



MEDIA STATEMENT

RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MEMBER FOR WEST SWAN



Thursday 11 August 2011

POLICE MINISTER DISMISSES CONCERNS ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Barnett Government has again dismissed the concerns of Ballajura residents in respect to community safety.

Following continuing calls from Ballajura residents for a better police presence in Ballajura Ms Saffioti took the issue up directly with the Minister for Police Rob Johnson in a grievance in State Parliament.

“During the parliament debate I outlined the concerns from Ballajura residents about community safety. I also outlined the increase levels in crime since the closure of the Ballajura police station,” Ms Saffioti said.

“The Police Minister has again failed to recognise the real concerns of the Ballajura residents, and is refusing to improve the police presence in Ballajura.

“He is completely out of touch when it comes to community safety in the suburbs.

“The Minister has had his head in the sand for nearly three years and he refuses to accept any responsibility or take any action.

“Again and again I am raising the community safety concerns with the Minister and he refuses to acknowledge it’s a real issue.”

Ms Saffioti said the Ballajura community still felt betrayed by the Barnett Government’s decision to close down the Ballajura police station.

“Ballajura deserves better and it’s time for the Barnett Government to recognise that it made a big mistake in closing the Ballajura police station and address the inadequate police presence in Ballajura.

Ms Saffioti said she would continue the fight and campaign for a better police presence in Ballajura.

“I already have over 1000 signatures to the petition at my office and I hope we can get as many as possible by the end of September,” she said.

The Ballajura Community Group will be holding a public forum at South Ballajura Community Hall on September 21 starting at 7pm, as part of the campaign to try and secure a better police presence for Ballajura.

“We will not give up until Ballajura receives the police presence it deserves,” Ms Saffioti said.

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