



Minister for Police and
Minister for Corrective Services

Ref No: 2018/14315 JF
Your Ref: A335787

10 JUL 2018

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 19 June 2018 about petitions received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No. 2955-18 and 2940-18.

I appreciate the concerns expressed by the petitioners and referred this matter to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) so that I can be better informed about the issues raised.

Murgon and Cherbourg communities have the right to be safe and the right to feel safe.

Following my recent visit to the Murgon and Cherbourg community, I announced that QPS will deploy a Commissioned Officer to Murgon for three months to drive action on the ground.

The QPS has advised that local police resources will be enhanced, with a Tactical Crime Squad response being developed to work through immediate additional assistance that specialist areas can provide in the short term. These crime operations will be supported with additional officers from Dog Squad and Investigative Units.

The QPS have further advised that they have several proactive initiatives across the South Burnett designed to prevent or divert young offenders away from criminal behavior. These programs are delivered by the Police Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) and include Blue Edge, Deep Blue Line, Team Up, Friday Night Live and organised after school activities. These programs will continue to be delivered in the local community.

The Palaszczuk Government recognises more coordination between government services would also help address many of the underlying causes of criminal and anti-social behaviour. A multi-pronged strategy that addresses keeping kids in schools, helping families deal with issues that may arise and supporting those in need or at risk of offending will help addresses underlying social issues. It is anticipated that through improved coordination, many of these available services will provide additional community benefits.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Ryan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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