

Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

1 William Street Brisbane PO Box 15195 City East Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone +61 7 3035 8300 Email police@ministerial.qld.gov.au ABN 65 959 415 158

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 15 November 2018 relating to petitions 3044-18 and 3018-18 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly about policing in the Ormeau/Pimpama area.

Policing services to the Ormeau and Pimpama area are provided by the Coomera Police Station, which provides a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week police capability with officers performing proactive mobile patrols and responding to calls for service. The Queensland Police Service (QPS) has advised that this approach results in officers being out in their local community, rather than waiting in the station for calls to be received. This also supports the QPS borderless policing model which sees police officers sent in numbers to wherever they are needed on the Gold Coast.

I am advised by the QPS that 12 full-time permanent, additional positions were recently deployed to the Coomera division to address growing demands. Further, two Rapid Action & Patrol (RAP) Group teams work out of the Coomera Police complex.

I am advised that policing services are also delivered in the Norfolk Village and Ormeau area by the two officers stationed at the Norfolk Village Police Beat. One of these officers lives on site.

Any calls for service relating to the Pimpama and Ormeau areas are dealt with in accordance with the QPS borderless policing model which means that, in a high priority situation, any available officer can be tasked to respond.

In addition to officers stationed at Coomera Police Station and the Norfolk Village Police Beat, personnel from other District, Regional and centralised support functions including Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection and Investigation Unit, RAP, Road Policing Command, Scenes of Crime, Helicopter Support Unit and Dog Squad can respond to local issues as required.

The Gold Coast District has introduced a District Tasking and Coordination Centre (DTACC), to coordinate resources and deliver a more efficient and effective response to calls for service. This is underpinned by real-time analysis of intelligence to ensure a strong focus on proactively targeting people, places and crime types which pose the greatest harm to the Gold Coast community. The DTACC is proving an effective tool in coordinating policing services across the Gold Coast including those services being delivered in the Pimpama and Ormeau areas.

I am further advised that Inspector Ray Vine, Northern Patrol Group, Gold Coast Police District spoke with the principal petitioner, Mr Patrick Reynolds, on 30 November and provided him with advice about the local policing services being delivered in the Pimpama and Ormeau areas. I understand Mr Reynolds was appreciative for the opportunity to discuss his concerns with a senior officer.

In relation to police resources, the Palaszczuk Government has committed to an additional 535 police personnel by 2021-22, including 115 counter terrorism specialists for the new Security and Counter Terrorism Command.

Determination of appropriate staffing is made on the basis of operational policing and direct service delivery requirements to ensure a fair and equitable service is provided throughout the State. These requirements can change as new policing issues emerge.

Furthermore, the allocation of resources is an operational decision made by the Commissioner of Police, free from political interference.

The QPS is constantly reviewing the options available to ensure the best possible service is provided to the people of Queensland, including those residing in the Pimpama and Ormeau areas.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP

Minister for Police and

Market

Minister for Corrective Services