



## Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for Advanced Technology and Space Industries  
Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

Mr Tom Anderson  
[tomanderson9994@msn.com](mailto:tomanderson9994@msn.com)

Dear Mr Anderson

Thank you for your email on 31 January 2020 regarding your community's concerns regarding ongoing hooning, dangerous driving and anti-social behaviours in the areas of Weston Creek and Molonglo. Both ACT Policing and I take the safety of members in our community seriously. Canberra is a very safe city in which to live where the vast majority of ACT residents are law-abiding. However, like other cities around Australia and the world, we are not immune to criminal activity and the small number of members within our community who chose to do the wrong thing.

I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence to the Officers-in-Charge of Woden Police Station and ACT Policing Traffic Operations for their information. I am advised that ACT Policing will continue to target anti-social and dangerous road use along public roads as operational priorities allow as they are aware of this issue.

ACT Policing is a 24-hour service and will attend to reports of illegal road use at any time of the day. Safety on our roads is of the utmost importance. The ACT Government and ACT Policing are committed to keeping Canberrans safe on our roads. ACT Policing makes all efforts to enforce the road rules but this is a shared responsibility with all our community. With over 3000 kilometres of public roads throughout the Territory, ACT Policing must spread their enforcement resources efficiently. This means that whilst ACT Policing has a significant presence on our roads, they cannot be everywhere all the time. This is why information from the community, like that provided by you, is crucial in identifying problematic areas and the times those issues are occurring. This information helps ACT Policing to better assess, prioritise and direct resources to incidents.

ACT Policing is intelligence-informed, and uses information to prioritise and direct its workforce to best serve the people of Canberra. ACT Policing deploys resources flexibly to ensure an appropriate police response to target and disrupt those seeking to cause harm in all suburbs in the Canberra community.

Public safety is a primary concern for ACT Policing. ACT Policing does not encourage members of the public to place themselves at risk to obtain information of criminal offending. However, where it is safe to do so, information provided by witnesses can be of significant assistance to police.

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### ACT Legislative Assembly

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Details of vehicles and individuals involved in driving offences are extremely helpful to police and while information can be provided anonymously, a public willingness to provide information greatly enhances ACT Policing's ability to take action. Information provided to Crime Stoppers is sent to ACT Policing Intelligence for collation and analysis to further inform police of crime and issues that are occurring.

I strongly recommend that you continue to encourage members of your community to report suspicious or unacceptable behaviours to Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or online via [www.act.crimestoppers.com.au](http://www.act.crimestoppers.com.au). Should they have any immediate concerns for their safety, they should contact police on 131 444 or, in emergency or life threatening situations, call Triple-Zero (000).

The ACT Government is serious about combating crime within our community and this is evident given the announcement of a \$33.9 million investment in ACT Policing to transition to a community focused policing model, which will see increased efforts at preventing and disrupting crime before it occurs. This funding includes recruitment for over 60 positions over four years. This marks the first step towards a new community focused model of policing, which will centre on operationalising intelligence, building proactive policing capacity and growing community engagement capabilities.

As part of this investment in ACT Policing, the ACT Government is funding new tools and technology for our police officers, which will equip them to be more mobile, agile and digitally engaged with the community. These investments demonstrate the Government's commitment to ensuring ACT Policing is funded and equipped to ensure Canberra remains a safe place to live.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services

25/2/2020