



Speech By  
**Hon. Leeanne Enoch**


**MEMBER FOR ALGESTER**

---

Record of Proceedings, 21 August 2024

## ADJOURNMENT

### Algester Electorate, Neighbourhood Watch

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts) (10.06 pm): The Algester electorate is home to some incredible not-for-profit organisations, from sporting groups like Calamvale Leopards, Brisbane Super Kings Cricket Club and Souths Acacia Ridge Junior Rugby League, and the many community service groups like Algester Parkinson Lions Club, Volunteer Connect and Archerfield Rotary through to the very active youth focused groups like Browns Plains Scouts and Algester Girl Guides, to name just a few. All these groups are supported by amazing local community volunteers who generously give so much of their time to help others and bring our community together.

Another great example of this community spirit is seen in the many active neighbourhood watch groups currently operating across the Algester electorate. From Hillcrest Neighbourhood Watch, Lakewood Neighbourhood Watch, Queensland's longest serving neighbourhood watch in Forestdale Neighbourhood Watch, Heathwood Neighbourhood Watch and the soon to be established Pallara Neighbourhood Watch.

As we all know neighbourhood watch groups do much more than peek through the curtains on the lookout for signs of suspicious activity. Importantly they build a sense of community connection by fostering relationships between neighbours and creating a space to celebrate and be proud of our community. I have had the great privilege of being involved in a number of local neighbourhood watch groups and understand the incredible value they add to the community.

There have been community fun days and Christmas lolly drops organised by Hillcrest Neighbourhood Watch in past years as well as Halloween and movies in the park by Heathwood Neighbourhood Watch. One need look no further than Forestdale Neighbourhood Watch for the incredible number of community events organised outside regular monthly meetings to raise awareness of community safety strategies and to bring about a fully connected neighbourhood such as the annual car show, Bark in the Park, various fundraising events in collaboration with local businesses and the very popular Food Truck Jam, which is happening this Sunday at Lincoln Green Park in Forestdale.

These community events make a huge difference in so many ways. That is why for a number of years I have been working with the residents of the growing community of Pallara to establish their own neighbourhood watch group. I am pleased to report that recently we have been able to make important progress. I would like to extend my thanks to Pallara residents—in particular, Abhishek Sidana and Sid Wijethunga, who have both been integral in the process of forming a brand new neighbourhood watch group for Pallara, along with our local Queensland Police Service representatives who have dedicated a great deal of time and energy to this good cause.

I would also like to thank members of the Forestdale Neighbourhood Watch executive who have provided valuable insight and support to Pallara residents, sharing what it takes to form an effective neighbourhood watch. The key to a successful neighbourhood watch group is of course community

participation along with a strong relationship with the Queensland Police Service which is why I encourage all residents of Pallara to reach out to Abhishek and Sid to help formalise the local Pallara Neighbourhood Watch.

To all neighbourhood watch groups in my electorate of Algester, thank you for your commitment and love of our community. For those who are interested in joining the Pallara Neighbourhood Watch, I encourage you to engage with your neighbours, attend meetings and stay informed.