

Queensland Government

Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services

Our Ref: P/09/01431 & P/09/01617

QPS Ref: 6940 F35 F36 LB

- 1 DEC 2009

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



Dear Mr Laurie

I am writing to provide my response to petition number 1322-09 which was lodged by Mr Peter Dowling MP, Member for Redlands, and received by the Legislative Assembly on 7 October 2009.

The petition seeks to draw the attention of the House to the request for a police presence on Lamb Island for at least three random days and nights per week.

I referred this matter to the Queensland Police Service and am advised that on 19 October 2009, Senior Sergeant Steve Graham, Officer in Charge, Redland Bay Police Station, spoke to the principal petitioner, Ms Moile Freeman of Lamb Island.

Senior Sergeant Graham advised Ms Freeman of the proactive and reactive strategies being undertaken by the Queensland Police Service to appropriately respond to traffic, criminal and antisocial issues on Lamb Island. Discussions were also held in relation to damage to and theft from motor vehicles parked in the Redland City Council yard. The police advise all reported incidents are now the subject of police investigations.

I am advised police patrols on Lamb Island have been increased in response to residents' concerns and a number of positive policing outcomes have resulted. For example, search warrants were executed on a number of residents on Lamb Island, resulting in multiple offenders being charged. In addition, a number of people were recently charged for driving unregistered vehicles and there has been a significant reduction in the number of noise complaints reported to police.

The Bligh Government and the Police Service share the concerns of Ms Freeman and fellow petitioners about crime in our communities and are strongly committed to addressing these issues. In this regard, police are constantly developing and reviewing strategies to ensure the safety of all Lamb Island residents and visitors to the Island. These strategies include intelligence-driven patrols and action plans, and utilising resources from the Redland Bay Police Station and the Wynnum Police District.

I am further informed increased patrols, including on nights and weekends, have been commenced on Lamb Island and will be continued.

Level 24 State Law

Level 24 State Law Building 50 Ann Street Brisbane 4000 PO Box 15195 City East Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone +61 7 3239 0199

Facsimile +61 7 3221 9985 Email police@ministerial.qld.gov.au

ABN 65 959 415 158

The Redland Bay Police Station operates 24-hours a day, seven days a week. It is also supported by Wynnum Police District units, including the Traffic Branch, Tactical Crime Squad, Crime Prevention Unit, Child Protection and Investigation Unit and the Criminal Investigation Branch. Further support is provided by the Wynnum Police District Water Police, who have recently upgraded their fleet and response capabilities.

The Police Service advises the Redland Bay Station, within the Wynnum Police District, is resourced in accordance with the Queensland Police Service's Staffing Allocation Model, which is used to determined police staffing allocations across the State. The model is continually revised and updated on the basis of assessments of relative workloads and police staffing needs of all areas as identified through crime, population and traffic statistics, and various other service-delivery factors common to all communities.

The Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan South Police Region, is satisfied the current policing arrangements for Lamb Island are satisfactory. The Police Service advises, however, that it will continue to assess staffing needs to ensure an effective and responsive policing service continues to be provided to the Lamb Island community.

The Bligh Government and Police Service endeavour to improve service delivery. The Government has continued to increase police numbers each year. At 1 November 2009, through the creation of an additional 200 new sworn police positions, the Police Service has more than 10 300 sworn officers. This more than meets this Government's commitment to maintain a police to population ratio equal to or better than the national average.

In 2009-10, the Government is investing a record \$1.706 billion to support the services of the Queensland Police Service. This will ensure more effective policing services to the community through the provision of 203 more police officers, new police facilities and equipment, better technology to fight crime, and improvements to road safety.

Lamb Island residents can be assured the Queensland Government and the Police Service are committed to taking all possible action aimed at ensuring the personal safety of individuals and the security of their property. The Police Service is also committed to providing a timely response to calls for service, investigating all reports of criminal and antisocial behaviour, and taking appropriate action, including prosecution, where sufficient evidence is found of the commission of offences.

Senior Sergeant Graham is available on telephone 3829 4140 should any further assistance or advice on policing issues be required by Lamb Island residents.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Neil Roberts MP

Minister for Police, Corrective Services

and Emergency Services