




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 21 May 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Police Resources

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (2.05 pm): Our police have been relentless in their efforts to make our communities safer. Under this government they have the support they need to protect Queenslanders. In January, we launched a bolstered State Flying Squad—the largest rapid response unit in Queensland police history. The State Flying Squad has been deployed to youth crime hotspots more than 20 times in the first three months of this year. Our government supports our police, and we are giving them the backup they need. We are delivering on our promise to boost the front line.

In our first 200 days of government, we have increased the Queensland Police Service headcount by 240, and there will be more. We have committed to delivering an additional 1,600 police recruits across Queensland by 2028, but it is increasing the net number of police that drives us. That is why we have a relentless focus on unplanned attrition in the QPS and convincing those who can stay to stay for longer. There are hundreds of recruits currently training at Queensland police academies and thousands more applicants in that pipeline. Our police are critical in tackling the youth crime crisis. New police data shows police made more than 4,000 youth arrests and laid more than 18,000 charges on young offenders during the first quarter of 2025.

With the first tranche of our Adult Crime, Adult Time laws already law, we have sent a strong message that serious offenders will be brought to justice. However, to address a generation of youth crime, we need permanent laws and a permanent police presence. That is why earlier this year, we locked in ongoing funding for the Queensland police Youth Crime Taskforce. The former government failed to fund permanently the Youth Crime Taskforce. It is just more evidence that Labor did not take youth crime seriously. Our government has given this taskforce the certainty, resources and powers they need to do their job properly. The Youth Crime Taskforce will now sit as part of our Crime and Intelligence Command, alongside other taskforces that are currently tackling drugs, homicide or organised crime. We are taking youth crime so seriously that we are treating it the same as crimes involving bikies or drugs.

Our police are working hard to restore safety to our communities, and we will always support them to keep Queenslanders safe. Adult Crime, Adult Time gives our police the tools they need to make our community safer, and this decision—along with early intervention and rehabilitation—locks in the resources to focus on closing the revolving door of youth criminals.