

Document 1

From: s. 47E(c)
To: s. 47E(c)
Cc: s. 47E(c)
Subject: QTB for CFO clearance (by COB today) - Safer Communities Fund [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 9 February 2021 9:02:10 AM
Attachments: [QB21-000185 - Safer Communities Fund - QTB\(9 Feb 2020\).DOCX](#)

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Hi s. 47E(c)

Please find attached for CFO clearance a QTB requested by Minister Dutton's Office on the Safer Communities Fund program, we have been requested to provide this to the Minister tomorrow morning and therefore will require CFO clearance by **cob today (9/2)**.

The grant figures referenced in relation to individual grants are those provided by the DISER Business Grant Hub and reflect the amounts in the funding agreements entered into with the individual organisations following the approval of funding by the relevant Minister.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks

s. 47E(c)

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QUESTION:**KEY TALKING POINTS:**

- The Safer Communities Fund continues to deliver on the Government's commitment to reduce crime and violence, and improve community safety.
- Since 2016 the Government has committed \$215.1 million to local councils, places of religious worship, not for profit organisations and organisations working with at-risk young people leading to greater community reliance and wellbeing.
- This has included:
 - Funding to empower local councils to put in prevention infrastructure solutions such as CCTV and lighting best suited to their local needs
 - Funding to assist with the installation of security infrastructure at places of religious worship, schools and pre-schools that may face security risks driven by racial and/or religious intolerance
 - Funding for peak Police Citizens Youth Clubs, Bluelight organisations and Youth Off the Streets to target, reach and engage at risk youth to divert them from the criminal justice system.
- Much of the funding to support these commitments has been confiscated from serious and organised criminals.
- The Government is committed to distributing these funds to support crime prevention and other community safety initiatives.

Examples of funded projects**WA Police and Community Youth Centres 'Drive to the Future' project**

- I approved a grant of \$400,388 for the Western Australian Police and Community Youth Centres 'Drive to the Future' project in 2018.
- Since January 2019, the WA Police and Community Youth Centre has used these funds to run programs targeted to at-risk young people in Broome, Geraldton and Kensington.
- The project identifies young people who may be at risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour and provides them with the chance to gain their driver's licence via

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quality instruction aimed at reducing dangerous driving practices. Holding a licence also improves the chance of those young people to access employment and education opportunities.

Bathurst Regional Council CCTV network

- In August 2020, the Bathurst Regional Council finalised the successful installation of a new CCTV camera network including 27 cameras in central Bathurst.
- This work was supported by \$400,000 in Safer Communities Funds following the Council's success in a competitive grant funding process.
- The Government believes that the cameras are contributing to enhancing community safety and security, as well as reducing street crime and violence.

Funding for places of worship (following Christchurch mosque attack)

- Following the 2019 terrorist attack in Christchurch, funds from the Safer Communities program were made available to mosques, churches, synagogues, temples and religious schools for safety measures such as CCTV cameras, lighting, fencing, bollards and public address systems.
- The National Jewish Memorial Centre in Canberra received \$84,140 to upgrade and extend its security and alarm systems.
- The Newcastle Muslim Association has received \$127,142 to improve fencing, CCTV cameras and alarms at the Newcastle mosque.

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

The Safer Communities Fund implements 2016 and 2019 election commitments around crime prevention and community safety. Program funding of **\$180.1 million** (including administration) has been committed for the first five rounds. A further **\$35 million** (including administration) over 4 years from 2020-21 to deliver round six was allocated from proceeds of crime funding in Budget 2020-21. Rounds three and five of the Safer Communities Fund (\$85.1 million including administration fees) and the newly announced round six of the Safer Communities Fund (\$35.0 million) are funded from proceeds of crime and were recently subject to an FOI request (Paul Farrell, the 7:30 Report). Rounds one and two were partially funded from proceeds of crime. Round four of the Safer Communities Fund was Budget-funded.

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