



Minister for Police and Corrective Services and
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services

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Your Ref: A659339

24 MAR 2021

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter dated 3 March 2021 and Petition 3429-20.

I appreciate the petitioners' concerns and can advise that this government has listened to the community and is taking action to enhance safety on the State's road network. This government makes no apology for taking tough action to target irresponsible and reckless drivers.

There are high-visibility patrols and dedicated road policing officers across the State to maintain safety on our roads. Further, we have made an historic commitment to deliver more than 2,000 additional police personnel over the next five years.

This government also announced an investment in an expanded fleet of drones and new high-tech cameras to assist with a crackdown on hoons. These new cameras will add to the existing network of thousands of traffic cameras across the state. As a result, police will have access to high-tech night vision capable cameras that can be deployed overtly or covertly.

The statewide roll out of these cameras has already commenced with the intention of having one in each police district. I am advised that the initial phase of training officers in the use of these cameras will also be completed by 30 June, which will ensure that appropriately trained officers are located statewide.

These new cameras will add to the arsenal of enforcement measures being used by police to target hooning on Queensland's roads, which includes:

- Intelligence-driven enforcement with covert patrols
- Monitoring of all forms of social media to take swift action
- Hoon Hotline 13HOON
- High-visibility patrols
- Dedicated Road Policing officers
- POLAIR aerial surveillance
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology
- Road safety camera trailers
- Thousands of traffic cameras across the state
- Police drone fleet

There are other planned measures to crack down on hooning that complement this new technology, however, as these initiatives are in a Bill currently before the House, I am unable to expand on them at this time. That being said, I draw the petitioners' attention to Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 and the proposed legislative changes contained therein.

This new technology and the proposed other measures will compliment the current Queensland penalties for hooning, which are the harshest in the nation. Penalties include fines of up to \$5338, potential imprisonment of up to six months in jail, and the independent, immobilisation or confiscation of the vehicle used in the hooning offence.

Hooning in any form is not tolerated and this government will take the necessary steps and tough action to maintain safety in our communities, and to keep the State's road network safe for all road users.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Ryan', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

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