



Speech By
Hon. Meaghan Scanlon

MEMBER FOR GAVEN

Record of Proceedings, 20 November 2025

JUSTICE, INTEGRITY AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE; REPORT,

Motion to Take Note, Report No. 16

Resumed from 30 October (see p. 3520), on motion of Mr Hunt—

That the House take note of the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee Report No. 16, 58th Parliament, *Oversight of the Queensland Child and Family Commission*, tabled on 5 September 2025.

 **Hon. MAJ SCANLON** (Gaven—ALP) (3.00 pm), continuing: I will pick up where I left off. Data is mentioned over 250 times in the QFCC's annual report. In fact, the report says they use data to improve the sector's understanding of risk factors and support the development of new policies and practices to reduce harm to children and young people. That is the complete opposite of what we have seen from the LNP, which is a bungled, broken, bureaucratic mess—

Mr HUNT: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on 118, relevance. This committee investigated an annual report from over a year ago. Labor members keep referring to things the committee has not examined or reported on.

Ms SCANLON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The previous Deputy Speaker ruled that we could respond to comments made by previous speakers. In fact, I think it was the member for Moggill who talked about watch house capacity, particularly the justice minister and others, so I am referring to the actions being taken and the comments of those opposite in this debate.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): I understand. I have received advice from the Clerk. This report is quite broad and it does refer to the Unify system, but criticising the current government about things from the past is outside of the report.

Ms SCANLON: I am sorry, Mr Deputy Speaker?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have not done that. Please continue, member for Gaven.

Ms SCANLON: We currently have a bungled bureaucratic mess, which is the complete opposite of what this report by the Queensland Family and Child Commission recommends. A program that was meant to unify our child safety data and system has instead been completely shattered by the Liberal National Party—

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I do not mean to be repetitive from the honourable member's point of order, but could you please get the member to explain the relevance to the report that is before the House.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The advice from the Clerk was that when the speaker is speaking to an interjection from somebody else then they can talk about that. They can also talk to this report and not criticise the current government about matters. Member for Gaven, you have not done that at this stage. I am listening very closely. I understand the guidance clearly.

Ms SCANLON: Data is mentioned over 250 times in the QFCC's annual report. I am talking about the importance of data security. We have had members of the Liberal National Party get up and talk about current watch house capacity. If they want to talk about the current government's actions, well, I

am merely responding to that. What is clear is that this government is the one that turned on a data system that was clearly broken. For what? To save a couple of bucks; to tick a box. When you lose data you do not just lose numbers; you lose the ability to track a child and the risk to that child. You lose visibility over the warning signs and you lose the capacity to prevent a tragedy. The minister could not even be open with Queenslanders about how many children have suffered—

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member on her feet is clearly defying your most recent ruling.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am paying very close attention. The member for Gaven outlined the context of what she was saying when we first started. I am paying close attention. If she strays, I will bring her back to order.

Ms SCANLON: I appreciate that members of the government do not like talking about the failures of their system—a system that the QFCC warned was incredibly important to keep track of children, yet we have seen the complete opposite—

Mrs Frecklington: Developed by Labor.

Ms SCANLON: I take the interjection from the Attorney-General because now she wants to talk about the Unify system that the Liberal National Party turned on. It was ministers of this Crisafulli government who made the conscious decision—

Mrs Frecklington: How many failed child safety ministers are there in one government? Three!

Ms SCANLON: I take the interjection. It was the Liberal National Party Crisafulli government that decided to turn the Unify system on.

Mr HUNT: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance. I am sorry to belabour the point, but as chair of the committee and the producer of this report we did not examine the things the member is talking about. No doubt next year's report will be about Labor's failures in this area. In this report we did not examine any of those things the member is currently talking about.

Ms GRACE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. These are vexatious points of order. If it is on relevance, they should be referring to relevance and not continuing on. There are 26 seconds left.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

Dr ROWAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I will raise the point of order with respect to relevance. I have been listening carefully to the contribution. I would submit again that it is a confined period of time in relation to the matters that relate to the report. I accept there is a mention of electronic systems and elements related to that, however, in relation to relevance it is very tight.

Ms GRACE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There was an interjection that was taken in relation to that relevance question as well.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will look after the order of the House. Leader of the House, your point of order is relevant and I am giving clear guidance. The member for Gaven gave context at the start. I have been listening to her. She has been taking points of order. If she extends into criticism of the current government then I will address that matter. I received clear guidance from the Clerk earlier today about this. Member for Gaven, you have the call. Please confine your contributions as outlined.

Ms SCANLON: We had a minister who could not even be open with Queenslanders about how many children have suffered.

Ms Grace: She actually didn't know.

Ms SCANLON: She did not even know; I take that interjection. What is clear is that we have a child safety minister who has no idea what is happening with her department despite clear recommendations on the importance of data protection and security, and those children will suffer under this government.