The Youth Justice Act clearly allows a magistrate or judge to deny a defendant bail, and keep them in custody, if the court believes that young person is a danger to the community, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

“These laws were strengthened last year and make it clear that offenders who pose a risk to community safety must be kept in custody.

“There has been a failure of the youth justice system, and we all want answers about the events and issues leading up to the Alexandra Hills tragedy where Kate and Matt lost their lives, and why courts made the decisions they did.

“I can assure my constituents in Keppel that we are working closely with Queensland Police to unearth the reason for those events and to ensure that may never happen again.

“There is no magic wand to fix this.

“Our government continues to review the youth justice system ... conceding it was only a small group of young offenders that are repeatedly responsible for breaking the law.”