Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services

Ref No: 2019/12169 JF Your Ref: A445681

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
ClerksOffice@parliament.gld.gov.au

1 William Street Brisbane PO Box 15195 City East Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone +61 7 3035 8300 Email police@ministerial.qld.gov.au

ABN 65 959 415 158

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter relating to petition 3115-19 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly about youth crime in Murgon. The response to this petition also reflects a previously tabled response to petition 3134-19.

I appreciate the petitioners' concerns and referred this matter to the Queensland Police Service so that I can be better informed about the issues raised.

A number of agencies, including the Queensland Police Service, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Department of Youth Justice, Department of Education and local councils, along with various non-government organisations, including the Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) and the South Burnett Community Training Centre Inc (CTC), are all working closely together to enhance community safety in Murgon.

Community-based strategies have been implemented by key agencies, such as Restart and the Barambah Youth Together Evening (BYNTE NITE) program. Restart addresses suspended students and their reintegration into the education system, while BYTE NITE is supported by volunteers from local communities and focuses on engaging young people on Saturday evenings by providing activities, food and support to keep young people off the streets. Early results from the BYTE NITE program show that this initiative is having a positive effect on community safety in Murgon and Cherbourg.

Police regularly conduct active patrols to ensure community safety at night. Local police are supported by neighbouring police districts, Tactical Crime Squads, Public Safety Response Teams and the Dog Squad when required.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP

Minister for Police and

Minister for Corrective Services