



Speech by

**JOHN MICKEL, <sup>MLA</sup>**  
**STATE MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

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Hansard 28 November 2001

**POLICE SERVICES**

**Mr MICKEL** (Logan—ALP) (10.20 a.m.): The communities of Crestmead and Marsden in both my electorate and the electorate of Woodridge have taken proactive and community-spirited approaches to making their areas safer. The task will be greatly helped if the Minister for Police and the police commissioner accede to the request of both communities for a regular police beat to be established to service these suburbs. Both suburbs need extra services and suffer from time to time from what might charitably be termed 'nuisance behaviour', especially by hoons, and at other times from unacceptable levels of crime.

The communities have established their own Neighbourhood Watch groups who meet regularly and cooperate with hardworking local police. I have the highest regard for the men and women of the local police service. They really care about the community they serve. The community is working with them, and I believe that some of the problems have been reduced but not eliminated. The police have conducted carefully targeted operations over the years aimed at recovery of stolen property and action with regard to unpaid fines and illegal street racing.

However, the community is seeking longer-term solutions, and so are we as their representatives. The member for Woodridge and I have begun discussions with the Police Minister and the police commissioner on the need for funding and manpower resourcing to enable the police beat to serve both Crestmead and Marsden. This is a project that has strong community support from residents and local police officers. We ask the Police Minister and the police commissioner to respond positively to this local request within the limits I know exist on both funding and actual personnel. A police beat in Crestmead and Marsden will have the enthusiastic backing of every law-abiding member of our community, and I encourage the Police Minister to listen to our pleas today and see if he can act on the concerns of the local residents.

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