



Dale Last MP
Member for Burdekin

Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Shadow Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Shadow Minister for Rural and Regional Affairs

Burdekin Electorate Office

Shop 30 Centrepont Arcade

AYR QLD 4807

Tel: 07 4767 0500

Freecall: 1800 817 594

Email: burdekin@parliament.qld.gov.au

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Media Release – Another unwanted title for Queensland

Information released by a Parliamentary Committee has bestowed Queensland with another unwanted crime title according to Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Dale Last MP.

Included in the Transport and Resources Committee's report into vehicle safety is a graph showing that, since the 2015-16 financial year, vehicle theft in Queensland had increased by 47% or more than 12 vehicles per day in just five years.

"For the year until June 30, almost 13,000 cars were stolen in Queensland," Mr Last said. "That's more vehicle thefts than either New South Wales or Victoria and is more than the five other states combined."

"Those five states have almost 500,000 more people in them, yet Queensland has almost 700 more vehicles stolen. It is yet more proof that crime is out of control under the current state government."

"It's not just insulting to have the highest number of vehicles stolen in the country, it also means increased costs for families when it comes to insurance. We all pay the price for the state government's failings."

Mr Last said the Committee's report included some practical suggestions when it came to vehicle safety but that the sole recommendation when it came to vehicle theft was an advertising campaign.

"It's true that almost half of all vehicles are stolen when keys are stolen from a residence and that vehicle owners have a role to play," Mr Last said. "But the very fact that criminals are breaking into people's homes surely warrants a better response than an advertising campaign."

"The increases in these offences makes it very obvious that the current deterrents are not working. Vehicle thefts have a huge impact on people's safety, their state of mind and their finances so to settle on an advertising campaign is really not acknowledging the full impact of these crimes."

"The message is very clear. Labor is failing on crime and there is no other explanation."

ENDS – Media Contact: David Cooper (07) 4767 0500 or 0427 834 844

Sources: <https://carsafe.com.au/theft-watch> and <https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tableoffice/taledpapers/2021/5721T1457.pdf>