

GOSNELLS DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

Statement by Member for Gosnells

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (**Gosnells**) [12.53 pm]: I rise to acknowledge the work of the Gosnells District Neighbourhood Watch Association, and especially salute the work of the chair, Terry Brown; deputy chair, Brian Scully; and treasurer, Pauline Prosser.

While crime statistics may give a varying picture of the extent of crime in our community, there is no doubt that crime is an ongoing concern for many. When constituents approach me about suffering a burglary or some other offence, it is hard to assuage the disappointment and anger that they feel. However, encouraging people to join our local Neighbourhood Watch Association is a constructive suggestion that enables people to learn of crime prevention measures and network with others, including police and other crime prevention professionals.

The latest scourge in our suburbs is clandestine drug laboratories. As in a number of other suburbs, they are appearing in Gosnells with an alarming frequency. Clearly, a strategic approach for their early detection and elimination is needed. At the recent annual general meeting of the Gosnells District Neighbourhood Watch Association an officer from the organised crime squad gave an excellent presentation on the nature of clan labs. Having knowledge about a problem is an excellent step towards solving it. The presentation highlighted the equipment that is used in clan labs—those mundane items that can be easily obtained and adapted to make dangerous drugs.

I also acknowledge the contributions of others to the Gosnells District Neighbourhood Watch, including the delegates to the regional committee, Frank Keays, John Habgood and Neville Raxworthy. Others to acknowledge include Doreen Southam, Jacqui Thomas, Fay Ward, Ruth Butterfield and Danita Plozza who are all participants in Neighbourhood Watch. We all sincerely hope that adequate police resources will be given to make our suburbs safer.