



Hon Neil Roberts MP  
Member for Nudgee



Minister for Police, Corrective Services  
and Emergency Services

Ref: 8059 P17 TA

29 MAR 2011

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 1604-11 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mrs Christine Smith MP, Member for Burleigh, on 16 February 2011.

The petition calls for an increase to police resources in the Burleigh Heads beach area through the construction of a Burleigh Heads Police Beat, with an appropriate level of staffing for the community's needs.

Community safety is a priority of the Bligh Government, and the Queensland Police Service (QPS) is committed to providing effective policing services to Burleigh Heads and the surrounding areas. The Government and the QPS agree with the petitioners that the establishment of a police beat at Burleigh Heads will significantly benefit community safety in the area.

During the 2009 State Election the Bligh Government made a commitment of \$2 million to upgrade the Burleigh Heads Police Complex.

Following approaches in December 2010 by the Member for Burleigh, the QPS commenced assessing the feasibility of establishing a non-residential police beat in the beachfront area as part of the 2009 election commitment.

On 26 February 2011, the Premier announced that the Government would commit to a \$1.5 million police beat for Burleigh Heads. The funding will be provided in conjunction with \$500,000 that has already been committed to the upgrading of the Burleigh Heads Police Complex.

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The new police beat at Burleigh Heads will place six additional uniformed police on site positions in an area central to the local community and visitors to the Burleigh area. These extra police positions are on top of the 45 new officers committed to the South Eastern Police Region for 2010-2011.

The QPS and the Gold Coast City Council have identified a potential suitable site and are working through the normal procedures to acquire tenure over the land in accordance with the Government land management policies.

A permanent uniformed presence will be of benefit to the Burleigh community – residents, tourists and businesses alike. The Police Beat will operate Monday to Friday, with the option to operate longer hours and over the weekend at peak times depending on demand.

Recently the Council formally voted in support of the initiative and has proposed parkland bounded by Goodwin Terrace and Hayle Street as a possible location. Their proposal is currently being considered and it's hoped the location of the Beat will be finalised in the very near future. Community consultation will be an important part of this process.

Assistant Commissioner Paul Wilson, South Eastern Region, Queensland Police Service is available on telephone 55707999 for any further assistance required.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Neil Roberts MP  
**Minister for Police, Corrective Services  
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