




Speech By
Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

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YOUTH JUSTICE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (4.15 pm): I rise today in support of the Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. This bill is a true example of the Palaszczuk government listening to our community. Through these strong new measures, we are taking tough action on youth crime by focusing on the small cohort of hardcore repeat offenders who account for around 48 per cent of youth offending across the state. These measures are building on our already strong record of addressing youth offending. In fact, the number of youth offenders is at its lowest level in a decade—down by around 30 per cent. This has been achieved through initiatives which are making a real difference to the lives of vulnerable young people—like the award-winning Project Booyah; the Transition 2 Success program which has been rolled out to 22 sites across the state; as well as strategies like our five-point action plan where over 8,400 young people have been engaged through our co-responder teams.

It is critical that we continue to work with our vulnerable young people to give them every opportunity for success and to turn their lives around. In my time working with young people as a teacher and principal for more than 20 years, I saw too many vulnerable and disadvantaged young people coming from heartbreaking circumstances making the wrong choices. Unfortunately, we cannot reinvent their past but we can and must focus on putting the supports in place to change their future. That is why initiatives like this government's commitment to deliver 125 positions to support early interventions, including the school based police support officers, are so critical. However, there must always be consequences for any instance of offending, particularly for that small cohort of recidivist, hardcore repeat offenders. That is why this bill is so critical. It strikes the right balance. It will hold these young people to account.

We have some of the best police in the state in my electorate of Mansfield, led by officer in charge Murray Crone at Upper Mount Gravatt Police Station and officer in charge Kylie Doyle at Holland Park Police Station. As of 31 March this year, there were 1,178 approved police officer positions in the South Brisbane police district, which includes my electorate, and there are more police on the way. Under this government's commitment to deliver an additional 2,025 police personnel by 2025, the South Brisbane district will see an additional 150 police on the front line. In contrast the LNP committed to cutting police, with 600 fewer police under the LNP's 2020 election commitment.

Our local police work hard day in and day out to keep our community safe through initiatives like Operation Diameter Project. Developed by the Upper Mount Gravatt Tactical Crime Squad, this operation manages juvenile offenders who are on bail through the coordination of curfew checks and the recording of breaches. Our local police also work hard to keep our community safe on our roads. That is why the measures in this bill to address hooning are so important. Too many people lose their lives on our roads. Any instance of hooning or reckless driving is completely unacceptable and places the community at significant risk of harm.

This government has already taken strong action to crack down on hooning through our investment in new high-tech cameras and in expanded fleets of drones to help catch these offenders. Our laws were already the strongest in the nation, and the proposed amendments to the PPRA will

strengthen owner onus deeming provisions for hooning offences by allowing the evasion offence notice provisions in chapter 22 of the PPRA to apply to all other type 1 vehicle impoundment hooning notices. This will allow police to take greater advantage of the hooning footage captured by CCTV camera networks as well as our new high-tech drones and camera technology. Hooning is something that I hear about from my constituents regularly, and these new laws will ensure that police have every tool they need at their fingertips to address this reckless behaviour.

Community safety is paramount to the Palaszczuk government. Our government does and will do everything it can to ensure that strong actions are taken, including the actions taken in this bill, that will make the community safer across our state, including for the people in my community of Mansfield. I commend this bill to the House.