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Hooning Not Acceptable In Any Suburb

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton said recent media reports that Gosnells and Canning Vale are two of the worst suburbs in the metropolitan area for hooning were cause for concern.

"Over a nine month period to March this year, 105 vehicles were impounded in Gosnells and 98 in Canning Vale. That clearly shows that hooning in these areas is a major problem for the local communities," said Dr Nahan.

"These alarming results are despite Western Australia having the toughest anti-hoon legislation in Australia."

Dr Nahan said the police rely on community reports about hooning activity to target local areas of concern.

"I encourage members of the community to report instances of hooning to the police. Calls are confidential and the police need a description of the driver, the type of vehicle, its colour and its registration number, and the time and day of the incident," said Dr Nahan.

"Even partial details about an event or the vehicle or driver can lead to an arrest. However, it is important not to put yourself at risk while getting this information."

Dr Nahan said he has also raised recent community concerns about hooning in Marjorie Avenue, Riverton with the City of Canning and has asked the local police to target that area.

"Hooning on any road is not acceptable. It is a dangerous practice that puts the local community's safety at risk. The local police have agreed to target Marjorie Avenue and I am sure they will catch several people exceeding the speed limit on that road," said Dr Nahan.

Dr Nahan said tougher laws came into being on 1 January this year increasing the period of impoundment from seven days to 28 days for a first offence and from 28 days to three months for a second offence.

"For a third offence, the vehicle is confiscated. Vehicles in good condition are sold and the proceeds go to road safety projects. Vehicles of little value are crushed," said Dr Nahan.

"In addition, reckless driving is now considered a hoon offence and police no longer have to establish a circumstance of aggravation, such as racing, excessive noise or burnouts to invoke the new penalties."

"Continuing public awareness about anti-social hooning can only help to remove these bad drivers from our roads and to make our suburbs safer."

To report hoons or dangerous and reckless driving behaviour, call police on 131 444.

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