



Speech by

Mr BRUCE LAMING

MEMBER FOR MOOLOOLAH

Hansard 19 November 1998

SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAM

Mr LAMING (Mooloolah—LP) (8.43 p.m.): Early last month, I wrote to the Minister for Police and Corrective Services on behalf of the Sunshine Coast community. The substance of my letter was to express directly to him the concerns passed on to me regarding the proposed withdrawal of funding from community policing partnerships in Queensland. These partnerships were set up by the previous Minister, the Honourable Russell Cooper, in an endeavour to encourage a whole-of-Government, all levels of Government and community response to law and order issues throughout the State.

It is possible that some CPPs have not performed as intended, but that is not case on the Sunshine Coast. It has its share of law and order problems, and during the period that I have been the member for Mooloolah I have made numerous deputations and sent a lot of correspondence to various Ministers on that issue. Our CPP has been successful and it has addressed a number of issues.

In conjunction with the Youth and Community Combined Action group and the university, the CPP has established a Sunshine Coast youth crime forum and a prevention network. The CPP has conducted a crime prevention week home security expo. It has also encouraged community participation in the supervision of young people completing community service orders. Those are just examples and I table a more comprehensive list of the work of the Sunshine Coast CPP. Our community policing partnership has the strong support of the three Sunshine Coast councils, which have provided bridging finance to keep the CPP going temporarily.

There is an emerging interest in surveillance cameras to assist in our ongoing law and order challenge on the coast—an initiative to which I give my support. The CPP is the appropriate body to coordinate this project. Although, following my representations, I have been unofficially advised of a six-month extension, I request the Minister to reconsider this funding decision. I ask him to provide ongoing funding for at least 12 months so that the CPP can show its value and commitment in this new endeavour, which cannot be concluded in a six-month period.

Time expired.
