




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Everton Park Post Office

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (10.18 pm): I rise to outline an issue of grave concern in my electorate. A couple of months ago I was approached by a representative of Australia Post who advised me that the Everton Park post office was about to close down.

Mr Costigan: Not another one!

Mr MANDER: I take that interjection. Everton Park post office really is iconic for a suburban post office and has been around for nearly 100 years. To receive that news was quite a shock. Their excuse was that a redevelopment was happening at the shopping centre at which the post office was located. This is a redevelopment I welcome; it is a dated shopping centre that requires an update. It is a bit difficult to work out who is telling the truth. Australia Post has said that it has been forced out by the developers, but when I spoke to the developers I was told that there is a space available for Australia Post and that in fact they want Australia Post to stay. Without getting into the politics of the situation locally, since that time I have sought the opinion of my constituents and I have discovered that they are as dismayed about this closure as I am.

Everton Park is a major business district for our electorate and for our region. The post office is very busy. It is used by many elderly residents who now have to somehow make their way over to the Brookside Shopping Centre to do their postal business. We went out with a petition and had over 1,500 people sign it. We submitted that to the federal government. That was tabled last week. We are waiting to see what sort of response we get. I want to advise my electorate that I am also writing directly to Australia Post. I find this situation totally unacceptable. We are asking Australia Post to come back to that same shopping centre or, if not to that shopping centre, to one very close by. There is a new development across the road where there are vacant shops. Australia Post would do well to listen to the community, to really think about service. The member for Beaudesert was right, I did work for Australia Post for 10 years. That organisation has gone downhill since I have left.