



Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Ref No: 13645 P4 TMc

19 NOV 2014

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

Level 24 State Law Building
50 Ann Street Brisbane
PO Box 15195 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3035 8300
Facsimile +61 7 3220 6229
Email police@ministerial.qld.gov.au or
fireandemergencyservices@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 2280-14 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 28 October 2014. The principal petitioner is Mr Nigel Jesson of Pacific Pines. The petition calls for a police station at Pacific Pines.

The Queensland Government has a strong plan for revitalising our frontline services for a brighter and safer future for all Queenslanders. That plan includes having more police officers on the beat, where they can engage with the community in the delivery of policing services.

As part of this plan this Government has recognised that the population of the northern Gold Coast area is amongst the fastest growing in the State, with many people moving to the area to enjoy the lifestyle on offer.

Frontline services need to keep pace with this growth and that is why the two Divisions that police the Pacific Pines area have had extra resources allocated. As at 1 October 2014, the headcount of the Coomera and Nerang Police Divisions was 88 officers, which equates to 18 additional officers allocated to the area since 1 April 2012. These officers include those stationed at the Pacific Pines Neighbourhood Police Beat, which has an approved strength of 2 officers.

These operational officers are not sitting in stations but are out in the community responding to calls for service and providing a highly visible presence to deter and prevent crime. The officers have access to 18 QLite devices which allow them to conduct a range of functions in real time, such as person and vehicle registration checks. This means that if patrolling officers locate any wanted people or vehicles, action can be taken immediately.

The Coomera Police Station has also been issued with a Livescan device so that identifying particulars, such as fingerprints, can be taken and processed efficiently.

The use of technology is being widely explored with arrangements currently being progressed for an iPad device to be located at the Coomera Police Station so that members of the community may report matters on-line, saving them time and enabling crime data to be immediately available to patrolling officers.

In addition to the need to prevent and deter crime via a highly visible uniform police presence, there is also a need for trained and experienced officers to investigate and solve crimes which may occur. These specialist investigators work in the areas of criminal investigation and child protection and investigation. A further 12 plain clothes investigator positions will also be added to the northern Gold Coast area throughout 2014-2015, and all officers will be stationed in the Coomera Police Division.

Policing services in the Pacific Pines area are not solely delivered by Divisional officers or investigators. Pacific Pines residents may also receive policing services from the Road Policing Unit, Dog Squad, Scenes of Crime, Police Helicopter Unit and the new Rapid Action Patrol (RAP) Group.

The use of police resources across the Gold Coast is monitored and reviewed, as part of daily operations, by local police managers and resources are deployed according to the analysis of crime trends and calls for service.

Whilst there is currently no consideration for a police station at Pacific Pines, I have asked that the Queensland Police Service proactively monitor the needs of the local community.

Should you require further information, Mr Mark Hrycek, Chief of Staff, is available on telephone (07) 3035 8300.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Jack Dempsey MP
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services