




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 25 February 2021

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Kawana Electorate, Community Safety

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (2.57 pm): The greatest responsibility the government of Queensland has is to its people and keeping them safe from thugs in our communities. I want to raise these issues, particularly as they relate to the areas of Wurtulla and Little Mountain in my electorate. Wurtulla residents have been fighting for over a year now to have certain people evicted from their community so they can once again walk freely in their community, walk their dogs, walk with their grandkids without the fear of being bailed up or whatever the case may be. On 23 December I wrote to the housing minister and expressed concern that there were three particular public housing tenants in this one area who were causing lots of grief for our community, including criminal activity. One of the offenders had over 100 offences against his name. These people are terrorising our community.

The majority of public housing tenants are great, decent people doing the right thing in our community, but there is a small minority like the ones in Wurtulla who have been completely terrorising our community and committing crimes—stealing cars, stealing weapons, committing break and enters. It is happening every week in Wurtulla. I wrote to the minister expressing my concerns. I table a copy of that letter.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 23 December 2020, from the member for Kawana, Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, to the Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Leeanne Enoch, regarding Wurtulla neighbourhood issues [199](#).

That was on 23 December. The minister wrote back two months later. She said—

It is concerning that as the local Member of Parliament you would advocate for the eviction of your constituents ...

If the Minister for Housing is worried about me advocating for the majority of my community in Wurtulla and she is happy to take a few of these people then let her. Let her move. In fact, if she has a spare bedroom, let them move into her house, because these people who are committing these crimes in Wurtulla are not welcome. I am getting reports now that these crimes are happening at Little Mountain and Meridan Plains as well. We have to get tough on these young offenders. We are seeing the revolving door cycle with these young offenders coming through.

Without anticipating the debate on the legislation the minister introduced today, there is a glaring omission: criminals who are committing these offences in Wurtulla would not have committed them had there been a breach of bail offence because they would have been in jail. They are not and they are still in our community terrorising locals in Wurtulla.

Government members interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I table a copy of the letter from the minister.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 18 February 2021, from the Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Leeanne Enoch, to the member for Kawana, Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, regarding Wurtulla neighbourhood issues [200](#).

For the benefit of the members laughing, I also table a copy of the letter from my local Wurtulla Neighbourhood Watch.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 20 February 2021, from Area Coordinator, Kawana Water 1—Wurtulla West Neighbourhood Watch, Ms Natalie Williams, to the Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Leeanne Enoch, regarding Wurtulla neighbourhood issues [201](#).

In their letter they express the huge concern that they have at the crime in our community. It is time for the state government to put the victims before the criminals. Then we will have a society where everyone can have peace and joy and love living in their communities.

(Time expired)