Police Minister Paul Henderson says the Government will not be changing its tough approach to drug dealers in the face of criticism from the CLP and pro-drug lobby.

"I categorically rule out watering down the Government's tough approach on drug dealers.

"The facts are drug dealers ruin lives and cause property and violent crime.

"Police now have the tools they need to fight drug crime and efforts to reduce drug supply and to break the link between drug and property crime will continue.

"Closing down drug dens in our suburbs has been welcomed by the community against the backdrop of a political campaign waged by Denis Burke and the pro-drug lobby.

"Since the new drug laws came into force seven months ago drug dealers in all major centres have been targeted.

"Latest Police reports and statistics prove the laws are having an impact," Mr Henderson said.

Thirty-two (32) first records and notices have been served on drug dealers. There have significant seizures of drugs including amphetamines and 13 people have been arrested.

Mr Henderson said many of the premises raided are within hundreds of metres from schools, which is of particular concern to Government.

"In our war on drugs the Martin Government has strengthened the school-based police program.

"Resources to the school based police program have been maintained and a revamped drug education strategy is being developed that will include family support policies and education campaigns directed at our schools.

"School-based police officers also recently played an instrumental role in the crack-down on anti-social behaviour and crime at Casuarina Square.

"Our tough approach on illicit drugs and the link between drugs and crime is hitting the target and the political campaign from the CLP Opposition and pro-drug lobby against the Government’s tough approach will fail," Mr Henderson said.