



Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP  
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice  
Leader of the House

In reply please quote: 572305/3; 4343527

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31 MAY 2018

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie <sup>Neil</sup>

I refer to e-Petition 2841-18 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 1 May 2018 titled *Perceived increase in the possible terrorist threat in Queensland*.

I note the petitioners' concern regarding a perceived increase in the risk of acts of terrorism in Queensland due to the teaching and promotion of violent philosophies by some registered religions or organisations within Queensland, and their request to establish a commission of inquiry.

The Government is not actively considering a commission of inquiry of this nature.

I share the petitioners' concern regarding the ongoing safety and well-being of the people of Queensland. Community safety is an important ongoing priority for the Queensland Government and this includes safety from the evolving threat of terrorism which remains elevated.

An effective counter-terrorism response requires cooperation and collaboration between all of the states and territories as well as the Commonwealth, as the threat posed by terrorism is not constrained by our borders. Since 2002, there has been a national legal framework targeting terrorist acts and offences and agreement regarding national counter-terrorism arrangements.

The Queensland Government continues to work closely with other Australian governments to ensure the national framework of counter-terrorism laws and arrangements remain robust and effective.

On 5 October 2017, at a special meeting of the Council of Australian Governments on counter-terrorism, leaders agreed on a range of legislative and practical measures to strengthen the nationally consistent approach to countering terrorism and help make all of Australia safer.

Leaders from all Australian governments reaffirmed that the most effective defence against terrorism is preventing radicalisation and the progression to violent extremism.

There are arrangements in place to assist Queensland authorities to identify those vulnerable to radicalisation and provide them and their communities with the assistance and support they require to prevent radicalisation. Importantly, these


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responses rely on cooperation between law enforcement agencies, government partners and community partners to support those vulnerable to radicalisation.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House and assure the petitioners that the Queensland Government continues to work to counter terrorism and violent extremism to keep Queenslanders safe.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Yvette D'Ath". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "Y".

**YVETTE D'ATH MP**  
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice  
Leader of the House