



Minister for Police and  
Minister for Corrective Services

Ref No: 2017/8847

04 JAN 2018

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

1 William Street Brisbane  
PO Box 15195 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3035 8300  
Facsimile +61 7 3221 0794  
Email [police@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:police@ministerial.qld.gov.au)  
ABN 65 959 415 158

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter dated 12 October 2017 in relation to a petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No. 2743-17 on behalf of principal petitioner, Josephine Garmeister. Due to the state election being called on 25 November 2017, an interim response was tabled on 15 November 2017 (copy attached).

In order to address the issues raised in the petition, I sought advice from the Queensland Police Service and Queensland Corrective Services (QCS).

Queensland has one of the toughest and most effective post-conviction regimes for dealing with and monitoring sex offenders in Australia. Since the introduction of the Dangerous Prisoner (Sex Offender) legislation over a decade ago, the Queensland Government continues to investigate measures to further tighten supervision of sex offenders to ensure those who present the greatest risk to Queenslanders, particularly our most vulnerable Queenslanders, such as our children, are subject to rigorous checks and the highest level of supervision.

Queensland has an extensive GPS monitoring capability in place, which requires sex offenders on an order of the Court or by the Parole Board Queensland to wear a GPS tracker on the terms outlined by that Court or the Parole Board Queensland, respectively.

As I am sure you will appreciate, for constitutional reasons, such orders are informed by the independent discretion of those decision-making bodies, the evidence before those bodies, and other relevant legal principles.

In my portfolio, I have successfully sought to strengthen the supervision of sex offenders, particularly child sex offenders, in Queensland. These measures include, but are not limited to:

- Expanding the GPS tracking program by 500 additional devices over this term of government;
- Strengthening the provisions of the Child Protection (Offender Registry) legislation to provide the police with greater powers of supervision of child sex offenders including a power to inspect the electronic devices (including phones) of reportable offenders;
- Supporting a national framework to empower the Federal Government to cancel the passports of child sex offenders; and

- Overseeing record funding to the Queensland Police Service, including additional resources for the Child Safety and Sexual Crime Group, which includes the world-renowned Taskforce Argos.

I note that leading child safety advocacy groups, including the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and Bravehearts, support these measures to enhance the monitoring and management of child sex offenders.

The Palaszczuk Government continues to target measures to tighten supervision of sex offenders in the interests of community safety and will continue to take all steps that are constitutionally available within the resources of the government.

In accordance with s 59A of the Parliament of Queensland Act 2001 and Standing Order 31, I request that this final response be tabled during the period that the Legislative Assembly is dissolved.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Ryan', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP  
**Minister for Police and**  
**Minister for Corrective Services**