



The Honourable Warren Pitt MP
Member for Mulgrave



**Queensland
Government**

Our reference: A/06/00839
CMM04870

12 APR 2006

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

18/4/06
**LAI'D UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT**

Minister for
**Communities,
Disability Services
and Seniors**



Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 3 March 2006 concerning the petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No 624-06.

In response to the petitioners request for a permanent training facility for Defence Force Cadets on the Capricorn Coast at Yeppoon, I wish to advise that the provision of this facility falls outside my Ministerial portfolio however, the Department of Communities welcomes applications for funding from any youth development organisation for specific projects aimed at supporting and engaging young people. Details of current funding opportunities are available on the department's website at www.communities.qld.gov.au.

The Department of Communities helps communities, families, schools and peers to support young people ensuring that their needs, interests and concerns are heard and addressed. It does this through:

- developing policy, protocols and programs to support Youth Justice Services across Queensland;
- implementing Youth Justice Conferencing programs throughout Queensland;
- building the capacity of departments and agencies to engage with young people;
- coordinating youth related programs such as The Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Youth Support Coordinators;
- providing funding and investment planning models for services for young people, and;
- developing, managing and monitoring culturally appropriate programs and initiatives for young Queenslanders.

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Specifically in relation to the Yeppoon area youth development projects, the Capricorn Coast Youth Service and Livingstone Regional Building Safer Communities Network have been funded by the Department of Communities. Applications for Youth Crime Prevention grants are also currently being assessed. For more information, please contact the North Queensland Regional Office, Department of Communities, Rockhampton on 4938 6715.

I am also aware of the commitment of Livingstone Shire Council to supporting young people in the area. The recently opened Youth Centre at 40 James Street is open three days a week and provides facilities for young people including a computer and games room and study groups. The Youth Centre also hosted activities during National Youth Week which took place 1 – 9 April 2006. For further information on the facilities provided by the Livingstone Shire Council, please contact the Council's Youth Worker, Ms Molly Saunders on 4939 9212.

If you require any further information or assistance in relation to this matter, please contact Mr James Finn, Acting Manager, Youth Participation and Support, Office for Youth, Program Management, Department of Communities on 300 88625.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Warren Pitt MP

Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors