




Speech By
Hon. Leanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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ADJOURNMENT

Forest Lake, Community Safety Forum

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business) (2.29 am): Looking out for your neighbour and taking care of each other remains a fundamental part of what makes my electorate of Algester such a great place to live and raise my sons and, of course, a great place to have the honour of representing here in this House. The Forest Lake community in the north-west of the Algester electorate is a very active community that is passionate about their beautiful part of the world and all the social connections and great lifestyle they have built over the decades. There are numerous social and community groups that all add to the sense of community connectedness.

Towards the end of last year some of our community members raised concerns about a perceived spike in crime in the local area, sharing information and their views via social media. In response and after some consultation I invited the federal member for Oxley, Milton Dick, and Brisbane City Council's councillor for the Forest Lake ward, Charles Strunk, along with several units from the QPS to an event to help facilitate a community safety forum.

Over 100 residents attended the event on a Monday night earlier this month. Police statistics were shared and participants had the chance to ask questions, voice concerns and contribute to strategies to help keep our community safe. I offer my sincere thanks to Inspector Joe Jaramazovic, who I discovered went to the same school as I did in Woodridge; Detective Inspector Geoff Sheldon and Sergeant Darnielle Fioriti from the Centenary patrol and crime groups; Senior Sergeant Craig Mackenzie, officer in charge from the Inala Police Station; and Senior Constable Noel Pederson, officer in charge from the Forest Lake Police Beat, who gave up their evening to share their knowledge and advice.

I also thank a number of community groups that generously offered their support on the night and that make a huge impact on our lives every day—Crime Stoppers, Neighbourhood Watch groups from around the local area, Forest Lake Crime and Community Watch, Volunteers in Policing and the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. I also acknowledge the generosity of the Salvation Army, which kindly hosted the event.

The forum was a great demonstration of what can happen when community unites. It was a robust, respectful and action focused conversation, with nearly a dozen residents agreeing to represent the community on a community safety working group, which will meet for the first time early next month. My electorate of Algester and the community of Forest Lake is a great place to live and work and it is a place where looking out for your neighbour and taking care of each other is very much the norm.