



Speech by
**Mr DENVER
BEANLAND**

MEMBER FOR INDOOROOPIILLY

Hansard 19 August 1999

DANGEROUS DOGS

Mr BEANLAND (Indooroopilly—LP) (7.20 p.m.): The issue of declaring dogs dangerous in this city is one that rests with the Brisbane City Council. In Bardon late last year, in the latter part of 1998, the council had no hesitation in declaring an eight-year-old small silky terrier—an Australian terrier cross called Mutley—a dangerous dog after it allegedly attacked a Brisbane City Council worker. Council Community Policy Committee Chair, Councillor David Hinchliffe, said that council took a tough approach to dog control.

I ask members to compare this with the approach taken in St Lucia when a local resident was attacked by a large dog that resided at the home of Brisbane's Labor Lord Mayor. In this case, no action has been taken by the city council despite repeated attempts by the St Lucia resident to have the council declare the dog dangerous. The resident became so concerned about the council's attitude that the issue was taken up with the Criminal Justice Commission for investigation. To my constituent's amazement, the CJC said that it could take no action, as the council has the discretion to decide whether or not a dog is dangerous.

So the small silky terrier has been declared a dangerous dog, while the large dog that resides at the Labor Lord Mayor's home continues to receive privileged treatment, thanks to the so-called discretionary powers of this Labor council that have been used to benefit this Labor Lord Mayor. So much for the council's tough approach to dog control! What we have are two sets of laws.

Time expired.
