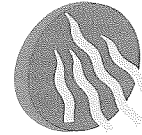




Hon Neil Roberts MP
Member for Nudgee



**Queensland
Government**

**Minister for Police, Corrective Services
and Emergency Services**

Our Ref: P/09/01094

QPS Ref: 4701a F7 LT

11 DEC 2009

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Please find enclosed a copy of my response to Norm Shoveller, of Beachmere, for tabled petition number 1277-09.

An electronic version of the response has been emailed to your office.

Yours sincerely

Neil Roberts MP
**Minister for Police, Corrective Services
and Emergency Services**

Encl

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Hon Neil Roberts MP
Member for Nudgee



Queensland
Government

COPY

Minister for Police, Corrective Service
and Emergency Services

10 DEC 2009

Our Ref: P/09/01094

QPS Ref: 4701 F7 LT

Mr Norm Shoveller
21 Bryant Street
BEACHMERE 4510 QLD

Dear Mr Shoveller,

I am writing to you as Principal Petitioner of petition number 1277-09, lodged at your request by Mrs Carryn Sullivan MP in the Legislative Assembly on 6 August 2009 seeking the re-establishment of a permanent police beat at Beachmere.

As you may be aware, the Queensland Police Service has been conducting an operational review of policing in the Beachmere area.

Beachmere is situated within the Caboolture Police District. The Beachmere Police Beat was opened in 2003 to support the Caboolture Police Station, which at that time had 59 police officers and the Bribie Island Police Station, at that time staffed by nine police officers who worked a two shift roster, day shift and afternoon shift.

In September 2008, the lease of the Beachmere Police Beat premises expired and police vacated the premises.

Following expiration of the lease at Beachmere, the Bribie Island Police Station has received significant refurbishments and upgrades and was officially opened on 11 March 2009. This upgrading resulted in a significant increase of staff, from 9 to 16 police officers plus 3 first year constables. On 1 August 2009, the general duties staffing level at Caboolture Police Station also increased to 76 police officers. Further, the new Burpengary Police Complex was opened on 29 June 2009.

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These police establishments are also supported by other Caboolture Police District units, including the 10 officers attached to the Traffic Branch, 14 officers at the Moreton Bay Tactical Crime Squad, two Dog Squad officers and 15 Scenes of Crime Unit officers.

Following completion of the evaluation, the Queensland Police Service has advised that the optimal outcome from an operational standpoint for Bribie Island, Sandstone Point, Godwin Beach, Ningi and Beachmere residents is the combining of the resources of the Beat with the Bribie Island Police Station, coupled with the additional district resources as outlined.

The Police Service is satisfied local police have the resources to provide an appropriate proactive police presence to the Beachmere community under the new and enhanced arrangements with staff numbers to continue to be monitored and revised as required.

Based on this operational advice and enhanced resourcing to the local area, I advise that the former Beachmere Police Beat will not be re-established in the area.

The Bligh Government is committed to providing police with the resources they need to fight crime and improve community safety. Police numbers continue to be increased each year. By October 2009, through the creation of an additional 200 new sworn police positions, the Police Service will have more than 10 100 sworn officers. This will more than meet this Government's commitment to maintain a police to population ratio equal to or better than the national average.

I acknowledge that your petitioners will be disappointed with this decision; however, I am confident the Beachmere community will continue to receive a high level of service from the significantly enhanced resources allocated to the Bribie Island Police Division and neighbouring stations.

I also acknowledge the strong advocacy of local State Member, Carryn Sullivan MP on this issue, on behalf of the local community.

Inspector Michael Brady, Caboolture Police District Officer, is available on telephone 5490 1333 for any further assistance required.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Roberts', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil Roberts MP
**Minister for Police, Corrective Services
and Emergency Services**