



Dale Last MP
Member for Burdekin

Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services
Shadow Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
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Media Release
388 youth justice failings every day

Every four minutes Queenslanders are the victims of another failure in the youth justice system according to Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Dale Last.

Mr Last said the statistics, which are available to the public, show that the Labor government's attitude toward youth crime is a complete failure".

"From the Premier down, we are told that youth crime is reducing but the reality is that every single day in Queensland, there are almost 390 charges laid against young offenders," Mr Last said.

"Throughout the state we are seeing the effects of youth crime with people, literally, turning their homes into fortresses out of fear that they will be the next victim. Yet, instead of being upfront with people, the Labor government is using weasel words in an attempt to hide the problem."

As he continues to work on the Opposition's policy on youth offending, Mr Last said Queenslanders could have faith that an LNP government would get results and said their track record proved this.

"During the term of the last LNP government, youth offending reduced by 10.5%," Mr Last said. "In the first three years of the Palaszczuk government, it increased by over 17% and that's an undeniable fact."

"The LNP's Youth Justice strategy will centre around making people feel safe in their homes and holding offenders to account. The message to young offenders will be that we will give them the chance to improve their lives but that, if they choose to continue offending, the consequences will be harsh."

"Queenslanders are sick of being victims and they have had a gutful of trying to help young offenders and having that help, effectively, spat back in their faces."

"The reality is there is no one simple fix for this problem but it is very obvious that the current government's intention is to try and hide the problem rather than tackling it head on, just as they have since first elected."

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Source: Jan to Nov 2020 - http://open-crime-data.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/Crime%20Statistics/LGA_Reported_Offenders_Number.csv