



# Sean Dillon MP

Member for Gregory

## **Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill - Gregory**

Mr. Speaker

No one wishes that they had to rise to either contribute or develop legislation around Domestic & Family Violence. Not because we don't believe there is a need, that much is obvious. In a perfect world this legislation isn't required. However, in a world where a Labor government has declined for the last 10 years to step up and protect victims and their families, it has fallen to a responsible government to swiftly, within 10 months, consult, write, introduce, consult again and now finalise critical, personal safety focused legislation.

Let me be very clear, this is legislation required not only to begin to seriously address the scourge of Domestic and Family Violence, it is part of a suite of reforms the Crisafulli Government has been asked by victims and the people of Queensland to implement to arrest the vicious downward crime spiral collectively we are experiencing. Dedicated Ministers such as Minister Camm are taking incredibly seriously their commitment to the people of Queensland with respect to protecting them.

This is something that clearly Labor governments over the last 10 years have neglected; despite pretending to be the friend of victims they were actually beholden to the radical green left, the bleeding-heart brigade that sympathizes more with perpetrators and criminals. This led to handholding at rallies but hand wringing in this place, refusing to truly listen to the desperate cries of victims across the board nor listen to expert advice from all manner of official agencies.

The rank hypocrisy of members opposite who have used public appearances to curry favour and present a false appearance of sympathy; yet refuse in either this place or any other to enact real and meaningful reform to protect those whom they pretended to comfort nor future victims is both breathtaking and shocking.

Minster Camm has boldly led the legislature into a space where no previous minister has. The Minister has listened to stakeholders, victims and investigative agencies. Her professional and measured approach has resulted in legislation that carefully ensures protection for individuals exposed to this disgusting thuggery; whilst maintaining both transparency and accountability for investigating officers and existing legal processes.

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Mr. Speaker, this legislation has been developed by Minister Camm to ensure protection for victims can be enacted quicker. Its primary purpose is to ensure that victims can be reached, reassured and protected. It is that simple. All the hocus pocus that those opposite and the civil libertarians are concocting is utter rubbish. Be under no illusion, this has been forced on government by two main forces; disgusting, disrespectful perpetrators and the Queensland Labor party. Consistent with Labor's watering down of youth crime laws has been their refusal to address the matter of Domestic and Family Violence.

In a vast electorate like Gregory, victims are faced with several issues outside of the direct thuggery of DFV perpetration. The time required to travel to remote cattle stations or mining claims for investigating officers as well as to subsequently attend court is huge. This provides a massive hurdle and is often insurmountable for victims. Vulnerable people in these remote settings will now have the added security of Police Protection Directions to ensure timely intervention without the need for time-consuming and expensive alternatives as is the case under Labor's current weak provisions.

There are safeguards carefully developed and included in this legislation, but the Crisafulli Government's message to perpetrators of Domestic and Family Violence is simple and pointed, don't. The community at large has spoken clearly, through victims and survivors of Domestic and Family Violence but also through the broader community sentiment of disgust, outrage and insistence that the status quo change.

We, the Crisafulli Government have considered the most appropriate legislative outcomes and well here they are. But this is much more than words, much more than new options. This is about a government that listens. That cares. That truly wants to not only protect victims but provide a framework and deterrence that challenges current and potential perpetrators to amend their ways.

Irrespective of the behaviour of perpetrators, especially those who falsely seek to amend their actions, we are unashamedly focused on providing the protection that victims need as fast as we can. I believe that fundamentally underscores this entire legislative approach and I commend Minister Camm, the Cabinet and the Premier for ensuring this legislation has been prioritised. In the interests of vulnerable people right throughout our beautiful state, I strongly urge this chamber to fully and without reservation support this life changing and protecting legislation.

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