




Speech By
Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

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ADJOURNMENT

Ninderry Electorate

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (7.27 pm): It is no surprise that two of the biggest issues impacting my constituents in Ninderry are crime and cost of living. Every day I hear from locals who are concerned about the increasing cost of living, whether it be skyrocketing rents, the cost of groceries, electricity prices or fuel. Similarly, locals are becoming increasingly concerned about their own security, having been a victim of crime themselves or knowing someone who has. It is becoming increasingly clear that the Palaszczuk government has given up on both of these issues.

Earlier this week we heard about the extraordinary admission that they have exhausted all their options when it comes to youth crime. I am pleased to be appointed to the Youth Justice Reform Select Committee that has been charged with going back to the drawing board when it comes to this serious issue. Having been on the front line when the Palaszczuk government started watering down the laws back in 2015, I saw firsthand the impact of their soft-on-crime approach.

My LNP colleagues and I know other members of the committee are determined that this will not simply be another talkfest. We need to hear from those on the front line—our hardworking police and prosecutors who are the ones charged with executing our laws. This government's obsession with only listening to so-called experts, academics and bureaucrats has failed miserably. It is time to start listening to victims and our frontline staff in police, education, youth justice and other partner agencies.

I would also like to place on the record some other significant events on the Sunshine Coast. The first is the annual Walk for Daniel on this Friday, which I know many of my colleagues on both sides of the House will be attending. Thanks to unwavering dedication and commitment of Daniel's parents, Bruce and Denise Morcombe, an unfathomable tragedy has evolved into what is now the Daniel Morcombe Foundation—a hallmark for child safety and protection across the country.

Another event is the Diwali festival I attended on Saturday night. I acknowledge our proud Indian community which celebrated their annual Diwali Festival of Lights on the weekend. The president of the Sunshine Coast Indian Association, Vas, and his team hosted a fantastic event at Aussie World on Saturday, where we all came together to honour this important annual ceremony to mark the start of the Hindu new year.

Finally, I acknowledge Ros and Michael White of the award-winning White's IGA group on the Sunshine Coast who this weekend will celebrate an impressive 30 years in business. From their first NightOwl store in Maroochydore to a growing network of six supermarkets that stretch from one end of the coast to the other, they are known not only for their generosity to each and every community that they serve but their unique focus on local and sustainable produce. Congratulations on a wonderful achievement.

I look forward to seeing colleagues on this side of the House and across the chamber this Friday morning for the Walk for Daniel.