

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

**STRENGTHENING PENALTIES, IMPROVING PROTECTIONS.
DELIVERING SAFER COMMUNITIES.**



WESTERN AUSTRALIANS DESERVE TO SEE CRIME TAKEN SERIOUSLY TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY SAFETY.

Every Western Australian deserves to feel safe in their home, their workplace, and their community.

Yet under the Cook Labor Government, crime has spiralled out of control, police resources are stretched thin, and support services for victims of crime and family and domestic violence are failing those who need them most.

Communities across Western Australia are demanding stronger action on crime, better support for our police officers, and real investment in child protection and family violence prevention.

Instead of addressing these concerns, Labor has been soft on criminals, slow to act on critical reforms, and negligent in providing the necessary support to victims.

The WA Liberal Party believes in restoring law and order.

We are committed to being tough on crime, ensuring our police officers have the resources they need, strengthening penalties for offenders, and improving protections for the most vulnerable.

Our approach will not only focus on enforcement but also on early intervention and prevention to break the cycle of crime and violence in our communities.

Unlike the Labor Government, we will take decisive action to deliver safer streets, stronger laws, and better support for victims of crime.

Under a WA Liberal Government, community safety will be a priority, ensuring every Western Australian can live without fear.

Only a WA Liberal Government will deliver it.

WHAT WE WILL DO

The WA Liberal Party believes everyone deserves to feel safe in their homes, workplaces, and communities.

Under the Cook Labor Government, crime has spiralled out of control, police resources are stretched too thin, and too many vulnerable people are being left without the protection and support they need.

The WA Liberal Party is committed to restoring law and order by delivering stronger laws, better protections, and real support for victims.

We will back our police force by providing the resources, training, and support they need to tackle crime effectively.

Too many officers are leaving the force due to poor working conditions and a lack of career incentives.

We will fix this by investing in better conditions to retain experienced officers while also equipping them with the latest technology and stronger legal powers to fight crime.

A Liberal Government will put more police on the streets, improving response times and the community presence.

Youth crime is rising, and the current system is failing to break the cycle of repeat offending.

We will expand on-country juvenile rehabilitation programs, removing young offenders from crime-ridden environments and placing them in structured programs that focus on discipline, education, and life skills.

By taking a tough but rehabilitative approach, we will give at-risk youth a real chance to turn their lives around and become productive members of society.

Workplace violence and intimidation are all too common, particularly in retail, transport, and frontline services.

Workers should never feel unsafe doing their jobs.

We will introduce Workplace Protection Orders, giving courts the power to ban violent and repeat offenders from entering workplaces.

This is a new level of protection for employees, ensuring real consequences for threatening or attacking workers.

Family and domestic violence remains one of the most pressing issues facing our communities.

Too many women and children are left vulnerable because of Labor's failure to act decisively.

We will strengthen legal protections, invest in more safe housing, expand funding for crisis support services, and ensure police have the tools to intervene early.

Victims of domestic violence deserve real protection, not just political promises.

It is unacceptable that WA is the most unsafe place in Australia to be a woman. Western Australians expect a justice system that puts community safety first.

Under Labor, dangerous criminals are being released on bail or parole, only to reoffend.

We will tighten bail and parole laws, ensuring violent offenders and repeat criminals stay behind bars.

The rights of victims and the safety of the community must come before leniency for offenders.

Vulnerable children in state care are being failed by a system that is overstretched and underfunded.

We will overhaul child protection services, ensuring at-risk children receive the care, stability, and support they need.

A Liberal Government will also introduce stronger measures to prevent child exploitation and hold perpetrators accountable.

Elder abuse is a growing but often hidden crisis, with many seniors facing financial, emotional, and physical abuse.

We will introduce stronger legal protections, tougher penalties for offenders, and better reporting mechanisms to ensure elderly Western Australians are safe from harm and exploitation.

Community safety should not be an afterthought.

Western Australians deserve a government that will take real action to restore law and order, protect the most vulnerable, and ensure every Western Australian can live without fear.

Only the WA Liberal Party is committed to making law and order a priority, and we will not stop until our communities are safer, stronger, and more secure.

SUPPORTING OUR POLICE TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



Western Australians deserve a government that takes crime seriously and supports the police officers who put their lives on the line to protect our communities.

Under the Cook Labor Government, crime has surged to record levels, police resources are stretched thin, and officer resignations have reached an all-time high.

The WA Liberal Party is committed to restoring law and order by strengthening police resources, supporting officers' wellbeing, and ensuring criminals face real consequences.

