




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 30 April 2024

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Community Safety Plan

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Community Safety) (2.10 pm): I rise to highlight the significant work that has gone into the Queensland Community Safety Plan. This is a significant investment in the front line and it is a significant investment in victim support. It is detailed, it is focused and it is backed by evidence. It has been developed as a result of the Premier and ministers travelling the state and speaking with frontline workers, experts, victims and community organisations about how we can build safer communities.

This detailed plan is backed in with significant funding. There is significant funding for more resources for police—more police personnel, better police facilities—better support for victims and community organisations that support victims and reforms in key areas of the law. There are enhanced penalties when it comes to ramming and dangerous driving. Jack's Law will be extended. It will focus on the harm that can be caused by people misusing social media and posting and boasting about their offending. This is a critical plan for enhancing community safety and it is one that the government has worked diligently on. This plan is detailed and backed by evidence—unlike the slick slogans of those opposite. That is it there—their slick slogans are on one little bit of paper.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member, you will read from it or table it.

Mr RYAN: Our Community Safety Plan for Queensland is detailed and evidence-based, backed in with funding and starts now. It delivers now.

I look at their slick slogans on their little bit of paper which is their so-called plan. They cannot even bring themselves to say that they will commit to growth in the Queensland Police Service. All they can say is 'retention and attraction'. They cannot be ambitious enough to commit to growth. Our ambition has delivered a record budget for the Queensland Police Service that is backed in with retention, attraction, recruitment opportunities and funding to support the Queensland Police Service in meeting that ambition. The efforts of the Queensland Police Service when it comes to recruiting are delivering results. Unlike any other policing organisation in Australia, and a lot of them around the world, we are seeing the Queensland Police Service turn the corner on recruitment in just two months. By the end of June, almost 350 police will graduate the academy—in two months, 350 will graduate. Almost 700 are at the academy right now. Over 1,200 applicants are in the recruitment pipeline right now. The Queensland Police Service is the envy of the nation when it comes to police recruitment.

We do not deny it is hard. It is hard in every industry at the moment. If we look around Australia at the moment, we find that it is hard to recruit in any industry, but the Queensland Police Service is envied when it comes to recruitment. I will say those numbers again: in just two months almost 350 will graduate from the academy; there are almost 700 at the academy right now; there are over 1,200 in the recruitment pipeline right now. That is what ambition delivers for the Queensland Police Service. We

know those opposite lack ambition because at the last election they had a plan that committed to 1,000 fewer police than the government. They would not have a recruitment challenge if they were elected because they committed to 1,000 fewer than the government.

We are committed to the Queensland Police Service and this commitment is backed in every single time with the decisions that we make around recruitment, resourcing, facilities, personnel and the laws that we bring into this parliament. This is a plan to enhance community safety for Queenslanders. It is evidence-based and it is supported by victims, victims' groups, police, community organisations and key stakeholders around the nation. As I said, it follows significant work done by the Premier, ministers and key people in government to deliver a comprehensive evidence-based plan for Queensland.

The Community Safety Plan shows that the government is 100 per cent committed to community safety. We back it in with significant funding. We back it in with strong laws. Under the government, the Queensland Police Service will always have a supporter. We will always have their back.