




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Community Safety Plan

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Community Safety) (9.43 am): Today I will introduce into the parliament a comprehensive set of new community safety laws. It is part of our comprehensive plan—a plan built on a considered and effective approach to enhancing community safety. The Community Safety Plan for Queensland delivers more police, more resources, more interventions, more preventions, more victim supports and more new and strong laws. It is a plan backed by the evidence. It is a plan focused on five key pillars: supporting victims; delivering for our front line; detaining offenders to protect the community; intervening early; and preventing crime before it occurs. This plan unlocks \$1.28 billion in additional investment from the government. It builds on the successful measures that the Queensland Police Service says has seen some offending types reduce in the first quarter of this year, but there is always more work to be done.

The Miles government continues to build on its record investments in police. We are supporting those record investments in personnel with record investments in police infrastructure. Following strong advocacy from the member for Thuringowa and his colleagues the members for Townsville and Mundingburra, \$100 million in funding has been locked in for the new Townsville Police Academy. The new academy will be constructed at the new community safety precinct currently underway at the site of the old 1300SMILES Rugby League stadium. This is important infrastructure for the growth of the Queensland Police Service, investment in regional policing and investment in regional community safety.

The government has already made the biggest investment in police personnel in more than 30 years with funding for more than 2,000 extra personnel. Now we are building on that historic investment. There will be a further investment to fund an extra 900 police personnel over three years. This builds on the government's existing 2025 commitment, bringing the total investment to nearly 3,000 extra positions. We can do this because Queensland is leading the nation when it comes to police recruitment. We have record numbers in our police academies and record numbers in our recruiting pipeline. There are nearly 700 recruits undergoing training in our academies right now and over 2,100 applicants in the recruit pipeline.

We are giving police the laws and powers they need to support the community. The proposed expansion of Jack's Law will see it used in additional locations such as shopping centres, licensed premises, sporting and entertainment venues and high-risk outlets like late-night dining, convenience stores and service stations. This builds on its current application in safe night precincts and public transport hubs. It was disappointing to hear this morning that a senior LNP spokesperson does not support Jack's Law. One of the LNP's most senior figures, Senator Matt Canavan, said this morning on breakfast TV, 'I'm deeply uncomfortable in giving powers to the police, powers to randomly just spot check people without any suspicion.'

Unlike LNP Senator Matt Canavan, the Miles government supports Jack's Law. We introduced it and we now are expanding it. Jack's Law saves lives, and that is why it is part of our Community Safety Plan for Queensland.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Deputy Premier and Leader of the Opposition, you will cease your interjections.

Mr RYAN: Jack's Law saves lives, and that is why it is part of our Community Safety Plan for Queensland—a comprehensive, evidence-based plan and not slick slogans.