Our police officers are under more pressure than ever before. Crime rates have exploded, particularly in regional areas, and officers are being forced to do more with less.

Since Labor took office, Western Australia has fewer police officers per capita than before, with over a thousand resigning in just two years.

The Cook Labor government has failed to deliver its promised police recruitment, leaving the force short by 458 officers, including 145 in regional districts where crime is at its worst.

A WA Liberal Government will fix this by delivering an additional 500 police officers to fill critical staffing gaps, ensuring that every community has the protection it deserves.

We will also address immediate police shortages by committing \$243 million to fund overtime for 3,000 officers, adding the equivalent of 300 extra frontline officers across the state.

This will ensure a greater police presence on the streets, allowing officers to respond more quickly to crime and build stronger relationships with the communities they serve.

Unlike Labor's failed attempts to recruit officers from overseas, our approach strengthens our existing force with homegrown solutions that provide real reinforcements where they are needed most. Policing is a tough job, and officers need real support.

The demand for mental health assistance among police has quadrupled in the past four years, yet the government has failed to provide adequate services.

We will invest \$40 million in a comprehensive police wellbeing program, including increasing the number of police psychologists, expanding chaplaincy services, and introducing presumptive PTSD legislation to ensure officers can access workers' compensation without unnecessary delays.

Our police officers dedicate their lives to protecting us, it's time they received the support they deserve.

Workplace violence and harassment are becoming disturbingly common across Western Australia, with frontline workers increasingly facing threats, physical assaults, and repeated abuse.

Under the Cook Labor Government, reports of violence against retail and fast-food employees have surged, leaving workers vulnerable and businesses without the legal tools to protect them.

A 2023 survey found that 87 per cent of workers in these industries had experienced abuse, with over half being targeted by the same offender multiple times.

The WA Liberal Party believes this is completely unacceptable.

To tackle this issue, we will introduce Workplace Protection Orders (WPOs), allowing businesses to apply for court-issued orders that restrict violent or repeat offenders from entering workplaces or harassing employees.

A WA Liberal Government will commit \$15 million over four years to establish a dedicated Workplace Protection Unit within WA Police, ensuring these orders are properly enforced.

Additionally, we will invest \$5 million in anti-recidivism programs to break the cycle of repeat offending.

A WA Liberal Government will take real action to restore law and order, strengthen policing, and protect the most vulnerable.

Crime is out of control under Labor — only the WA Liberal Party will deliver the leadership, resources, and policies needed to make Western Australia safer.





ADDRESSING DISENGAGED YOUTH

Western Australia is facing a growing crisis of disengaged youth, with increasing numbers of young people falling through the cracks of the education system and entering the juvenile justice system.

Under the Cook Labor Government, juvenile crime has skyrocketed, particularly in regional areas, and there has been little to no investment in rehabilitation or prevention programs.

Instead of addressing the root causes of youth crime, Labor has focused on excluding troubled students from school and warehousing young offenders in the notorious Unit 18 juvenile justice facility, a strategy that has failed to deter crime or rehabilitate young people.

A Mettam Liberal Government will take a proactive, multi-faceted approach to tackling this crisis by investing in early intervention, rehabilitation, and education-based solutions to help at-risk youth develop resilience, self-esteem, and positive pathways away from crime.

Our plan will provide real alternatives to reoffending, ensuring that disengaged youth are given the support and structure they need to break the cycle of crime and lead productive lives.

To support students with challenging behaviours, we will establish two new Disengagement and Behaviour Centres, supplementing the existing Midland Academy, which was introduced under the former Liberal Government.

These centres will be located in northern and southern metropolitan regions, providing specialist education, curriculum support, and tailored interventions to prevent further disruption in mainstream schools while ensuring troubled students receive the support they need to re-engage with learning.

We will also introduce a School Policing Program, a \$4.4 million initiative that will place 20 retiring police officers in regional and metropolitan public schools three days a week to work directly with disengaged students.

These officers will provide mentorship, guidance, and education on the law, helping students develop a sense of responsibility and respect for their communities.

Based on the successful Police and Community Youth Centres model, this program will help at-risk students build positive relationships with law enforcement and provide structured support to prevent future criminal behaviour.

To ensure that young offenders receive effective rehabilitation, a WA Liberal Government will establish two new regional juvenile justice centres, with locations preferred in the Kimberley and Goldfields.

These on-country rehabilitation facilities will allow young offenders from regional WA, many of whom are Aboriginal, to receive culturally appropriate rehabilitation and education programs, rather than being sent to Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

A \$2 million investment will support the planning for these facilities, ensuring young people receive structured intervention programs that focus on discipline, education, and skill development to keep them from reoffending.

