



**Judy Spence MP**  
Member for Mount Gravatt



**Queensland  
Government**

Ref: 4202 F34 TA



Office of the  
**Minister for Police and  
Corrective Services**

20 FEB 2007

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

*J* 26/2/07

Dear Mr Laurie

I am writing to respond to petition number 720-06 lodged by Mr Danny Flynn and received by the Legislative Assembly on 12 October 2006.

The petition seeks the stationing of Police on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands.

I am pleased to advise that this Government's election commitments include major new initiatives to boost policing services on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands.

These initiatives include the construction of police stations on Russell Island and Macleay Island. The process for acquisition and construction has already commenced and the facilities are due to be completed in 2007.

In addition, a new high-speed \$1.65 million barge will replace the old 'J F Power' barge and assist police in servicing the Islands.

Further details of the initiatives are set out in the attached copy of my media statement announcing these important election commitments.

The Queensland Police Service and this Government are strongly committed to meeting the policing needs of the growing communities on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

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

Encl

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**Minister for Police & Corrective Services  
The Honourable Judy Spence**

**Tuesday, August 29, 2006**

**MINISTER MEETS MACLEAY ISLAND COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS POLICING**

Police Minister Judy Spence travelled to Macleay Island today to meet residents and discuss the Beattie Government's election commitment to build two police stations on Russell Island and Macleay Island.

Ms Spence joined the Member for Redlands, John English, to meet residents from the Macleay Island Action Group.

"I wanted to speak with local community representatives about the existing policing of the southern Moreton Bay Islands, and general law and order issues," Ms Spence said.

"The meeting was also designed to explain our election commitment.

"If the Labor Government is re-elected, we will spend \$3.5 million to build two police stations on Russell Island and Macleay Island.

"If we are re-elected, I envisage tenders to build the stations would be called in the 2008/09 financial year, with construction of both stations complete in 2009/10.

"The new stations would continue to be supported by the Wynnum District Water Police, and officers from the Redland Bay Police Station."

Ms Spence said the new stations would form a new Bay Islands policing division.

"This will provide a stronger, more highly visible policing presence in the Bay Islands community, that will assist police to work with the community to fight crime," Ms Spence said.

Ms Spence said Mr English had been a diligent and hard-working local member, who had constantly lobbied her for a permanent police presence on the islands.

"John English has been in my ear about this issue at every opportunity over the past two and a half years, and I am pleased that we have been able to come up with this solution," Ms Spence said.

Mr English said the growing population on the Bay Islands warranted the need for their own permanent policing presence.

"This permanent police presence on the islands, where officers will live amongst the community, will augment the existing water police and police barge that transport officers from the mainland," Mr English said.

"That support will be further enhanced this year with a new high-speed \$1.65 million barge that will replace the old JF Power barge and assist police to service the lower Moreton Bay Islands.

"Unlike the Opposition, we are not trying to buy votes on the cheap.

"While Mr Springborg has promised a paltry \$450,000 tin shed with a blue light on each island, the Beattie Government will provide the island communities what they deserve - two brand new police stations, complete with police residences to ensure that the officers live in the community.

"We need our police living in our communities, not commuting to and fro."

Mr English, who collected signatures for a permanent presence on the islands from local residents and tabled that petition in Parliament this year, thanked the community for their support.

Ms Spence said the new stations were part of an election commitment by the Beattie Government to spend \$260 million over the next four years to establish six new police divisions and to build more than 20 new, upgraded or replacement police stations and facilities.

The \$260 million includes \$70 million in the 2006/07 financial year.

"We are focussing on ensuring Queensland's police have the best possible infrastructure, resources and support to work with the community in fighting crime," Ms Spence said.

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