



September 18th, 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Crime statistics prove the Burdekin has been let down

Member for Burdekin, Dale Last, has seized on recent crime statistics and comments from a well-respected expert to accuse the Queensland Government of neglecting the regions again.

Statistics provided by the Queensland Police Service shows horrifying increases in Ayr despite recent assurances that property crime was under control.

“At the recent Crime Forum the Police Commissioner stood up and said property crime in Ayr had flat lined but that is simply not true,” Mr Last said.

“In the last 5 years property offences have increased by over 45% and offences against the person have almost tripled but the government wants us to believe progress is being made on crime.”

“The Police Minister tried to put a positive spin on things but, instead, he should look the people in the eye and tell them the truth.”

“The truth is that the government he is a part of is failing to keep people and their property safe; despite the best efforts of our local Police Officers.”

Mr Last also hit out at a recently announced enquiry designed to reduce incarceration rates.

“The Premier, the Police Minister and the Attorney have run out of ideas and the whole issue of crime is becoming an *enquiry-fest*,” the former Police Officer said.

“The best way to reduce incarceration rates is to stop people committing crime... that’s what the Police Minister said in Ayr last month.”

“Minister Ryan is right that we need to stop people offending but it’s just not happening in North Queensland.”

“An Associate Professor in Criminology said he is worried about the crime rate in North Queensland and meanwhile this government just wants to let more criminals roam our streets.”

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