

John Castrilli MLA



Representing the people of Bunbury

Strong stance on offenders

Offenders who assault and cause bodily harm to police, ambulance officers, transit guards, court security officers or prison officers will now face mandatory minimum jail terms.

Mandatory sentencing was a key commitment of this Government in the lead-up to the 2008 election.

The new laws came into effect last week and are part of a “culture shift” in the way police officers are treated in WA.

It is vital to ensure that the people we rely on to protect us are protected themselves while doing their jobs.

We have all seen images of the sickening injuries that some of our police and emergency services officers have received while trying to help others.

If an officer has to go into a dangerous situation in the course of their duty, they deserve to know that our State laws support them and that there will be serious consequences if someone assaults them.

The laws will apply to all adult offenders and all juvenile offenders aged 16 or above.

Community launch for Choose Respect

Assaults on public officers are sadly just one of the symptoms of a society which has lost touch with the old-fashioned values of respect and consideration for others.

While laws such as mandatory sentencing are needed to “treat the symptoms”, as a community we also need to work together to try to prevent such shocking attacks from happening in the first place.

The Choose Respect initiative, which started in schools and has spread to the wider community, is continuing to work towards fostering a culture of respect for ourselves, other people and our surroundings.

Lots of groundwork has been laid over the past 18 months by the Bunbury Choose Respect Management Team, working on strategies to empower people to become part of a culture of change.

In an exciting development, the Bunbury Choose Respect Management Team is now able to take the next step in spreading the positive message.

An official community launch will be held on October 10 from 10am to 4pm at Paisley Square, where the team will be on hand to provide information and people can also add their handprint to a banner to show their support for Choose Respect.

Please keep an eye out for more information on this important event.

2192185

www.johncastrilli.com.au

Ph: 97913636 Fax: 97913313