Labor's failed policies have done nothing to stop youth crime or rehabilitate young offenders.

The WA Liberal Party's approach will support at-risk youth before they become offenders, provide structured intervention for those who have already entered the system, and ensure that Western Australia's communities are safer for all.

Only the WA Liberal Party will take real action to break the cycle of youth crime and provide better futures for young Western Australians.

BAIL AND PAROLE REFORM

Western Australian families deserve a justice system that puts their safety first and ensures violent offenders face real consequences for their crimes.

Under the Cook Labor Government, the bail and parole system has failed, allowing dangerous criminals back into the community where they have reoffended time and time again.

Cases like that of Danny Hodgson, who suffered a brutal, unprovoked attack at the hands of a teenage offender already facing 23 charges, expose the tragic consequences of weak laws that prioritise offenders over victims.

Even after being sentenced, Hodgson’s attacker was granted parole, reoffended, and was later released on bail for other offenses.

This is completely unacceptable.

A Mettam Liberal Government will introduce the toughest bail and parole laws in WA’s history, ensuring that violent repeat offenders serve their full sentences without the option of early release.

Parole should be a privilege, not a loophole for criminals who repeatedly break the law.

Under our reforms, violent offenders who commit further crimes while out on bail will not be granted bail again, and breaching bail conditions will result in immediate revocation.

Judges will still oversee bail decisions, but their discretion will be significantly limited when it comes to repeat violent offenders who continue to pose a risk to the community.

We will also tighten parole laws to ensure that dangerous criminals serve their full sentences, eliminating early release for those convicted of serious violent offenses.

Offenders should not be walking free while their victims live in fear.

Our reforms will work alongside GPS tracking and supervision policies, providing greater monitoring of offenders to prevent them from slipping through the cracks.

Families should never have to worry that the person who broke into their home, assaulted their loved one, or terrorised their community is walking free due to Labor’s weak justice system.

A WA Liberal Government will put victims first, restore confidence in the justice system, and ensure that serious criminals stay behind bars where they belong.

Unlike Labor, we will take real action to protect Western Australians.

ADDRESSING FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Western Australian families deserve to feel safe in their homes, yet under the Cook Labor Government, family and domestic violence (FDV) has surged by 76 percent, making WA the most dangerous state in Australia for women.

Too many families are living in fear, with victims trapped in abusive relationships due to a lack of legal protections, police training, and access to crisis accommodation.

Despite years of promises, Labor has failed to criminalise coercive control, leaving victims vulnerable to ongoing manipulation, intimidation, and abuse.

The WA Liberal Party will take immediate action to ensure families experiencing domestic violence receive the protection, justice, and support they deserve.

A Mettam Liberal Government will introduce coercive control legislation as a priority, bringing WA in line with other jurisdictions that recognise the devastating impact of non-physical abuse.

These laws will empower police and the courts to intervene earlier, preventing escalating violence before it turns deadly.

A Mettam Liberal Government will take strong action to stop repeat abusers by doubling the number of GPS tracking bracelets available to monitor offenders who deliberately breach a violence restraining order (VRO).

The \$100 million commitment will ensure an additional 300 GPS tracking devices are deployed, significantly enhancing victim safety, strengthening legal enforcement, and reducing the risk of further violence.

GPS tracking acts as a powerful deterrent, forcing repeat offenders to rethink their actions and establishing greater accountability in the justice system.

We will also establish a specialised Family Violence Unit within the Department of Justice, providing a centralised hub of expertise, resources, and coordinated services.

This unit will be staffed by a multidisciplinary team of professionals, including domestic violence officers, social workers, legal experts, and psychologists, all receiving extensive and ongoing training in handling domestic violence cases.

By integrating police response teams within the unit, FDV cases will be handled with expertise, sensitivity, and efficiency, ensuring victims are supported at every stage of the legal and recovery process.

To ensure victims are properly supported, we will invest \$1 million per year in mandatory FDV training for police officers, equipping them with the skills to identify, respond to, and investigate cases of domestic violence with compassion and effectiveness.

Unlike Labor, which has failed to provide proper police training, we will ensure every officer understands the complexities of FDV, giving victims the confidence that their reports will be taken seriously and acted upon.

For too many women and children, escaping violence is not an option simply because there is nowhere to go.

WA’s refuge system is overwhelmed, forcing victims to either return to their abuser, sleep rough, or enter unsafe temporary housing.

A WA Liberal Government will invest \$20 million to expand refuge capacity across the state, ensuring every family fleeing domestic violence has access to safe and secure accommodation.

