



Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services

Ref No: 2018/23753 LE
Your Ref: 5618T1880

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 15 November 2018 about petition Numbers 3045-18 and 2979-18 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The safety and security of all Queenslanders is a top priority for the Palaszczuk Government and the Queensland Police Service (QPS). Police numbers in Queensland are at record highs and we have committed to deliver an additional 535 police personnel by 2021-22.

The allocation of these police resources is determined by the Police Commissioner following a detailed assessment of area growth, safety issues and any new or emerging issues. I have been assured by the QPS that it will continue to monitor police officer numbers at the Sunshine Coast Water Police to ensure a fair and equitable policing service is provided.

I have been advised that police conduct regular patrols on the Sunshine Coast's waterways to target poor behavior and actively enforce the laws around boating safety. Water Police on the Sunshine Coast are also supported by Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol and the Department of Transport and Main Roads. These agencies work closely together to ensure Sunshine Coast waterways are safe and able to be enjoyed by everyone, while at the same time, ensuring minimal disruption to local residents.

The Palaszczuk Government is also investing \$5.4 million in new Water Police boats to ensure the QPS has the resources it needs to keep Queenslanders safe.

A new 17m boat for Water Police based at Mooloolaba is currently under construction. This boat will be faster, have a much larger range and provide Water Police the capability to stay at sea for a number of days at a time, if required. Further, I can advise that two new jet-skis were delivered to the Mooloolaba based Water Police in recent months.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Ryan".

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