




Speech By
Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 8 November 2022

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Pullen, Mr T

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (2.37 pm): Tomorrow, Zane Trey Lincoln will be released from prison. He is the last of six people convicted of the manslaughter of Tim Pullen and the only one still incarcerated. That finishes tomorrow. His release continues the anguish of Tim Pullen's Mackay family—mum and dad, Leanne and Gary, and his three sisters, Angela, Sherry and Lisa—which started over 10 years ago when Tim was cruelly killed. Whilst the killers were trialled and convicted, Tim's remains have never been found. These callous killers refused to provide details of Tim's final resting place. This refusal has only added to the pain and heartbreak of the Pullen family.

Members of this House will recall Gary and Leanne Pullen were at the centre of the no-body no-parole laws championed by the LNP opposition and eventually adopted by the government five years ago. The Pullens approached me as shadow minister at that time when they realised that the proposed laws did not include the conviction of manslaughter. Through their lobbying and that of the LNP opposition, the government made amendments that made sure the crime of manslaughter would be included in the no-body no-parole laws. This was a good result.

The House will also recall at the time the disgraceful behaviour of police and corrective services minister, Mark Ryan. In an effort to grandstand, he inferred to the Pullens that two of Tim's killers—Kister and Oakley—would be caught up in these laws, ensuring that they would serve their full sentences, but that was not true. A brave public servant, a whistleblower, advised the media that Minister Ryan knew before the new law was enacted that the parole decision had been made and that these two would be released early. That whistleblower was subsequently sacked by the government. In my 10 years in parliament I have not seen a more shameful act by a minister. To have the Pullens and other victims' families stand with him and the then attorney-general Yvette D'Ath, during a press conference, giving them false hope and using them as political pawns, was a disgrace.

Tomorrow night the Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group will hold their annual Night of Recognition event in Parliament House. This is a group that no-one wants to be eligible for membership. These brave people support those who have suffered the unimaginable tragedy and advocate for the rights of victims' families. They played a major role in the introduction of the no-body no-parole laws, and I want to thank them for their work.

It would be very easy to refer to Gary and Leanne Pullen as ordinary Queenslanders, but they are not. They are extraordinary people—resilient and courageous. They are fighters. Their son's killers have now been released but only two served their full sentence for manslaughter, and that is only because of the Pullens and other victims' families campaigning for new laws. Thankfully Lincoln, who will be released tomorrow, will be immediately deported to New Zealand as he is not an Australian citizen—a policy that we should be eternally grateful to Peter Dutton for, and heaven help any government that tries to reverse it!

The Pullen family have lived a nightmare for the last 10 years. They have been through the courts. They have watched from afar. They have lobbied for new laws and they have had success in that particular endeavour. The Pullen family have one final hope—that is, to know the whereabouts of their son and their brother's remains. I don't think that is too much to ask.