This funding will prioritise high-need areas, particularly regional communities, where the lack of crisis housing has left victims with no escape from danger.

We will also introduce the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, ensuring that individuals have access to critical information that could protect them from harm.

The Right to Ask will allow people to apply for information about whether their partner or someone they are concerned about has a history of domestic violence or coercive control, enabling potential victims to make informed decisions about their safety.

The Right to Know will ensure that law enforcement and relevant agencies can proactively share this information when there is a significant risk to someone’s safety, preventing further harm before it occurs.

Family and domestic violence is a crisis that demands urgent action.

The WA Liberal Party will hold perpetrators accountable, protect victims, and provide real pathways out of violence.

Our approach is about prevention, intervention, and long-term support, ensuring families can rebuild their lives free from fear.

Unlike Labor, which has spent eight years talking and doing nothing, we will deliver real change.

Only the WA Liberal Party will keep Western Australian families safe.

ADDRESSING ELDER ABUSE

Western Australian families should have confidence that their elderly loved ones are protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Yet under the Cook Labor Government, elder abuse remains a growing crisis, with at least one in twenty older Western Australians experiencing some form of mistreatment.

Tragically, experts believe the real figure is much higher.

Many elderly individuals face financial exploitation, emotional abuse, and neglect, often at the hands of those entrusted to care for them.

Despite promising to reform laws surrounding enduring powers of attorney and guardianship more than eight years ago, Labor has failed to act, leaving vulnerable seniors exposed to abuse and coercion.

A Mettam Liberal Government will take immediate action to protect elderly Western Australians by implementing long-overdue reforms to the Guardianship and Administration Act.

We will strengthen safeguards around enduring powers of attorney and guardianship, ensuring these legal instruments cannot be misused to strip seniors of their assets, independence, or decision-making rights.

Greater transparency and oversight will be introduced to prevent exploitation, ensuring that families can trust that their loved ones are protected from financial and personal harm.

Elder abuse is a human rights issue that must no longer be ignored.

Every Western Australian deserves to grow old with dignity, security, and autonomy.

Unlike Labor, which has repeatedly delayed critical reforms, a WA Liberal Government will prioritise the safety and wellbeing of our elderly, ensuring families have the confidence that their loved ones are respected, protected, and supported.

Only the WA Liberal Party will deliver it.

NAME AND SHAME FUGITIVES & JUDICIAL REFORM

Western Australian families deserve a justice system that is transparent, accountable, and focused on protecting the community, not one that shields criminals and allows dangerous fugitives to roam free.

Under the Cook Labor Government, violent offenders have escaped justice, fugitives have remained at large for decades, and the judicial system has operated without proper oversight.

In 2023, it was revealed that 63 fugitives were on the run, including violent sex offenders and armed robbers, some of whom had evaded capture for over 30 years.

While the number has since been reduced, 17 fugitives remain unidentified, leaving families in the dark about the threats hiding in their own communities.

This is unacceptable.

A Mettam Liberal Government will name and shame every fugitive with an active return-to-prison warrant, ensuring Western Australians know who is on the run and can take the necessary precautions to protect themselves and their families.

Unlike Labor, which has kept the identities of dangerous criminals hidden from the public, we will prioritise community safety over secrecy.

Our failing parole system has also allowed too many offenders to walk free, only to reoffend.

Parole should be a privilege, not an escape route.

A WA Liberal Government will review the Sentence Administration Act and overhaul the Prisoners Review Board, ensuring that early release decisions are subject to greater scrutiny and that violent offenders remain behind bars where they belong.

The public has a right to know how these decisions are made, and we will ensure greater transparency and accountability in sentencing and parole processes.

Western Australians also deserve a judicial system that is fair, effective, and accountable.

Currently, no complaints against judicial officers are independently investigated, meaning there is no process for reviewing concerns about judicial conduct, bias, or sentencing inconsistencies.

Despite promising reforms for over a decade, WA Labor has failed to establish an independent judicial commission, allowing public confidence in the system to erode further.

A Mettam Liberal Government will establish an independent judicial commission, modelled on the system in NSW, to investigate complaints, ensure consistency in sentencing, and restore faith in the rule of law.

This commission will give victims of crime and the broader public a voice in holding the judiciary to the highest standards of fairness and integrity.

Under Labor, criminals have been prioritised over victims, and justice has become increasingly detached from community expectations.

A WA Liberal Government will restore public confidence, strengthen the parole and sentencing system, and hold both criminals and judicial officers accountable.

Unlike Labor, we will take real action to protect families, uphold the rule of law, and deliver the justice system Western Australians deserve.





