

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 184**  
**Asked on 6 March 2024**

**MR D CRISAFULLI** ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (HON M RYAN)—

**QUESTION:**

Will the Minister provide the number of cautions administered to young offenders by Queensland Police, reported by offence, for the period 1 July to 31 December 2023?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that there are almost 300 individual offence codes in QPRIME. As such, I am advised by the QPS that to provide verified data on the number of cautions issued to each unique youth offender, reported separately by each offence code would require a manual examination of records, which is considered by the QPS to be an unjustifiable use of police resources at this time.

However, for the Member's benefit, I am further advised by the QPS the number of young offenders cautioned by police, reported by offence type, for the period from 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023, was: 1,232 for offences against the person, 4,201 for offences against property, and 2,558 for other offences.

The Member should note that it is at the discretion of the officer at the time as to whether to action the matter by way of caution. The Miles Government will always back the professionalism of police officers to make those decisions. To criticise an officer's decision is an insult to their professionalism.

I am advised that police cautioning has been examined during the public briefings of the bi-partisan Youth Justice Reform Select Committee, where the Member for Ninderry said "*I do know it is successful, as 80 per cent or more never reoffend*"<sup>i</sup> in relation to cautioning of young offenders. Further, the Member for Lockyer said "*The diversionary processes that you do in the police see about 91 per cent of cautioned offenders never offend again.*"<sup>ii</sup>

**Notes:**

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Juvenile offenders are those persons aged between 10 and 17 years (inclusive).
3. Only offences from offenders whose age are identified have been included.
4. These figures represent an offender count for juvenile offenders actioned by cautions.

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<sup>i</sup> Source: Youth Justice Selection Committee, Public Briefing on Wednesday 21 February 2024 transcript, page 15 (<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/com/YJRSC-6004/YJRSC-54D8/Transcript%20-%2021%20February%202024%20-%20YJRC%20-%20Briefing%20-%20Inquiry%20to%20examine%20ongoing%20reforms%20to%20the%20youth%20justice%20system%20and%20support%20for%20victims%20of%20crime.pdf>)

<sup>ii</sup> Source: Youth Justice Selection Committee, Public Briefing on Wednesday 21 February 2024 transcript, page 16 (<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/com/YJRSC-6004/YJRSC-54D8/Transcript%20-%2021%20February%202024%20-%20YJRC%20-%20Briefing%20-%20Inquiry%20to%20examine%20ongoing%20reforms%20to%20the%20youth%20justice%20system%20and%20support%20for%20victims%20of%20crime.pdf>)

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