

Minutes, Muslim Reference Group, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019

| Item        | Discussion  | Person                 | Action |
|-------------|---|------------------------|--------|
| 1<br>7.05pm | <p><b>Open and welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledgement of the Commissioner and thanked him and the QPS for their support and assistance after the Christchurch attack</li> </ul>   | Chair –<br>Sultan Deen |        |
| 2.          | <b>Opening Du'a (Prayer)</b>  |                        |        |
| 3           | <p><b>Attendees:</b> See attached attendee list</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Deputy Commissioner Gee, Inspector Karen Ballantyne, David Forde, Superintendent Peter Brewer, Kerrin Benson, Janeth Deen, Fethullah Erdogan, Ibraheem Malik, Superintendent Virginia Nelson and Inspector Darren Smith</p>  |                        |        |
| 4           | <p><b>Commissioner's Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gratitude for participants attending and acknowledgement of all policing and government Departments and services attending</li> <li>Deep sympathy and condolences from the whole of the QPS for the families, friends and Muslim community. Congratulated the Muslim community for opening their Mosques and welcoming the community</li> </ul> | Ian Stewart            |        |
| 5           | <b>Approval of previous meeting community notes</b>   | Sultan Deen            |        |
| 6           | <p><b>Standing Items</b></p> <p><b>ICQ report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of the new President</li> <li>Thanked all police for the support and assistance extended to him personally and the</li> </ul>   | Habib Jamal            |        |

|  |   |                 |  |
|--|---|-----------------|--|
|  | <p>Muslim community in general</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Congratulated Galila Abdelsalam for her Order of Australia medal/title</li><li>• Believes that the Mosques and Muslim community have settled after the Christchurch attacks, although fear is still felt</li></ul> <p><b>ADCQ report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction of new Commissioner</li><li>• Commended the strength of the relationships between the QPS and Muslim community</li><li>• Condolences for all in relation to the Christchurch attacks and all Regional officers are in contact with their local Muslim communities throughout Qld</li><li>• Meetings are being conducted with ADCQ and the Attorney General regarding the possibility of increasing the penalties of current anti-vilification and discrimination laws. Current laws were introduced before smart phones and social media</li><li>• Important that the community reports any incidents of incidents to the ADCQ</li><li>• Commonwealth Education Curriculum review due in 2020 – hoping to see Islamic Studies included</li></ul> <p><b>AFP report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AFP response to NZ attacks include search warrants executed on family members and working in conjunction with NZ authorities</li><li>• AFP send officers to NZ to assist with the investigation</li><li>• Safer Communities fund launched which provides funding for security around</li></ul> | Scott McDougall |  |
|--|---|-----------------|--|

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>religious worship locations, schools etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyber safety session conducted at IWAA – please contact if interested</li> <li>• Project underway involving male Muslim youth on a road trip to visit and learn about the history of various Mosques around Australia. Aim of project includes creating awareness and sense of belonging to Islam in Australia – connection to country and self-identity</li> </ul> <p><b>Matters raised from AFP report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions asked about the selection process and if this process was finalised. Selection is being based with community support/guidance and selection factors include being able to utilise the experience to assist with employment etc</li> </ul> <p><b>QPS report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officers, CCLO’s and police chaplains throughout the State have attended many open days/memorials/vigils/tributes to support their local Muslim communities after the Christchurch attacks</li> <li>• Increased police presence at Mosques, especially at prayer time on Fridays</li> <li>• Meetings held with local Muslim leaders and Imams in relation to security advice, emergency management plans and security assessments conducted</li> <li>• Formal adoption of Muslim PLO Faysal Bulle at Aitkenvale State Primary School</li> <li>• Mt Isa police actively involved in the ‘Community Action for a Multicultural Society’ (CAMS) project which includes assisting with email/resume/driving skills and working closely with the Department of Social Services &amp; Immigration to assist in relocating relatives to the region, engaging youth and providing education of the role of police</li> </ul> | <p>Shane Johnson</p> <p>Joanna Stone</p> |  |
|---|--|--|

