




Speech By
Mark Furner

MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2016

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Gallipoli Barracks, Access

 **Mr FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (2.50 pm): All persuasions of government need to be mindful when making decisions of any unintended consequences of such decisions. One such decision made recently by a federal Liberal minister not from Queensland has led to significant traffic congestion each morning on Samford Road. The minister, and it appears the federal member for Ryan, have supported this move in restricting pass holders through the western entry gate, called the Wanimmo Street gate. I am informed only ADF members and family who reside in Gaythorne, Mitchelton and Enoggera may use this entrance now, essentially pushing all previous pass holders onto Samford Road.

Recent doorknocking in Upper Kedron and Ferny Grove and also copious complaints to my office validates the fact that this change has resulted in what was once a 15- to 20-minute journey for defence personnel and their families being now anything up to 40 minutes. That is just from home to Gallipoli Barracks, with no comment in respect to the additional inconvenience to other commuters travelling beyond that particular distance.

In a *North-West News* article on Wednesday, 15 June 2016, the member for Ryan, Jane Prentice, says complaints have been received for more than four years about the inappropriate driver behaviour by users of the Wanimmo Street gate. In addition, I have sighted an email from the member to a constituent in the seat of Everton stating—

As you may be aware, the Gallipoli Barracks and local Members of Parliament at all levels of government have been receiving complaints for four more than four years about inappropriate driver behaviour by users of the Wanimmo Street gate.

On checking this through the appropriate channels I found that the Ferny Grove police in particular have sighted only one incident in 2011—only one in 2011. I have acted on this by the first time ever lodging an e-petition. I do not take petitions lightly but I felt on this occasion it was warranted. To date there have been 1,386 petitioners sign that e-petition online. With an increase of around 2,000 extra ADF personnel on the Gallipoli Barracks one should be looking at greater, not lesser, access and ways to mitigate the circumstances of not only entry to the base but also the surrounding areas and the community. This decision is a poor decision based on little or no evidence and made by people who do not use Samford Road to commute of a morning. I will not rest until this matter is fixed.