



Speech By  
**Hon. Nikki Boyd**


**MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 April 2024

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Community Safety**

 **Hon. N BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery and Minister for Corrective Services) (9.57 am): Community safety is of paramount importance to Queenslanders and to the Miles government. We are investing in more beds in our correctional centres, more corrective services officers and more rehabilitation programs. Focusing on community safety means supporting victims and having programs to rehabilitate offenders. That is what this package announced by the Premier today does. It goes beyond slogans and outlines a real plan for action.

The plan highlights additional investment to support the Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group, funding for victim liaison officers, our Big Build to deliver a new 1,500-bed facility at Lockyer Valley and more frontline corrective services officers. I am advised that this year alone we have already trained 212 recruits, growing the capacity of corrective services. A further 213 are currently being trained as we keep preparing for the future. In massive news, a further 838 will be trained and graduated before the end of this year. This will add to our 4,500 corrective services officers. This is what happens when you take a hardline approach to crime and its causes. More prisoners are incarcerated to keep the community safe from their offending while targeted rehabilitation is delivered. Therefore, we need more correctional centres and we need more corrective services officers to prepare for that.

This facility at Lockyer Valley will begin commissioning at the end of the year and will hold more than 1,500 prisoners. It is a correctional centre specifically designed with rehabilitation in focus and will have specialised programs to help reduce reoffending rates. More than 800 people will be needed to run the centre including psychologists, occupational therapists and social workers as well as education and administration officers. Make no mistake: it is a jail with more than 11 kilometres of fencing that will secure the site, more than 34 kilometres of razor wire and more than 1,830 secure doors.

The Miles government will look for new ways to tackle crime and its causes because it is an area where we can never rest. We listen to the community and we listen to experts and we will take action. That is what the community expects, not meaningless slogans with no real intent other than getting a sound bite for political gain.