



JUSTINE DAVIS MEMBER FOR JOHNSTON

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Media Release

Labor's Bill to increase the Police Commissioner's powers is rushed and risky

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Justine Davis MLA:

"Today's introduction of a Bill to increase police powers is a clear example of Labor continuing to make policy and laws on the run.

Territorians want to see action on crime. We all have the right to live in safety. But knee-jerk responses aimed purely at getting votes are not the solution.

Labor have rushed through this legislation before the election, with no expert advice or community consultation. Good law-making needs to fully consider how the laws will work in practice, how they interact with other laws and processes, and under what circumstances they can be applied. It needs to make sure all the 'i's are dotted and the 't's are crossed.

This is particularly important for laws that could impact our rights and freedoms. Rushing these laws through without proper process to boost Labor's 'tough on crime' image before the election is poor government. It's risky government. And it's a cynical attempt to win votes. Labor have shown they are happy to ignore integrity, good process and the fundamental principles that underpin our democracy, if it will help their party politically.

Territorians deserve better. We should have a government that makes well-considered laws that will work.

This is yet another example of doing government badly, and this is why we need community voices and independents in Parliament – to hold the Government to account and provide the checks and balances that ensure the decisions being made are for us (the community), not them (politicians)."

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