



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 30 August 2016

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Criminal Motorcycle Gangs**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (10.37 am): As the Premier and her cabinet disagree and dither over how to keep Queenslanders safe, the crime rates across this state continue to escalate. There is no greater example of this than on the Gold Coast. Over the last 12 months on the Gold Coast assaults have increased by 45 per cent, robberies have increased by 15 per cent and drug offences have increased by around 12 per cent. It is no coincidence that this crime rate has escalated after this government gutted Taskforce Maxima. Despite that, they still do some fantastic work.

Today criminal motorcycle gangs will be welcoming the announcement by the Premier about the weakening of these laws. They have been sniffing around over the last 18 months knowing that this government is weak on crime and their activity has increased. There are reports that the Finks bikie gang is looking at re-establishing its headquarters at Molendinar. We have seen those allegedly deliberately lit fires at Nobby Beach businesses; mum-and-dad businesses are being burnt down and allegedly linked to extortion by the Hells Angels.

There were gunshots fired at the Aria holiday apartments at Broadbeach, allegedly by a Comanchero bikie, and last week there was a shocking incident when a bus driver in Cavill Avenue, in the middle of Surfers Paradise, went to drive into a bay allocated for him and there was a car there. For the safety of his passengers he got out to ask those people to move on, but his mistake was that he came in contact with two Comanchero bikies. What did they do? They punched him in the face straightaway. He rang for the police on a mobile phone and then went back into the bus. They allegedly pulled him out of the bus and punched him while he was on the ground—

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** I rise to a point of order. I raise concerns that the member for Everton may be traversing the principles of sub judice and I ask that you give him some guidance.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Everton, can you assure me that the comments you are making do not contravene the standing or sessional orders?

**Mr MANDER:** As far as I know, Mr Speaker, yes.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Have you taken advice to assure me that the comments you are making or have made do not transgress the standing or sessional orders?

**Mr MANDER:** I am simply repeating what has been reported in the newspapers, which I can table now.

**Mr Minnikin** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Chatsworth, you are warned under standing order 253A. Member for Everton, can you assure me there are no charges pending in relation to the matters you are referring to?

**Mr MANDER:** I can assure you that I am simply reporting what has been published in the *Gold Coast Bulletin*.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I know what you have said, but I am asking whether you can assure me that the matters you are referring to do not relate to matters that have currently been charged or are before the courts.

**Mr MANDER:** I cannot assure you that charges have not been laid.

**Mr SPEAKER:** I would urge you to resume your seat, member for Everton. I now call the Treasurer for your contribution.

**Mr SEENEY:** I rise to a point of order. The member for Everton may well have had other issues that he would like to address in the continuation of his speech. I accept the ruling that you have made with regard to that particular issue, but surely the member for Everton should be given a chance to use his remaining time to address further issues.

**Mr SPEAKER:** If the member for Everton has other matters that do not touch on the matters that he has been speaking about, I will allow him the remaining 49 seconds.

**Mr MANDER:** Three years ago the bikies on the Gold Coast said, 'We run this town'—

**Mr SPEAKER:** We do not need a prop, member for Everton.

**Mr HINCHLIFFE:** I rise to a point of order. The member for Everton continues to disregard the standing orders and the ruling that you have made and I ask that you draw him to order.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Everton, you have 38 seconds.

**Mr MANDER:** As I said, three years ago the bikies claimed that they ran the Gold Coast. They will welcome the introduction of these new laws which the Premier announced this morning because these are the proud 'one per centers', the people who say they are above the law. They will welcome this announcement by the Premier because they have absolutely no respect for the law whatsoever. Their activity has increased dramatically on the Gold Coast because they knew this would happen. They knew this government would go weak on these laws. Under these new laws proposed by the Premier the bikies are back.