

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: LC5



Emergency or Life Threatening: 000 **Logan Central Enquiries: (07) 3826 1888**
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Mr Laurie Fletcher
Co-Coordinator LC5 Neighbourhood Watch
23 Charles Avenue
LOGAN CENTRAL QLD 4114
8 August 2008

Dear Sir,

RE: The CMC Review of Queensland's Off-road Motorbike Noise Laws

I am writing to you today on behalf of the members of the LC5 Neighbourhood Watch Group in Logan City to express our concerns over the above issue.

Please find listed below some thoughts our members have on this annoying problem.

1. Government (State, Federal or Local) need to put land aside to allow those people with these off-road bikes to have a legal recreational outlet for them in an area that will not cause problems for local residents. Currently there seems to be too few places for the bikes to be used, which means that the streets are used instead.
2. A special unit to be established to deal solely with this problem area. It could be made up of rangers with special powers to deal with this issue so that it does not take normal police away from other more important duties.
3. The new laws seem to be unsuitable for the result needed. There seems to be too long a time frame before any significant action is taken – during this time it causes a lot of stress to locals who are forced to put up with the noise and danger from these bikes while waiting for the courts to sort them out.
4. The police are doing their best to control this problem, but like most crimes, the "Justice System" seems to be failing us. The judges and magistrates are too lenient. In your issues paper under "other penalties", it states that "If the court believes that impounding or forfeiting a motorbike would cause severe financial or physical hardship to its owner or usual driver, it has the option of ordering a person to perform community service instead". Surely, if we are referring to off-road bikes, they would not be used for regular road transport but only for recreational use – how could that be considered to cause "severe financial or physical hardship" if a bike used for recreational use is taken away?

We look forward to the outcome of your review and hope that common sense will prevail and the local residents can once again have peace from this noisy issue.

Sincerely


Laurie Fletcher

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.

"THE EYES AND EARS OF THE COMMUNITY"