




Speech By
Hon. Laura Gerber

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 28 October 2025

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Youth Justice, Crisafulli LNP Government

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (9.54 am): After a decade of decline under Labor, we have seen 12 months of delivery under the Crisafulli government. In our first year, we are doing what we said we would do. Adult Crime, Adult Time is now law and youth offenders are finally starting to face real and serious consequences for their actions. Already, serious repeat youth offenders have fallen 17 per cent in the first six months of the Crisafulli government—that means fewer victims of crime.

For those Queenslanders who find themselves living with the trauma of crime, we are also delivering a record \$458 million in support for victims of crime, almost doubling the support available to victims through Victim Assist Queensland. We have delivered our community response program for victims of crime statewide. This puts frontline workers on the ground in communities following traumatic crime events to support victims and communities when they need it most right across the state. We have reformed the youth justice victims register, meaning the onus is no longer on the victim to reach out and put themselves on a register in order to receive information. Victims of youth crime are now automatically able to receive updates and information when they require it.

We are delivering a nation-leading victim advocate service—a one-stop shop for victims of crime—because all too often under the previous Labor government victims of crime fell through the cracks. They did not feel supported through the justice process. We are building a stronger system: one that listens to victims, supports them and makes sure their rights are respected through every part of the justice process. That is why yesterday I also met with the new interim Victims' Commissioner, Mr Bob Gee. We talked about the Crisafulli government's priority to put victims first.

The role of the Victims' Commissioner requires someone with knowledge of the justice system and the impact that system can have on victims. Mr Gee is a well-respected public servant who has served in various capacities for almost four decades, including across the justice system as deputy commissioner of the Queensland Police Service and more recently as my director-general for the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support. Given Mr Gee's experience, he understands the complexities of the system that victims face. Quite frankly, he had a front-row seat to the failings of the former Labor government and what victims faced under the former Labor government when they let victims fall through the cracks.

The Crisafulli government will continue to deliver on our priority to strengthen victims' rights and deliver a system that leads to fewer victims of crime—a system that puts victims first and treats them with respect and decency and compassion. We are delivering the fresh start that Queenslanders voted for, including for victims of crime.