




Speech By
Hon. Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

Record of Proceedings, 11 June 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Police Resources; Thank a First Responder Day

 **Hon. DG PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (2.29 pm): This month's budget is about delivering for Queensland. It is the fresh start we promised. As police minister, I have said many times that the LNP Crisafulli government will give police the laws and the resources they need to do their job—and that is exactly what we are doing. We have already passed new legislation, with more to come, and soon we will deliver a fresh approach to funding the police.

It is time to end the practices of the past. Labor treated the police as extras in a political drama and held them hostage to each change made on a whim. The QPS was forced to fund Labor's promises from its own resources. Labor failed police and the people of Queensland. Labor boasted about approved police numbers but never provided the extra funds to back up their big words. Labor did not fund the continuation of high-visibility police patrols or youth co-responders. Labor made big announcements about Polair in Cairns and on the Sunshine Coast but never provided sufficient funds to keep the service in the air beyond this financial year. Labor made civilian police positions permanent but never funded them, including in the critical area of domestic and family violence. Labor never provided sufficient funds for the Youth Crime Taskforce. Under the Crisafulli government, over \$15 million has been provided to make the youth crime group permanent.

Labor left the police in the lurch. They failed to deliver on tougher laws to combat crime and they failed to deliver on the funding and resources that police needed. I can reassure our police that we will continue to back them, not fail them as Labor did for nearly 10 years. This month's budget will deliver for Queensland and it will deliver for police, making community safety and victims' rights a priority.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge that today is Thank a First Responder Day—an opportunity to recognise the extraordinary people across all emergency services including police, paramedics and firefighters, along with the SES and Marine Rescue Queensland volunteers who stand ready to protect our communities. Each and every day these brave men and women put their lives on the line to keep others safe. They run towards danger and are there when disaster strikes or when unforeseen emergencies arise. For that we say thank you.

Thank you also to the families of first responders. While their loved ones are helping others, they provide the support that is so often needed in the face of trying and demanding circumstances. I extend my personal thanks and that of the government to all of our first responders and their families. Your efforts are appreciated and your contribution is valued.