




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Carroll, Ms K; Domestic and Family Violence, Police Service

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Community Safety) (10.00 am): In this Women's Week it is important to highlight the priority that this government puts on the health, safety and wellbeing of women. It is a priority for the government and not a distraction. Certainly when it comes to the Queensland Police Service's responses in support of the safety, health and wellbeing of women and girls in the community, this government supports the Queensland Police Service 100 per cent and is encouraged by the efforts that the Queensland Police Service is making around enhancing responses, particularly to domestic and family violence.

In this Women's Week I start by highlighting a trailblazer for women, the former commissioner of the Queensland Police Service, Katarina Carroll. She is an outstanding Queensland, a very special human being and, as I said, a trailblazer for women in our state. I take this opportunity to pay tribute to her. Last Friday, I was fortunate to be at police headquarters to participate in the commissioner's piping out ceremony.

As we all know, Katarina Carroll led the Queensland Police Service through one of the most challenging periods in the state's history. During the pandemic, the Queensland Police Service led the way in protecting Queenslanders, supervising our borders, roads and airports and ensuring that our hotel quarantine operations were safely conducted. It was very clear to all Queenslanders that Katarina Carroll cared deeply for the community and for the members of the Queensland Police Service. Her contribution to public life and her commitment to serving the community for over 40 years was exemplary. As I said last week, it takes a special type of citizen to serve in the role of a police officer. To be the leader of those outstanding citizens reflects the character of the person who holds that office. Katarina Carroll certainly is an outstanding citizen.

I also highlight the government's support of the Queensland Police Service in responding to domestic and family violence, particularly when it comes to new training, more resources and specialist services that the Queensland Police Service is engaging with. For example, I highlight the investment in the Ipswich area where we are rolling out HRTs, high risk teams, and additional supports for the front line. Recently, I joined the Premier to announce that the Miles government will be providing additional funding for the Queensland Police Service to support more police in the Ipswich police district. There will be 47 extra personnel positions, two additional mobile police beats and 10 additional police vehicles for the Ipswich police district, not only supporting the Queensland Police Service's responses to community safety but also underpinning the great work that they are doing in supporting women and girls and their safety in the Ipswich and broader communities.

Once again, I highlight this government's priority for the health and wellbeing of women and girls in Queensland. That will always be a priority for the government, not a distraction.