IMPROVING CHILD PROTECTION OUTCOMES

Western Australian families deserve a government that prioritises the safety and wellbeing of their children.

Under the Cook Labor Government, the collapse of child protection services has left too many vulnerable children without the support they need, and families struggling to access critical early intervention programs.

Instead of ensuring children grow up in safe, nurturing environments, Labor has placed child protection in a bureaucratic mega-department, where it competes for funding and attention with ten other portfolios.

The result has been devastating, caseworkers are overloaded, more than 1,000 children lack an allocated caseworker, and families in crisis are left without the early support that could prevent children from entering state care.

A Mettam Liberal Government will restore the Department of Child Protection as a stand-alone agency, ensuring that protecting children is no longer treated as an afterthought.

By investing \$40 million over four years, we will provide critical early intervention programs that support struggling families before they reach crisis point, helping to keep families together where safe and possible.

This funding will increase access to mental health services, parenting support, and crisis assistance, addressing the root causes of family breakdown rather than waiting until it's too late.

Children in state care deserve real protection and independent oversight.

Currently, the Child Advocate is part of the very department that children may need to raise concerns about a clear failure of accountability.

We will remove the Child Advocate from the Department of Communities and place it under the independent authority of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, ensuring that children in care have a truly independent voice to advocate for their needs and wellbeing.

Families should never have to fight against a failing system to ensure their children are safe and supported.

By restoring child protection as a priority, strengthening early intervention, and ensuring accountability in care, a WA Liberal Government will put children first and ensure every Western Australian child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, secure, and loving home.

ADDRESSING ANTISEMITISM

Western Australian families should feel safe in their communities, free from fear, discrimination, and targeted attacks based on their ethnicity or religion.

Yet under the Cook Labor Government, antisemitic incidents have surged by 364 percent, reaching an unprecedented 116 incidents in 2024 alone.

This disturbing rise in hatred and intimidation has left many in WA's Jewish community feeling vulnerable and unprotected, with little action taken by the government to address the growing threats.

While recent legislative changes have criminalised the display and possession of Nazi memorabilia and symbols, these measures do not go far enough in ensuring the safety of Jewish families, places of worship, and cultural institutions.

A Mettam Liberal Government will take immediate action to combat antisemitism and protect Jewish Western Australians.

We will commit \$250,000 to fund enhanced security measures, including additional CCTV surveillance, temporary barriers, and security personnel where needed.

Protests should never escalate into threats or violence, and we will seek legal advice from the Law Reform Commission on strengthening protections for life and property when demonstrations turn aggressive.

Beyond physical security, education is key to preventing the further spread of antisemitism.

We will prioritise the teaching of the Holocaust in WA schools, ensuring that future generations understand the consequences of unchecked hatred and discrimination.

Awareness and education are essential in building a culture of respect and tolerance, preventing the rise of extremist rhetoric that leads to violence.

To provide ongoing support, we will work with WA Police to establish a Jewish community liaison officer, ensuring that concerns about antisemitism are heard and addressed at the highest levels.

This initiative will create a direct line of communication between the Jewish community and law enforcement, fostering a proactive approach to preventing hate crimes and responding swiftly when they occur.

The rise in antisemitism is not just an issue for the Jewish community, it is a threat to the values of fairness, inclusion, and safety that all Western Australians deserve.

A WA Liberal Government will ensure that Jewish families, like all families in WA, can live without fear of harassment or violence.

Unlike Labor, which has failed to act decisively, only the WA Liberal Party will take real action to protect religious and ethnic freedoms, ensuring the safety of the Jewish community now and into the future.



Our Commitment

If elected, a Mettam Liberal Government will:

- Strengthen law and order by increasing police resources, enforcing tougher penalties, and improving protections for victims of crime.
- Support our police force by delivering an additional 500 police officers, investing \$243 million in overtime funding, and expanding mental health and wellbeing services for officers.
- Address youth crime.
- Protect workers from violence and intimidation by introducing Workplace Protection Orders.
- Reform bail and parole laws to ensure violent repeat offenders serve their full sentences without early release.
- Combat family and domestic violence (FDV) by criminalising coercive control.
- Implement a Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme.
- Protect vulnerable children by restoring the Department of Child Protection as a stand-alone agency.
- Safeguard elderly Western Australians by strengthening legal protections against elder abuse.
- Increase accountability in the justice system by naming and shaming fugitives, reforming parole laws, and establishing an independent Judicial Commission to investigate complaints against judicial officers.
- Combat antisemitism and religious discrimination.



Libby Mettam MLA

Leader of the WA Liberal Party