




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

Record of Proceedings, 23 October 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Algester Electorate, Neighbourhood Watch

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts) (7.03 pm): Neighbourhood Watch groups in my electorate of Algester provide an important link between the police and members of the community. Neighbourhood Watch is all about creating a sense of community and promoting safety in our neighbourhoods. These are community organisations led by a dedicated group of volunteers who are committed to community safety and cohesiveness. I, along with many from across the Algester electorate, commend them for their hard work.

I am privileged to have a number of Neighbourhood Watch groups in the Algester electorate, all of which make significant contributions to the way our communities connect and thrive together. The positive impact of their work is clear, as community members of all ages have become engaged in our local area. Tonight we are joined here in Parliament House by some of these incredible local volunteers from our electorate including Colin Anderson and Carol Laughton from Lakewood Neighbourhood Watch group; Clinton Pattison, Jane Tan, Karen Petersen and Michael Hinge from the Hillcrest Neighbourhood Watch group; and Ramanathan Karuppiah, Nalini Gowda, Shiran Seneviratne, Mustaq Ahmed and Sajesh Vada from the Heathwood Neighbourhood Watch group. Their work is supported by our local police stations, and I am delighted to welcome here tonight Sergeant Shane Clark from the Browns Plains station; Senior Sergeant Ian Cameron from the Acacia Ridge station; and Senior Sergeant Stephen Gough from the Calamvale station, as well as a number of other police officers who have come to join in commending the work of our Neighbourhood Watch groups across the Algester electorate.

These groups undertake practical local work with very localised community activities aimed at connecting people across the neighbourhood. The Lakewood group produces an incredibly helpful newsletter for locals detailing important information that impacts the neighbourhood, and Heathwood Neighbourhood Watch has a strong social media presence which it uses to distribute important community information. The Hillcrest Neighbourhood Watch group hosts an annual family fun day that brings together family and friends from across the community and each year delivers the very popular Santa run at Christmas time. I have had the pleasure of sponsoring and joining the team from the Hillcrest Neighbourhood Watch and police from the Browns Plains Police Station as they hand out lolly bags and Christmas cheer to children young and old around the neighbourhood. Everybody really enjoys it.

At the heart of these groups are dedicated volunteers like those here tonight—people who generously give their time to support their neighbours and community. I commend all those who take time out of their busy lives to attend Neighbourhood Watch meetings, assist with information campaigns and plan events that build social cohesion. I am delighted to support Neighbourhood Watch groups as they build strong and cohesive communities in the electorate of Algester. I thank our local volunteers for their work. Tonight we will be joined by the Minister for Police as we share some food and some conversations about the great work that they do.

