



**Judy Spence MP**  
Member for Mount Gravatt



Ref: 7166 F1 JS

- 1 NOV 2006

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
Cnr Alice and George Streets  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Office of the  
**Minister for Police and  
Corrective Services**  
LAID UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE  
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

8/11/06.



Dear Neil

I am writing to provide my response to petition numbers 605-06 and 640-06 which were tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 19 April 2006.

The Palm Beach Police Station currently provides a 24 hour policing service and operates police patrols 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

Additional patrols are undertaken during identified peak periods, such as weekends and holiday periods. Police work from the Palm Beach Station 24 hours a day, even when the front door is closed. For those who come to the station outside of normal business hours, there is an intercom system at the front door that connects to the Gold Coast Police Communications Centre. Operators at the Centre are able to directly task the police vehicle that is in the area patrolling, to attend calls for service.

Having a Police Officer staff a counter 24 hours a day means police will be stuck behind a counter rather than out patrolling and responding to calls.

The 2006-07 State Budget provides a record \$1.3 billion operating budget for the Queensland Police Service, an increase of \$121.9 million or 10.3% from the previous budget which was also a record allocation.

Queensland has a record number of over 9,200 police.

Since the election of the Beattie Government, the strength of the Gold Coast Police District has increased from 503 to 689, which is an increase of over 37%.

More police are now available throughout the Gold Coast than ever before and we will continue to increase police numbers particularly in growth and tourism areas.

The Beattie Government will not stop there. In this year's State Budget we are training and employing a record number of 350 police to focus on general duties front-line first response policing.

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This will result in more police for the Gold Coast.

Further, the existing Gold Coast Tactical Crime Squad already conducts extensive operations on the Southern Gold Coast.

Recently I announced a new Police District for the northern part of the Gold Coast. When established, this will allow the Gold Coast Tactical Crime Squad to further concentrate their operations on the Southern Gold Coast - in and around Palm Beach.

This Government has been and remains strongly committed to increasing police numbers and supporting the Queensland Police Service.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Judy Spence MP**  
Minister for Police and Corrective Services