



Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 17 September 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Community Safety

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (2.03 pm): Our government is committed to restoring safety where you live. A decade of decline under Labor saw laws weakened and police resources stretched. We promised we would put Queenslanders' rights first and we promised we would listen. We are delivering on those promises.

Over the last few months our government has hosted a series of workshops to listen to community concerns about antisocial behaviour. In places like Townsville, Maryborough, Cairns and Mackay antisocial behaviour has been allowed to spiral out of control. The issues that create this behaviour are often complex, but we are determined to restore safety to these proud communities. Our first forum was in Townsville, where I joined the members for Townsville, Mundingburra and Thuringowa. We met with local government, business and industry representatives, social services, community organisations, police and other key stakeholders.

To find solutions that will work for these communities it is vital that we listen to locals on the ground with their on-the-ground knowledge. In Maryborough antisocial behaviour has brought the CBD to its knees. Local businesses and their staff should be confident they can invest and operate without being disrupted by persistent antisocial behaviour. The member for Maryborough has been a strong advocate in trying to find solutions for local businesses in his community. I heard firsthand how the former government's soft-on-drugs approach has seen this problem spiral out of control.

Last week I joined the member for Mackay in his electorate to hold forums to listen to community concerns. Mackay is an important regional hub and it is important we return safety to the CBD. I also travelled to Cairns to host a forum with the member for Mulgrave and the member for Barron River. Cairns is a tourism hotspot. Local families and tourists should be able to safely enjoy all that our state has to offer. Combined with the state's largest ever youth crime crackdown in the far north, the forum was just another example of our commitment to make Cairns safer.

Across all forums we have learned about local challenges caused by public intoxication, drugs and antisocial behaviour. The insights and solutions we gain from these forums will help us create local action plans that are specific to each community. Developed together with locals, we want to see a range of workable ideas. We know that these are complex issues and we will never eliminate this behaviour entirely, but we must do better for these communities. Our government is taking every step to deliver safety where you live.