state budget proves, that there will always be more police in Queensland under a Labor government. There will always be more police in places like Townsville in the north, Cairns in the far north, the Sunshine Coast region and the Gold Coast region. In fact, in every region around Queensland there will always be more police under a Labor government.

There will be more police facilities and more police resources because it is always Labor that puts community safety first. That is what we are doing with our historic investment in policing. Queenslanders have not seen an investment like this in three decades. Our budget supports an additional \$624 million over five years, on top of our already record police budget, to deliver an extra 2,025 police personnel. This is a commitment that the Police Commissioner asked for and the government delivered, because it is part of her vision for a future where police have an enhanced capability to disrupt crime before it happens. Every region in Queensland will benefit as a result.

The commissioner has stated that, at a minimum, an extra 150 police officers will be deployed to each of the state's policing regions. In addition, at least 50 positions will be allocated to child protection investigation units. In Townsville, the Queensland Police Service will establish a new regional Policelink call centre with 50 call takers.

A modern policing service is mobile, agile and flexible in its approach to enhancing community safety. To support the Queensland Police Service as a world-class policing agency, the Palaszczuk government is also investing in 25 state-of-the-art mobile police beat vans. These mobile police beats are the way of the future for policing in Queensland. They are like police stations on wheels and can be rapidly deployed wherever they are needed. The mobile police beats will mean that communities right across Queensland will see more police more often.

The Palaszczuk government has a proud record of investing in the front line and ensuring our officers have the right equipment to help them do their job and keep them safe. This commitment includes providing every officer on the front line with the locally developed but internationally renowned QLITE iPad mobile tablet device. In addition, for the first time every officer will be provided with a new, integrated load-bearing ballistic vest. Our police are world class and they deserve the equipment and resources necessary to keep the community safe. As the last election shows and yesterday's state budget proves, it is always Labor that backs our police. We will always back them.