



Speech By
Hon. Daniel Purdie

MEMBER FOR NINDERRY

Record of Proceedings, 17 September 2025

MOTION

No Confidence in Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services

 **Hon. DG PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (5.45 pm): I am proud to speak on behalf of my good friend and close colleague the member for Currumbin, the Minister for Youth Justice, who is doing her job and doing it well. This is about two things: firstly, this is a distraction—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr PURDIE: I will get to that in a minute. Secondly, this is what the Labor Party does. This is what those on the left do. When they lose the argument and they run out of points to debate, they go personal. This is exactly what this is about because it is a distraction. At estimates—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order! The Minister for Police has a very loud voice but I could not hear him then.

Mr PURDIE: This is a distraction. I am here to support my colleague. As the member for Whitsunday pointed out, all ministers on this side have worked together extremely closely and tirelessly and the proof is in the pudding. At estimates the Police Commissioner came and told those opposite that victim numbers are down 5.7 per cent in 10 months under this youth justice minister. The number of serious repeat offenders in Queensland is down 17.5 per cent. Let's look at the stark contrast to those opposite. I would like to know why the opposition youth justice minister is not on the talking list, why she did not ask a question yesterday and why she cannot raise her head now.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Nanango, member for Whitsunday, member for Gaven and a couple of others over there too: stop your quarrelling across the chamber, please.

Mr PURDIE: Let's look at the contrast. I would like to know why the opposition shadow is not speaking. Those opposite who were youth justice ministers or attorneys-general watered down the law for 10 years. Unlawful use of a motor vehicle offences increased by about 150 per cent in 10 years when they were in government. That is about 15 per cent a year. In the first six months of this year compared to the first six months of last year it declined by 6.4 per cent, the largest decrease in a decade.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order! Order! Member for Bundamba and member for Pine Rivers, you are now warned under the standing orders.

Mr PURDIE: Similarly, unlawful entry, break and enters—another crime that we know is predominantly committed by youth—has dropped by 12 per cent after a 10-year increase of 60 per cent. It is not just the stats; it is about the victims of crime. Before Christmas the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and the Attorney-General wrote the Making Queensland Safer laws and essentially, as we committed to do, rewrote the Youth Justice Act to give police back the laws they took off them. It was tabled and passed before Christmas and it has yielded results. Those opposite came in here kicking and screaming because, as we know, half of them did not want to support it. Now they cannot comprehend that it is working so they are going personal on the minister.

It is working, and it is not just the statistics saying it is working. I read what was said in the paper today by a detective inspector in Townsville. The paper said—

The experienced officer said the seven SROs arrested in Townsville since the start of the operation remained in custody—

Listen to this next point, please. He said—

It's very noticeable; some nights we've had no cars stolen and then others times we have one that we can focus on and because our priority property crime is so short now we have the time to actually get out there and locate these people.

The youth justice minister is driving down the number of victims in this state. Under the watch of those opposite, that number increased year on year on year. They proudly watered down the laws. The shadow ministers over there with their heads down now who are not speaking on this motion and who did not ask a question yesterday proudly watered down the laws, and the results speak for themselves—not just from the quote of the senior police officer but from the statistics. For the first time in 10 years we are driving down crime. We will continue to focus on the things that matter to the people of Queensland. We said before the election that we had four priorities to address the crises left by those opposite, one of them being the youth crime crisis. We are not going to be distracted from that. We have a laser-like focus.

I want to acknowledge the youth justice minister, who has worked tirelessly since the election doing what we said we would do. She has made personal and professional sacrifices. She has qualifications as a former barrister and a Commonwealth prosecutor, and she has made sacrifices professionally to be here and to represent her community. She has made personal sacrifices as she has worked tirelessly around the clock to protect victims of crime in Queensland. We are putting victims of crime first, we are reducing the number of serious repeat offenders in Queensland, and we are reducing crime. That is due to the great work of this minister and this government. We will continue to do everything we can to right the wrongs of those opposite. I am happy to work alongside her.