



Speech By
Hon. Laura Gerber

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 14 October 2025

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Member for Miller; Youth Crime

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (2.51 pm): The irony of having to follow the failed former transport minister! He had to sack himself from cabinet as a result of leaks in his own faction. They leaked to the paper that if he did not sack himself there would be a revolt and he would be sacked. He is the only minister to ever be called foolish by the CCC.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence. It does not make a lot of sense, but it is still offensive. I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mrs GERBER: I withdraw. Let me explain—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): One moment, member for Currumbin. Member for Bundaberg, you have been sailing close to the wind for quite a while. You are warned. Member for McConnel, you are very close.

Mrs GERBER: Let me explain this to the member for Miller. He sacked himself. The headline in the *Australian* at the time was 'Mark Bailey quits Queensland cabinet before he can be sacked in impending reshuffle'. The irony of that failed minister standing up today and trying to criticise a government that has been in government for just under 12 months—a government that is delivering for Queenslanders. This is a failed former transport minister who forgot to order the trains for Cross River Rail, which was part of his portfolio. It has been revealed today that Labor did not even plan for trains to be here when Cross River Rail was opened. That is the failure of that former minister.

A government member interjected.

Mrs GERBER: He was the worst minister ever; I will take the interjection. Unlike the member for Miller, the failed former transport minister, who had to sack himself—there were headlines like '... Bailey quits ... cabinet before he can be sacked ...'—the Crisafulli government is delivering for Queenslanders.

I will read some of the recent headlines in relation to the Crisafulli government and how we are delivering for Queenslanders. There are headlines like 'Crimes finally go down'. That is from the *Townsville Bulletin*.

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Woodridge, you are warned.

Mrs GERBER: The headlines continue: 'Victim figures plunge'. That is from the *Courier-Mail*. From the *Cairns Post* there is the headline 'Adult Crime, Adult Time: 14k charges in youth crime crackdown'. 9News from 7 October read, 'Queensland crime rates down 10.8 per cent under "adult crime, adult time" laws'. I table those articles.

Tabled paper: Bundle of documents relating to crime statistics [1561](#).

Even interstate they are recognising the Crisafulli government for delivering for Queenslanders. The New South Wales Moree news reports 'Queensland: Fewer victims of crime as 2986 charged under Adult Crime, Adult Time'. In Victoria—a Labor state—the *Herald Sun* read, 'Thousands of Queenslanders spared trauma of becoming a crime statistic thanks to tough-on-crime government'. That is what delivering for Queensland looks like.

That is not all. From Cooktown to Coolangatta, we are rolling out our new Kickstarter programs—Gold Standard Early Intervention being delivered right across this state. As part of that, our Proven Initiatives project, which is part of Gold Standard Early Intervention, is out to market, with expressions of interest still open. Expressions of interest for Proven Initiatives close on 20 October. This is to allow community-led organisations delivering Gold Standard Early Intervention across Queensland to have the ability to receive ongoing funding as part of our crime prevention initiatives if they can deliver on key performance indicators of youth not committing crime during the program; school attendance and training; engaging in community; and having regular contact with the program. This will allow for those community organisations to not have to live grant by grant as they had to previously. It will allow them to receive some ongoing funding to deliver the amazing crime prevention programs that they are currently delivering. We are delivering the laws and we are delivering the programs to make our community safer. We are doing it in every corner of this state.

We know that there is still more work to be done because we had 10 years of Labor decline. We had 10 years of Labor letting the youth crime crisis rip through this state, and we have to try to unwind that. For the first time in more than a decade, Queenslanders can see that they have a government on their side—a government that will not rest until victims are front and centre in our justice system. We are delivering the fresh start that Queenslanders voted for—that is, where every single person can feel safe in their home, in their community and in their business and where finally in this state we are starting to see fewer victims of crime.