




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Irwin, Mr P; Police Citizens Youth Clubs

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (10.01 am): The officers who comprise the Queensland Police Service are dedicated to keeping our communities safe. In doing so, some of them make the ultimate sacrifice. Twenty years ago today, two young children called the Caboolture Police Station stating that they had been accosted by an armed man as they rode their bicycles through bushland. The officer in charge of Caboolture Police Station—my local police station—was Senior Sergeant Perry Irwin. Senior Sergeant Irwin and his colleagues entered on foot to attempt to locate the gunman. In doing his all to protect his community, Senior Sergeant Irwin was shot twice and died at the scene. We will always remember Senior Sergeant Perry Irwin, particularly the Caboolture community. With honour he served.

The Palaszczuk government will always govern for all Queenslanders, no matter where they live. The state budget includes funding for what I see as one of the most wideranging and community-based investments you could ever make. It is an investment that touches communities in every corner—every nook and cranny—of our great state. It is an unprecedented capital investment in PCYC—one that will deliver, as the Premier stated earlier, \$50 million in funding to support the building of new PCYC facilities and upgrade existing ones. Later today I will join Police Commissioner Katarina Carroll, PCYC CEO Phil Schultz and 'The Hornet'—boxing champion Jeff Horn—to detail these investments.

There is a long list of centres in metropolitan and regional areas, including all the way up to the cape, that will benefit from this investment. As the Premier highlighted, there will be \$5 million in contributions towards new PCYC centres at Sandgate, Mareeba, Rockhampton, Pimpama and Beaudesert. Places like Carindale, Mount Isa, Roma, Toowoomba, Redlands, Aurukun and Yarrabah will also get funding for upgraded facilities. There will be many more locations where we will be investing in upgraded facilities.

Further, the Queensland Police Service is also exploring the opportunity to establish a youth program centre of excellence on the Inala PCYC site, with up to \$2 million in funding allocated. In addition, the government is providing \$6 million in funding to support the administration of PCYC centres, freeing up police officers who work in these centres from administrative duties so that they can spend more time mentoring young people.

These investments are really important because they support an organisation that for 75 years has made a very real difference in our communities: helping young people stay off the streets and keeping their communities safe. I am told that the investments the government is making will double the amount of work PCYC can do with young people. That is a real difference and is further evidence of the government's commitment to doing everything it can to support community safety.