

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

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0 7 MAR 2016

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of Parliament Queensland Parliamentary Service Parliament House

Dear Mr Laurie

George Street

BRISBANE QLD 4000

Thank you for your letter dated 18 February 2016 regarding petition number 2513-15, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly, requesting an increased police presence in residential areas of Benowa, Bundall and Ashmore.

I appreciate the petitioners taking the time to raise their concerns and sought the advice of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) to assist in responding to the petitioners' request.

I am advised that Senior Sergeant Paul Hunter, Officer in Charge Broadbeach Police Station, contacted Mr Lomax on 24 February and that Mr Lomax was appreciative of the opportunity to discuss his concerns.

There are a number of policing strategies being implemented to address policing issues in the suburbs of Benowa, Bundall and Ashmore. These strategies include high visibility patrols, dedicated traffic operations in key locations, and the deployment of the additional resources of the Gold Coast Rapid Action Patrol Group to target offenders and locations where offences may be committed. All of these strategies are based on the analysis of crime intelligence and calls for service so that the QPS can make the most effective use of its resources.

The areas of Benowa, Bundall and the eastern section of the suburb of Ashmore are within the Broadbeach Police Division which has 64 approved permanent police officer positions. Parts of the suburb of Ashmore are also within the Southport and Nerang Police Divisions, which respectively have 100 and 33 approved permanent police positions. All three stations operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition, personnel from other stations and units, including the Gold Coast Rapid Action Patrol Group, are available to respond to local issues when required.

The specific allocation of police resources is determined by the Commissioner following a detailed assessment of area growth, crime and safety issues, calls for service, new or emerging issues and facility requirements.

Any calls for service to the Benowa, Bundall and Ashmore areas are dealt with in accordance with the QPS priority policing model. This model means that in a high priority situation any available officers can be tasked to respond.

To assist the police in improving community safety in the Benowa, Bundall and Ashmore areas, members of the public are encouraged to report any anti-social behaviour to Policelink on 131 444 or by contacting their local police station by telephone or in person. Alternatively should members of the public feel threatened or are in danger, they should call triple zero immediately.

The QPS is constantly reviewing the options available to ensure the best possible service is provided to residents in the Benowa, Bundall and Ashmore areas.

I trust this information is of assistance.

If you require further information, Ms Ellen McIntyre, Chief of Staff, is available on telephone (07) 3035 8300.

Yours sincerely

The Honourable Bill Byrne MP

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