




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 6 February 2020

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Burleigh Electorate, Crime

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (2.24 pm): The cancer of crime has spread all through Townsville, it has spread through Logan and Beenleigh and now apparently it is spreading through my electorate of Burleigh. Last Sunday evening we had a spate of instances where youth were out of control, breaking into houses, taking cars and smashing into other cars. There appears to be no consequences for these young thieves.

On Sunday night a group of youths broke into a house on Mallawa Drive. They stole the keys to an Audi, they jumped in it and six of them tore around Palm Beach and smashed into cars. In one instance in particular they ran into someone's car who was not insured. One can imagine the impact on that person to have to repair their car when it was smashed into when it was just sitting on the side of the road. It was run into by a driver who does not have a licence, does not have any insurance and has stolen the car. Worse still, the driver was 12 years old.

The problem with youth crime in Queensland appears to be that the youth of Queensland think there are no consequences to them breaking the law. That is what is happening under this Labor government. There is absolutely no consequence for a 12-year-old breaking the law. They know it. We know it. We see it on TV every night. The government knows it and it is doing nothing about it. Its youth justice program is a complete and utter failure.

This is compounded by the lack of police on the southern Gold Coast. Palm Beach Police Station has been undermanned by about five officers for the last two or three years. They are sending them north where the problems are, into Coomera and places like that. They are robbing them from places like Palm Beach. Last week I had an instance where somebody knocked on the door of my house. One of this person's neighbours was assaulted by 12 individuals. He was punched in the face. He dialled triple 0 and it took two hours for the police to come. Do not get me wrong, I am certainly not blaming our police officers, they are doing the best they possibly can, but they are underresourced, underequipped, the budget is down and there are fewer police than there ever were. What we need in this state is more police officers. That is what an LNP government will do in the future. We will provide more police officers to provide safety for the people of Palm Beach and the people of my electorate that they really need. The Labor Party will not.