

Minister for Police and Community Safety

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your correspondence received on 19 February 2013, regarding the Petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly: 2054-13 in relation to the Emergency Services Cadet Program (ESCP).

On 25 February 2013, the Honourable Campbell Newman MP, Premier; Mr Ted Malone MP, Assistant Minister for Emergency Volunteers and I, announced the reinvigorated Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) Emergency Services Cadets.

The previous program was designed to introduce Queensland's young people to emergency services training and to increase State Emergency Service (SES) numbers. At the time of its closure, the take up rate of cadets becoming senior SES volunteers did not meet the program's expectations.

I acknowledge the contribution of Emergency Management Queensland Youth Development Officers and the volunteer adult staff members who jointly delivered this previous program. I further acknowledge the enthusiasm and contribution of the young Queenslanders who participated in the program.

The revitalised PCYC Emergency Services Cadet program is the key to providing youth with an opportunity for a career in emergency services and volunteering, including direct links with the SES, Queensland Police Service (QPS) and other emergency services.

I am confident that this experience will produce fine young men and women, and a valuable team of community minded youngsters ready take the next step to becoming Queensland's next best and brightest in uniform.

Should you require further assistance, please contact Mr David Crossen, A/Chief of Staff, on telephone number (07) 3239 0199.

Yours sincerely

Jack Dempsey MP
Minister for Police and Community Safety