




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 10 August 2017

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Criminal Motorcycle Gangs

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (10.22 am): As part of Labor's fly-in fly-out week to forget on the Gold Coast last week, we had an inconvenient truth emerge about the softened bikie laws under Anastacia Palaszczuk. In a *Gold Coast Bulletin* article entitled 'Patch me if you can', it was revealed that only 27 bikies have disassociated themselves from criminal motorcycle gangs in the eight months since these new weakened laws were brought in by the Labor government, compared to the tough LNP laws of the previous 2½ years, which saw 434 in the time frame covered by the LNP laws.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for—

Mr Stevens: Logan!

Mr SPEAKER: Yes, thank you. Member for Logan, you are warned under standing order 253A.

Mr Stevens: If he can do it, I can do it.

Mr SPEAKER: I do not know if you want to do it, member for Mermaid Beach. No. You have not been playing up this morning.

Mr Stevens: I was just helping you, Mr Speaker.

Mr SPEAKER: No. We will move on.

Mr MANDER: As I was saying, in the time frame covered by the LNP laws, 434 bikies disassociated themselves from criminal motorcycle gangs. These figures clearly show that the laws under the LNP were three times tougher on criminal motorcycle gangs and three times more effective.

I thank the Premier and the police minister for acknowledging the success of our laws in a number of parliamentary statements they have made in recent times. No matter which way they try to spin it, our laws were more effective and they got results. Last week there were questions being raised by the police on the beat about the ineffectiveness of the consorting laws. It was confirmed in estimates a fortnight ago that to be convicted or charged with a consorting offence you have to be in the company of two other people, the same two people, on more than two occasions, and those two people have to have been convicted of an indictable offence—that is, a prison sentence of over five years—and that is if that offence has not been expunged under the rehabilitation of offenders act. It is as clear as mud. No wonder they are so ineffective.

Last week the *Gold Coast Bulletin* talked about a conviction of a so-called former bikie who pulled a bus driver out of his bus, punched him in the jaw, dragged him down the stairs and then kicked him right in front of a bus load of people. Who was in the bus? It was a bus load of tourists coming straight from Coolangatta airport. Welcome to the Gold Coast! Welcome to where the Commonwealth Games are going to be!

It is more than obvious that the LNP is the only party that has a track record of cracking down on organised crime with actual results. The LNP will favour community safety every time over the civil liberties of criminal motorcycle gang members.