




Speech By
Martin Hunt

MEMBER FOR NICKLIN

Record of Proceedings, 11 December 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Nambour, Community Safety

 **Mr HUNT** (Nicklin—LNP) (1.01 am): Keira Fiorenza was a local small business owner in Nambour. She ran a jewellery store for many years in Lowe Street—just one example of the many hardworking small business owners who have invested in our town. Sadly, in November 2022 Keira closed her shop for the last time after several break-ins and two armed robberies left her traumatised and suffering from PTSD. After an armed robbery at the store in 2019, Keira spearheaded a community push and petition for a permanent police beat shopfront in Nambour to increase community safety and deter offenders. She bravely stood up to try to protect her business and others from going through what she went through. She delivered that petition to me as the local member for Nicklin at the time and I tabled it in parliament. It requested the then Labor police minister finally provide a police beat in Nambour—a request that was denied.

This was not the first time a police beat had been requested. The chamber of commerce in Nambour and the community had already run several campaigns over the previous decade or more for a permanent police beat shopfront in Nambour, but this fell on the deaf ears of successive Labor governments and even a local Labor member recently. I am proud to report, as I committed to in my recent campaign, that the Crisafulli LNP government have listened to the voices of the community and businesses of Nambour and we will deliver a permanent police beat shopfront in the heart of Nambour's CBD.

I want to pay tribute to Keira, who toughed it out as long as she could and who grew to know the frustration of a Labor government that continually insisted there was not a problem and denied the community the police beat they were desperately asking for. A strong community spirit exists in Nambour. Indeed, I attended the Nambour Chamber of Commerce Christmas gathering last Friday and can say that there is enthusiasm and an upbeat spirit in the town. There are new investments from businesses in the CBD such as Lauren and Jake's Bitesize Bliss Cafe, Walter's Artisan Bread and Challenge Accepted, along with a new cinema opening—and there is more to come.

There are good times ahead for Nambour. I say to my community: as your local member, I am looking forward to making Nambour safer by finally delivering our promised permanent police beat in the heart of the Nambour CBD and live-feed CCTV cameras into the local police station, along with our strong new laws to deal with offenders. There will be more to do, and I look forward to working with the chamber of commerce, the local police and our whole community to make Nambour a thriving and safe place to live, work and play.