



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 28 February 2017

**MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Justice System, Parole Review**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (12.45 pm): I rise to speak about the response to the parole review handed down during the last sittings of parliament. This review was needed. It was brought about by the tragic murder of Beth Kippin in Townsville. It is alleged that somebody who had been released on parole murdered a complete and utter stranger within six or seven hours of release. It was a case that shocked the whole state and the country and it led to this review, which we welcomed.

We have been concerned, and still are concerned, about the time taken to undertake this review and to table the report. There are a number of recommendations which lead us—

**Mrs D'ATH:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. There is a bill before the House arising from the parole review. I am concerned that the member may be anticipating the debate.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Crawford): Order! I was listening. Member for Everton, you are well aware that there is a bill before the House.

**Mr MANDER:** Yes, I am, Mr Deputy Speaker.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I caution you to make sure you keep your comments well away from that. Continue.

**Mr MANDER:** I will. The report was brought down on 30 November, but we had to wait at least 10 weeks to see the government's response to it. When the response was brought down it became quite apparent why there was a wait. A number of the signature policies—

**Mr POWER:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The member is clearly anticipating the debate we will shortly have in this House. I think he is in breach of the rules of anticipation in talking about the government's response to the report.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Everton, I am happy while your comments refer to the review but not if they go anywhere towards anticipating debate.

**Mr MANDER:** Absolutely, Mr Deputy Speaker. I am very aware of that.

We had a delayed response to the report. We had to wait 10 weeks for it. We realised that it was because a number of the signature policies were policies the LNP had already announced. We announced the no-body no-parole policy at the end of December.

**Mr POWER:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. This is clearly what the member will continue to say in his speech when the legislation comes before the House. He is clearly anticipating the debate that is yet to come in this House.

**Mr MANDER:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I am speaking about the review. It is quite obvious what I am speaking about.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Everton, I am happy for you to talk about the review, not the government response nor the bill that is to come before the House. For the third time I will say: do not anticipate debate on this bill.

**Mr MANDER:** I am well aware of that and I am not anticipating the debate. I am talking about the review that was done and a number of the recommendations in the report. A number of those recommendations will lead to even more reviews.

**Mr Cramp:** That is perfect for Labor.

**Mr MANDER:** I take that interjection from the member for Gaven. This government is addicted to reviews. It has had over 150 reviews. A government that reviews is a government that does not act. In terms of this particular issue, it is very important we ensure public safety, to ensure people have confidence in the system.

This side of the House is concerned that this review is going to lead to more reviews and the words that we hear are 'explore options', 'evaluate', 'consider the purview'—these are the types of things that we are worried about hearing again—'consider the alternatives', 'evaluate', 'put an independent evaluation committee together'. These are the types of things that raise concerns in the community and that say everything about this government. This government is about reviewing and is not about action, but it should come as no surprise whatsoever that these are the types of things that are happening. We have already seen 150 reviews from this government so far.

**Mr Cramp** interjected.

**Mr MANDER:** I take that interjection from the member for Gaven. What we want to see here is action. We want to see the community protected. We want to make sure that the recommendations of the review are implemented as quickly as possible so members of the public can have confidence that they are going to be safe and that people are not going to be released into the community when they are not ready to be released into the community. We need to err on the side of caution.

**Mr POWER:** I rise to a point of order. When referring to the substance of the bill before the House, the member talking about whether prisoners will be released at the correct time while on parole means that he is clearly anticipating debate of legislation before the House.

**Mr MANDER:** Third time lucky!

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Crawford): Member for Everton, I am inclined to agree with the member for Logan. I think you have stepped too far. You have 43 seconds left and this is the fourth time that I have told you in this five minutes.

**Mr MANDER:** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. We are concerned that a review that has been presented to the government will simply lead to another review—not just one review but 13 reviews. Fifteen reviews or 20 reviews could happen. We believe that the recommendations need to be enacted quickly. We need to give assurance to the community that it will be safe and that anybody who is released from prison has been rehabilitated and that they have proven that they can be released back into the community.