



Speech By  
**Hon. Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 October 2023

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Firefighters Remembrance Day; Police Service, Recruitment; Ministerial Advisory Council**

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (10.06 am): At the 10th hour on the 10th day of the 10th month we commemorate Firefighters Remembrance Day. Today we remember the firefighters who have tragically lost their life in the line of duty. We recognise their contributions and pay tribute to the families and friends of the fallen. Since 1877, 60 Queensland firefighters have tragically lost their life in the line of duty. It is with great sadness that we again reflect on the passing of firefighter Izzy Nash, who lost her life in the line of duty on 2 May this year. She, along with all those other brave firefighters, will always be remembered as always being ready for duty.

Queensland's frontline responders do a remarkable job for the community. I want to commend the Queensland Police Service for undertaking the biggest recruitment campaign in the service's history. Within a matter of weeks there will be more than 600 recruits undergoing training in our two police academies with more than 500 of those recruits at the Oxley police academy. This year the Queensland Police Service has received approximately 3,000 applications to join the service and I am advised that right now there are 1,400 applicants in the applicant pipeline. They include 180 applicants with previous policing experience from Australia and New Zealand and 330 applicants with international policing experience.

Those numbers reflect the success of the recruitment campaigns interstate and overseas by the Queensland Police Service, and the financial incentives provided by this government to relocate, the financial incentives for tertiary graduates and a cost-of-living allowance for recruits while training are all having an impact on this recruitment drive. This is happening because the government has made the biggest investment in police recruitment in more than 30 years and that investment reflects the government's commitment to supporting community safety. We are putting more boots on the ground because we know that makes a difference when it comes to preventing, disrupting and responding to crime.

I will conclude today by announcing, on behalf of the Attorney-General, that from later today expressions of interest are being sought for a new independent ministerial advisory council. The council will provide the ability to examine crime related issues and make recommendations on the justice system and victim reform. I encourage victims of crime, First Nations representatives, peak advocacy bodies and representatives from the legal sector from across the state to apply. Further details will be provided publicly later today.