



**Dale Last MP**  
**Member for Burdekin**

Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Shadow Minister for Fire and Emergency Services  
Shadow Minister for Rural and Regional Affairs

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## **Media Release – Harper needs to get real on crime**

Crime statistics for the 12 months to the end of January 2022 show that Labor MP's need to "get real" on crime according to Shadow Minister for Police & Corrective Services, Dale Last MP.

Queensland Police statistics show that Unlawful Entry and Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle offences in the Townsville Police District were the highest in a decade and Mr Last said the only thing more frustrating than the increase in crime was Labor's refusal to take responsibility.

"It's time for Labor MP's like the Member for Thuringowa to face up to reality," Mr Last said. "The statistics don't lie, and the facts are that crimes like Unlawful Entry and Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle reduced under the last LNP government."

"When Labor came to power the number of houses broken into and cars stolen in Townsville was the lowest in the last decade. In the first year of the Palaszczuk government, unlawful entry increased by 9% and Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle increased by 23%"

"Those increases occurred on the Member for Thuringowa's watch and so did the 26% increase in stolen vehicles and an almost 24% increase in Unlawful Entry we have seen in the 12 months to January 2022. Rather than running off at the mouth, it's time for Aaron Harper to front up to reality."

Mr Last said that the Member for Thuringowa's arrogance toward crime on social media was no surprise to him but was still disappointing.

"At the last sitting of parliament, the Member for Thuringowa took offence to me speaking out on behalf of victims of crime and the community," Mr Last said. "It's obvious that, whether it's in parliament or on Facebook, Mr Harper refuses to take any responsibility."

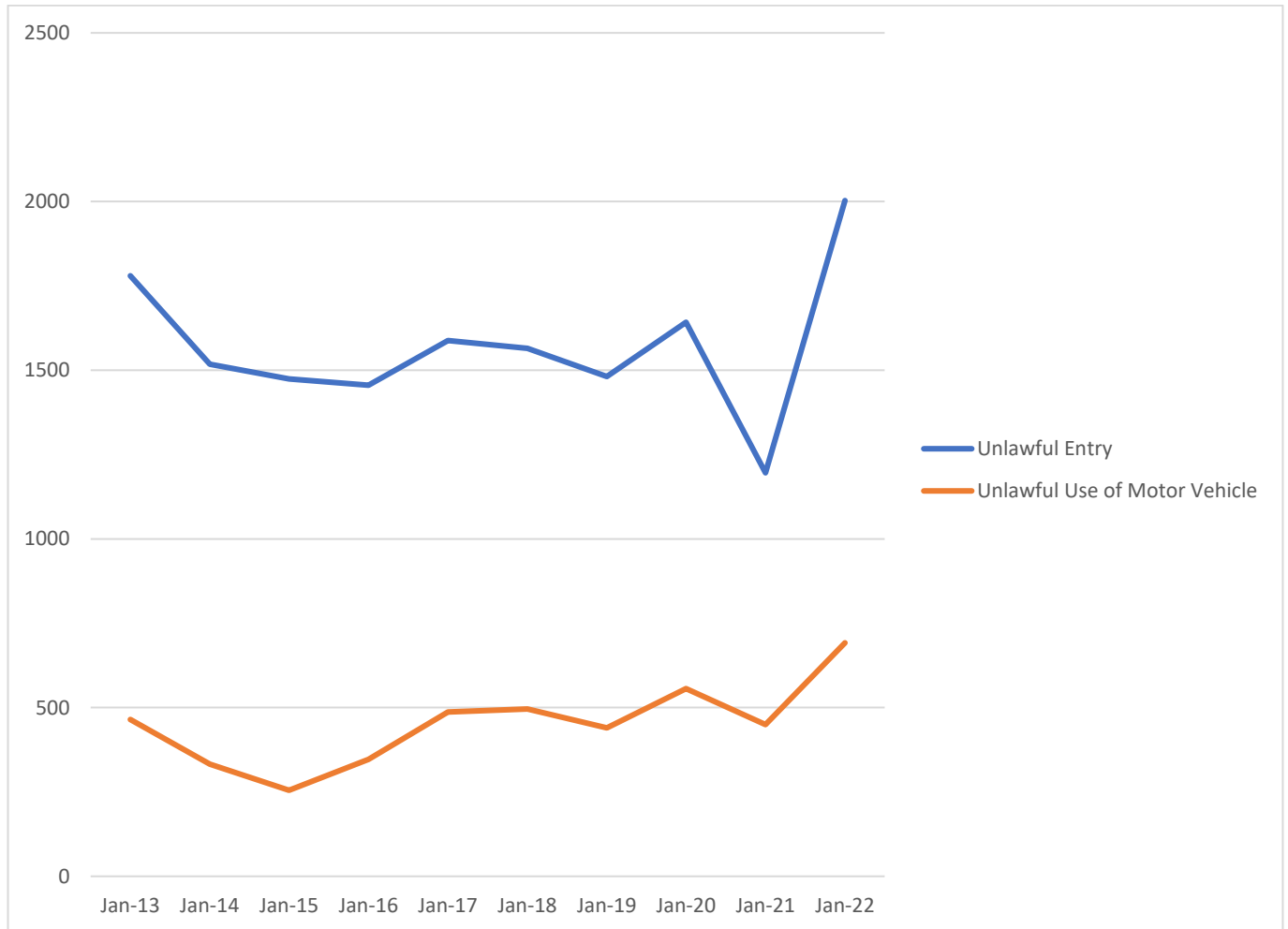
"If only Mr Harper was as passionate about crime as he is about questioning where people are from or their background. Maybe then he would acknowledge the fact that the number of Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle charges in January 2022 was the highest monthly figure since 2001."

"Instead of having a hissy fit and carrying on like a spoiled teenager, the Member for Thuringowa and his Labor mates in Townsville need to acknowledge the fact that they have failed on crime; the numbers



prove it. Any attempt to blame someone else is purely another example of Labor MP’s refusing to face up to reality.”

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12 months to	Unlawful Entry	Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle
Jan-22	2003	692
Jan-21	1196	450
Jan-20	1642	556
Jan-19	1481	440
Jan-18	1565	496
Jan-17	1588	487
Jan-16	1456	347
Jan-15	1474	255
Jan-14	1518	332
Jan-13	1780	465