




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2023

MOTION

Vehicle Theft

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (5.11 pm): I will say this to the police minister: if we are united in this fight on behalf of victims of crime, where was the police minister this morning? Where was every single member of the Labor government? Where was the Premier? Were they out there addressing the victims of crime? Don't come into this chamber and say that we are united in the fight when the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, the shadow police minister and many on this side were all out there talking and listening to the victims of crime. This is not to be politicised. Let's look at the police minister's record when it comes to politicising victims of crime. We only need to remember the Pullens who are still aggrieved at how they were used—

Mr Perrett interjected.

Mr Minnikin: Disgraceful!

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: The disgraceful way—

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat, please, member. Member for Gympie and member for Chatsworth, you are both warned under the standing orders. You are interjecting and making it difficult for me to hear your own speaker.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I will say this: actions speak louder than words. We know that not one person from this government had the absolute intestinal fortitude to just face up to the fact that the victims out there have lost family members.

Mr Mander: It is common decency.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I will take that interjection. It is simply common decency. This motion that the shadow police minister has brought up today, which I am here supporting, talks about some horrific figures. In Maryborough, there has been a 373 per cent increase in motor vehicle theft. It is not right! In Bundaberg it has increased by 215 per cent. Let's talk about Maryborough. That is exactly why we need John Barounis there to protect the local people because he understands the importance of victims of crime—

Mr Saunders interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order, member for Maryborough!

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: He understands that the member for Maryborough and the member for Bundaberg have left the Wide Bay to their own devices, and that is exactly why in supporting—

Mr Saunders: Four more years!

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I take the member for Maryborough's interjection. Four more years. Let me say some of these words: talk about arrogance, ignorance, hubris, denial, stupidity—

Mr Saunders interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Pause the clock! Member for Maryborough, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: It is that sort of ignorant speak that is why the people of Maryborough want to see the back of this joker, and it is why ever since—

Mr Saunders interjected.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: I will be taking some advice before I take your point of order. Firstly, member for Nanango, you have used some unparliamentary language. I ask you to withdraw.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Maryborough, you were on a warning. I ask you to withdraw for an hour.

Whereupon the honourable member for Maryborough withdrew from the chamber at 5.14 pm.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, you no longer have a point of order.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: When we talk about Bundaberg, you only need to look at the record of the current member for Bundaberg. Since that member has become the member for Bundaberg, what have we seen? I take the member for Burnett's advocacy for that region, on behalf of that region. Apart from the 215 per cent increase in motor vehicle thefts, we see a tent city popping up in Bundaberg—not just popping up; it has only been there since the member for Bundaberg has represented that area. It is because the Palaszczuk government completely ignore the people of Wide Bay when it comes to crime. They certainly ignore it when it comes to the victims of crime. No wonder we have 202 fewer police than this time last year. Who is out there looking out for the people of the Wide Bay? It certainly is not the current member for Maryborough or the current member for Bundaberg, and that is why at the next election they will be replaced.

We only need to look at the failures upon failures of this government. In the Wide Bay, we have the South Burnett and Cherbourg region, and this government come in here and try to talk about what wonderful things they are doing in relation to youth. I have asked the minister why the South Burnett and Cherbourg have not been included in the Youth Development Partnership Fund. We are still waiting on an answer for that and we will continue to advocate for that. It is quite obvious that this is a government that only throws money into areas that they are trying to sandbag right now. I can tell the House that the people of Queensland have sat up and listened to this incompetent government. Why are we here? Eight years ago, in relation to her first piece of legislation as Premier of this great state, she came into this chamber and she weakened the laws. No wonder the people of Queensland are facing a crime crisis. It will only be the LNP that can change that.