

## **MEDIA RELEASE**



### **Hon. Charles Smith MLC**

One Nation WA Member for the East Metropolitan Region  
Western Australian Legislative Council

### **Smith furious at Labor's crime denial**

10 March 2019

One Nation MP Charles Smith has launched a scathing attack at Labor MPs Matthew Swinbourne and the Minister for Police Michelle Roberts, accusing them of fostering a culture of denial following a recent spate of crime in Perth's south eastern suburbs.

A recent attack on a man in Seville Grove has prompted fresh concerns from the public who say they are living in fear in their own neighbourhoods.

Yet the war of words continues between Mr Smith, Mr Swinbourne and Ms Roberts, who accuse Mr Smith of "chasing cheap publicity", "fearmongering" and "causing mischief" for political gain.

"Residents contact me daily and tell me how terrified they are as they watch crime play out in their neighbourhoods. They are stumped as to why Labor's response is to continually reduce police numbers when their services are much needed," said Mr Smith.

With WA crime statistics indicating a significant increase in offences over the past decade, Mr Smith questions why Ms Roberts and Mr Swinbourne stubbornly refuse to acknowledge the facts.

"The unwillingness of the McGowan Government to accept facts is extraordinary. Why are the Labor party denying there is a huge crime and anti-social problem in the south east suburbs when the statistics show otherwise?

"While Ms Roberts insists anti-crime strategies have been put in the place, the statistics show that these strategies have not been effective," said Mr Smith.

Mrs Roberts chose to backtrack on her promise to add an extra 100 police to the force in response to surging crime, which she admitted in Parliament recently.

Mr Smith says his pleas for extra police have been repeatedly ignored by the WA Labor Government who have instead, slashed WA Police funding.

"The Minister for Police needs to ask herself who is she defending when she embraces this dangerous culture of denial?

"The McGowan Labor Government are not a government for the people; they are for themselves and the people are sick of it."

ENDS

Media Contact: (08) 9250 7901