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MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW LAWS TO TACKLE OUTLAW BIKIE GANGS

New laws will make it easier for NSW Police to tackle organised crime during raids on outlaw motorcycle gang clubhouses, Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Attorney General Mark Speakman and Police Minister Troy Grant announced today.

“NSW has the toughest organised crime laws in Australia and our Police will now be better equipped than ever to tackle dangerous outlaw bikie gangs,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government will not tolerate criminal behaviour which undermines community safety.”

Under the new laws, Police executing a warrant on outlaw bikie clubhouses will have clear powers to:

- search anyone on site;
- compel any person to reveal their name and address; and
- compel people present at the venue to move on.

Mr Grant said the reforms, which will help police identify suspects, gather evidence and seize dangerous firearms and weapons, are part of the NSW Government’s unrelenting crackdown on organised criminal gang activity.

“There is no room for outlaw bikies in NSW, who will continue to be hounded by Police until they leave the state or find a new, legal hobby,” Mr Grant said.

The legislative amendments, to be introduced into the Parliament in coming weeks, respond to the Ombudsman’s report on the *Restricted Premises Act*.

“The NSW Government has accepted all the Ombudsman’s recommendations which will give Police greater clarity about their powers and responsibilities when raiding outlaw bikie gang clubhouses,” Mr Speakman said.

Police have been using the powers provided under the *Restricted Premises Act*, which was formerly known as the *Disorderly Houses Act*, to target outlaw bikie clubhouses for the past decade.

These powers were strengthened in 2013 to enhance the ability of Police to combat firearms-related and organised crime, with a focus on the activities of outlaw bikie gangs.

These powers are on top of a range of other tough measures available to Police to target outlaw bikie crime, including those set out below.

- **Serious Crime Prevention Orders** – to impose restrictions on people to disrupt their involvement in serious criminal activity.
- **Public Safety Orders** – to prevent people from attending places or events where they are expected to engage in violence or present a serious threat to public safety or security.
- **Consorting laws** – which carry a maximum three year prison term for people who continue to associate with convicted offenders after receiving an official warning from Police.
- **Unexplained wealth laws** – which place a burden on suspects to prove their income was lawfully acquired.
- **Firearm Prohibition Orders** – allowing Police to search, without warrant, premises or vehicles occupied by anyone subjected to the order to ensure compliance.

“Strike Force Raptor has dismantled numerous bikie-led drug and organised crime operations and is continuing to crack down on outlaw bikie violence,” said Police Commissioner Mick Fuller.

In April 2018, NSW Police successfully applied to the Supreme Court for Serious Crime Prevention Orders against 10 high-ranking members of the Finks and Nomads outlaw motorcycle gangs who were linked to gang-related violence across the Lower Hunter region.

Link to images and vision: <https://bit.ly/2QgGD5d>.

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