

Question on Notice
No. 710
Asked on 16 October 2013

MR BYRNE asked the Premier (MR NEWMAN)—

With reference to the Premier's comments about eradicating outlaw motorcycle gang members from Queensland—

Will the Premier (a) provide a guarantee to the people of Queensland that no members of bikie gangs or their associates currently have any contracts with the Queensland Government for taxpayer-funded work and (b) introduce sanctions for any person who subcontracts any Queensland Government work to bikies or their associates?

ANSWER:

The Government has in place standing offer arrangements, preferred supplier arrangements and pre-qualified supplier arrangements. In addition, government agencies purchase from local suppliers where these local suppliers represent value for money. Criminal and associated organisations, including criminal motorcycle gangs, may have in place complex networks of arrangements which may make it difficult to identify their ownership of and/or association with businesses.

Therefore it is possible that government agencies have unwittingly dealt with businesses that are owned, partly owned, or associated with members of criminal organisations, including criminal motorcycle gangs.

To reduce the likelihood of the Government doing business with an entity owned or associated with members of criminal organisations, the Government is working with the Queensland Police Service to put in place arrangements so that businesses owned by or associated with criminal organisations can be removed from preferred supplier arrangements, standing offer arrangements and pre-qualified supplier lists.

The Government is also aware that there is likely to be a number of licensed builders, concreters, plasterers, scaffolders etc that are involved with criminal motorcycle gangs. As the Member is aware, the government will soon be introducing amendments to a number of licensing Acts administered by various government agencies to prevent identified participants in criminal organisations, as defined in the Criminal Code, from obtaining or retaining a licence in these and other fields.