



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) (10.09 am): The Palaszczuk government will always support the critical work of the Queensland Police Service with more personnel, new facilities, the latest resources and stronger laws. Last week we saw 106 new police officers graduate from the police academy. There are a further 292 recruits in our two academies right now.

Police officers put their lives on the line whenever they respond to highly volatile and dangerous situations, and they should be protected with the latest technology in officer safety. The government will never compromise on its commitment to the police officers of this state when it comes to their safety. Our record \$3 billion police budget supports the rollout of new state-of-the-art police equipment over five years from 1 July 2020 and includes: 12,200 of the newest integrated load-bearing ballistic vests; an additional 5,000 new QLiTE tablet devices; an additional 4,500 new body worn cameras; and 250 new police vehicles. I am advised that the 12,200 new and replacement body worn cameras have already been received by the Queensland Police Service warehouse, with the rollout expected to be completed during this financial year. This is two years ahead of the election commitment schedule. I want to commend those in the Queensland Police Service who have been able to facilitate the early rollout of this very important equipment.

In a world-leading initiative, the new state-of-the-art body worn cameras now also have live streaming capability. In addition, this investment means that the Queensland Police Service will remain as a police service with one of the largest body worn camera fleets in the world. This live streaming body worn capability is already being used by police officers right across Queensland. For instance, at a siege situation on Magnetic Island the police negotiator coordinator managed to negotiate a response without having to travel to the island via ferry. The negotiator live streamed into the body worn cameras of first response officers. He was able to observe the demeanour of the subject and was then able to monitor the negotiators and assist as the siege unfolded. The negotiator said that he is a massive fan and will be using the live stream capability from now on. In another example, the district duty officer in Cairns said—

Today I had good reason to use the exceptional capability of the new body worn camera. I viewed multiple live recordings of a barricaded person incident I was about to take over police forward commander duties on. The live recordings gave me amazing situational awareness from the office, including listening to the on-scene DDO conduct briefings. From a DDO perspective, being able to view live from my QLITE is a game changer.

We will always support our police and we are doing so with more resources, more personnel and better facilities.