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Safe camera placed at the Toowoomba Mosque</li> </ul> <p><b>Matters raised from QPS report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Stewart praised the Muslim Community for their leadership after the Christchurch attacks which also demonstrated commitment to their faith and community in general, to encourage relationships. Many ‘everyday’ Queenslanders attended the many open days etc to show their support.</li> <li>• QPS is proud to work closely with partner agencies and spoke directly with NZ Police Commissioner</li> </ul> <p><b>New Business</b></p> <p><b>QPS Prevention and Protection Group/Security Counter-Terrorism Command</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full time officers/units in Cairns, Rockhampton, Ipswich, Gold Coast, Logan and Brisbane</li> <li>• Role of unit includes community engagement, priority site engagement (ensuring robust security/evacuation/safety plans are in place in locations where large crowds gather e.g. sporting matches, shopping centres etc), industry and Government engagement, intervention and support for person(s) at risk of radicalisation (looking and identifying behavioural indicators across all types of extremism)</li> <li>• A protective security session was conducted at Mt Gravatt which provided basic security advice, safety tools and advice</li> <li>• Currently working with primary producers/industries to build resilience against anti animal activists. Concerns raised with these same groups attending the Halal sections in local supermarkets. Nil reports of this to date</li> </ul> | <p>Ian Stewart</p> <p>Glen Allen</p> <p>Peter Aitken</p> |  |
|--|---|--|--|

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | <p><b>Identifying root causes of the Christchurch terror attack</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information provided on personal research which included weak gun laws in NZ, poor media coverage for Muslims, growth of a materialistic society and close ties to the USA</li> </ul> <p><b>Home Affairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted sessions at IWAA on domestic violence</li> <li>Mentioned concerns surrounding visa issues including travel restrictions and travelling to religious events</li> </ul> <p><b>Community fears</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns raised that members of the Muslim Community are living in fear and very worried about their safety</li> <li>Discussion on how the media presents a slanted view of Muslim and various suggestions put forward to address the issue – working together with Imam’s to encourage their congregation to report incidents to the police/ADCQ, ICQ to invite politicians to meet with Muslim leaders (Fenti Forsyth), leaders of the Muslim Community to meet with leaders of Government/Agency leaders (Scott McDougall), State and Federal laws need to be tightened (Rahman Deen)</li> </ul> <p><b>Dietary requirements not being met at Correctional Centres</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports that Muslim prisoners do not have access to Halal food while in custody</li> </ul> <p><b>Radio Ramadan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broadcasting from midnight to 8am and live broadcasting on weekends</li> </ul> | <p>Dr Daud Batchelor</p> <p>Fil Ah San</p> <p>Jamal El Kholed</p> <p>Rahman Deen</p> <p>Yasmin Khan</p> |  |
|--|--|---|--|

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   | <p><b>QPS Support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commended the QPS for their unconditional support and presence at the Mosques and Centres. The work they do is greatly appreciated</li> </ul> <p><b>Multicultural Queensland Awards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominations for these awards are open and there are 8 categories (encouragement for nominations for the media entry which includes bloggers, journalists and online influencers which is new for 2019)</li> </ul> <p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p> <p>13 April -Toowoomba Mosque Open day and food festival</p> <p>14 April - Redbank Community Centre official opening and open day</p> <p>11 May - NBD Worldly Women</p> <p>17 May – Women’s Iftar dinner</p> <p>20 May – QPS Iftar dinner</p> <p>5 June – Tentative date for EID</p> <p>8 June – Eid Downunder</p> | <p>Sultan Deen</p><br><p>Brooke Nguyen</p> |  |
| 7 | <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBA</li> </ul>   | <p>Sultan Deen</p>                         |  |

|   |  |             |  |
|---|--|-------------|--|
| 8 | <p><b>Close</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closing prayer</li> <li>• Chair acknowledged everyone for their attendance</li> <li>• Meeting closed at 9.00pm</li> </ul> | Sultan Deen |  |
|---|--|-------------|--|

| <b>ACTION REGISTER</b> |          |  |         |                                    |           |
|------------------------|----------|--|---------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| DATE                   | AGENDA # | ACTION   | COMMENT | RESPONSIBLE                        | COMPLETED |
| 10/04/2019             | 6        | To arrange for a representative from Corrections to attend the next meeting to discuss the availability of Halal food in prisons |         | A/Sgt Deb Stewart                  |           |
| 10/04/2019             | 6        | Forward Multicultural Queensland Awards information to MRG attendees   |         | Brooke Nguyen<br>A/Sgt Deb Stewart |           |