




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 Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (10.06 am): There are more police in Queensland than ever before, and I can tell the House that there are many more police on the way because—it is a very simple fact—there will always be more police in Queensland under Labor governments. Recently another cohort of new police recruits was accepted into the Oxley police academy. It means that in total right now there are more than 200 police recruits undergoing intensive training at Queensland police academies. It is a comprehensive six-month training course that equips the recruits with the wide range of skills they need to join Queensland's world-class Police Service. The six-month course is followed by another year of on-the-job training with a senior police officer as their mentor.

These recruits are part of the government's watershed investment in policing. That record investment will deliver an extra 2,025 police personnel and the commissioner has stated that each and every policing region across the state will be boosted by the deployment of a minimum extra 150 police officers. This is a win-win for Queensland and community safety. Every region across the state will have an enhanced police presence, supporting community safety, and new jobs will also be created across every region of the state. It is part of the government's economic recovery plan as we transition from the health recovery to the economic recovery.

I mentioned that the Queensland Police Service is world-class and an important reason is the extensive training that our recruits undergo, but it is also the ongoing training and commitment to public duty exhibited by existing members of the Police Service that make the Police Service world-class, and I want to particularly acknowledge the appointment of 29 commissioned officers last week. Attaining the level of achievement that comes along with being appointed as a commissioned officer requires that person to demonstrate excellence as well as the highest qualities of integrity, professionalism and skill—quite simply, exemplifying the values of the Queensland Police Service. At the ceremony last week we commissioned one chief superintendent, four detective inspectors and 24 inspectors.

Our government, the Palaszczuk government, always backs our police 100 per cent. We have demonstrated that with our actions. Because of this government, the Queensland Police Service is better resourced than ever before and, because of this government, the biggest investment in policing in three decades is underway. There will always be more police in Queensland under a Labor government. That is because we support police, we support jobs and we support community safety.