



Petition

Registration No.	17
Title	Immediate establishment of a permanent police presence at Karama Shopping Centre
Presented on	27 July 2022
Presented by	Member for Karama
Referred to	Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services; and Public Accounts Committee
Assembly debate	If the Committee recommends the Petition be debated it will appear on the Notice Paper
Date referred	27 July 2022
Response due	30 November 2022
Response received	30 September 2022
Response presented	11 October 2022

Petition

To the Speaker and the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

WE THE UNDERSIGNED RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH

We the undersigned support the immediate establishment of a permanent police presence at Karama Shopping Centre as part of the development of a fully staffed Police Station in the area asap.

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE HUMBLY PRAY THAT

The Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory supports the establishment of a permanent police presence at Karama to directly service the residents of Karama, Malak and neighbouring suburbs – as a tangible way of mitigating the escalating crime and anti-social behaviour that is destroying the lifestyle of local residents.

Initially this could be a 24 Hr mobile police caravan permanently located in the carpark of the Karama Shopping Centre – as work begins on the siting and construction of a permanent police station in the area.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS AS IN DUTY BOUND, WILL EVER PRAY.

Response

As a Territory Labor Government, we must continue to drive improvements to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), ensuring the Territory is the safest and most enjoyable place to call home. It is critical we stay focused on providing a holistic and strategic response to reduce the contributing factors of ASB, which is one of the reasons why the Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield Interagency Tasking and Co-ordination Group was established.

A team of government and non-government and community organisations are implementing a range of measures to support families and improve social outcomes, family dysfunction, crime and

ASB that continues to have a significant impact on the local community, businesses and families, including within Karama and surrounding suburbs.

The implications and recurrent costs for staffing another permanent police presence have been trialled previously, with shopfronts and police beats at Palmerston, Parap and Casuarina Shopping Precincts. They have proven to be an uneconomical, ineffective and costly alternative to responsive mobile patrols, with resources being directed from other areas. Additionally, the use of a police caravan has also been trialled in the past at Karama, with the results showing that a police response, as required, with regular proactive patrols was a more appropriate allocation of police resources.

A review of incidents reported throughout 2022 from the Karama Shopping Centre indicate a decrease over the last 12 months, while other suburbs in the response area show an equal demand on policing resources. Proactive and reactive police patrols of the Karama and surrounding suburbs will continue, complementing the existing provision of security services within the shopping centre.