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**MEDIA RELEASE**

# True story on crime needs to be told

Member for Burdekin, Dale Last, has encouraged residents of the Burdekin district to report any crime, no matter how trivial it may seem.

The former Police Officer believes that combining a proactive community with modern technology will go a long way toward bringing crime rates in the district down.

“Since our Crime Forum the feedback I have received is that people have given up on reporting crime in certain circumstances but that is not going to help anyone in the community,” Mr Last said.

“People know that our local Police Officers are working hard and sometimes they think it’s a minor issue and they don’t want to be a burden but we are actually helping our local officers by reporting crime.”

“Other people have lost faith in the justice system and I can understand that too but we will only see action when the government can see the people have had enough.”

Mr Last said that, although crime statistics showed an increase in crime, he was not convinced that the statistics were telling the full story.

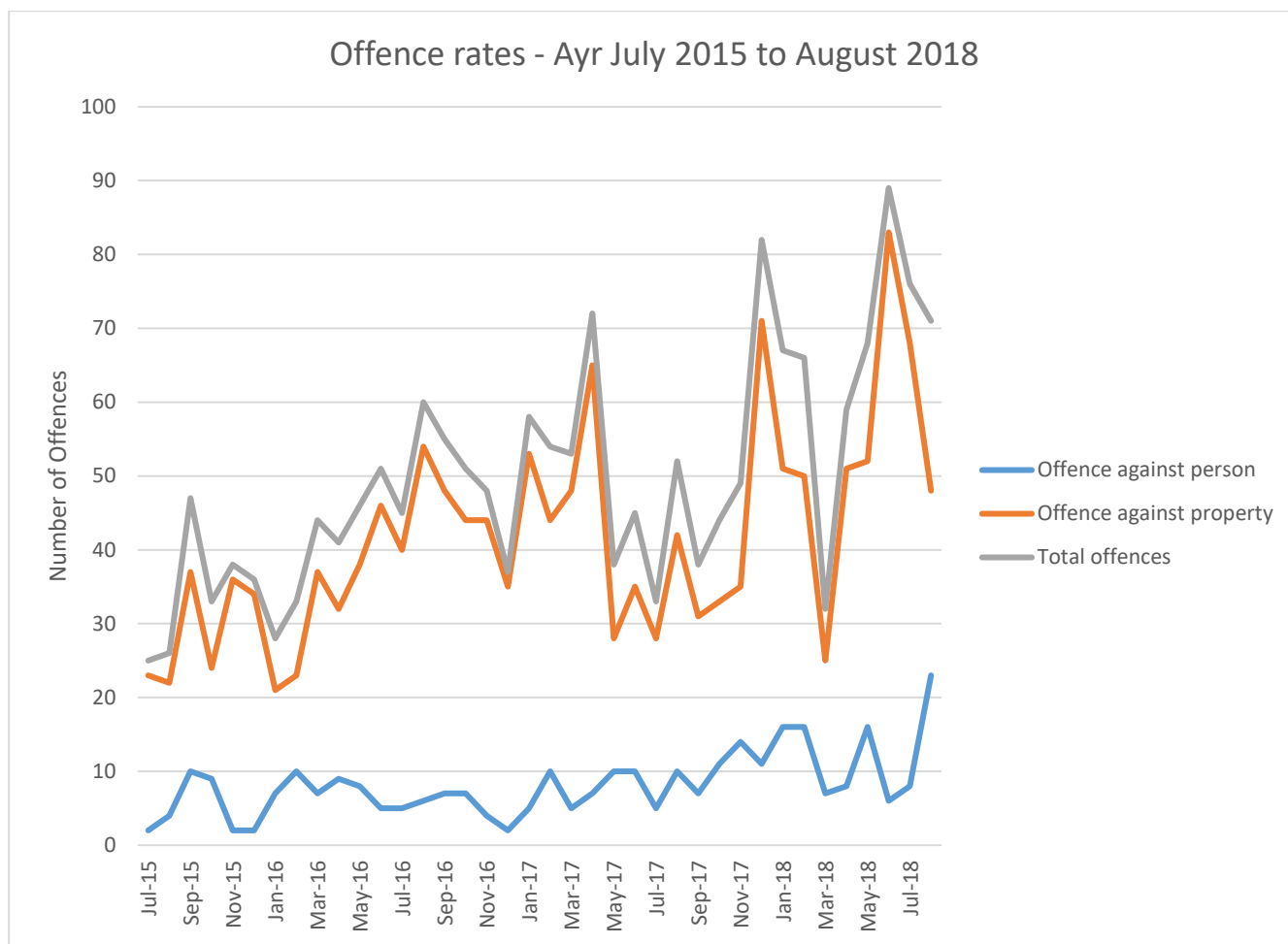
“The official statistics say that total crime has almost tripled in three years but, from what people are telling me, it is actually even worse than that,” Mr Last said.

“The only way that we can ensure our local Police have the resources they need is to report every single crime; no matter how minor.”

“Of course, people need to call 000 if they are in immediate danger but the Police Link call centre and the app are there to be used whenever possible.”

“As a community we told the Minister that we needed more resources but all we got is hollow words so now we need to back it up with the numbers.”

“Our local Police are doing everything they can but we all need to speak up to ensure they get the resources they need.”



**ENDS** - Media Contact: David Cooper – Phone (07) 4767 0500

Graph data sourced from source: <https://mypolice.qld.gov.au/townsville/queensland-crime-statistics/>