

Question on Notice
No. 1174
Asked on 12 October 2021

MR BERKMAN ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the report tabled on 12 August 2021 titled 'Queensland Police Service Dangerous Attachment Devices 2020-21 —

Will the Minister advise:(a) why does this report not include the use of the relevant powers on 3 June 2021 despite Legal Observers' reports that Police told approximately five protesters they were being searched for dangerous attachment devices upon approaching the BCEC to attend protests; (b) are there other instances where police are alleged have cited their powers under section 30(1)(k) of the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act to conduct suspicionless searches that are not included in this report and, if so, what are the circumstances surrounding these allegations; and (c) what steps is the Minister taking to ensure that Queensland Police Service officers are not exercising suspicionless search powers without accountability?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that officers responded to protests directed at the Land Forces 2021 event, exhibition/conference attendees and exhibitors that occurred in and around the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC) on 3 June 2021.

I am further advised by the QPS that:

- (a) There were over 40 recorded interactions in and around the BCEC on this day for varying reasons. These interactions included accredited persons, persons working at the BCEC, protestors and members of the public. None of the recorded reasons were for the purpose of the possession of a dangerous attachment device.
- (b) Policing activity is recorded on occurrence sheets and in the QPS Incident Reporting System - QPRIME. Officers in Charge of Stations and Units, team leaders and supervisors are responsible for reviewing these occurrence sheets and QPRIME occurrences to ensure correct reporting is completed.

These processes would identify instances where powers under section 30(1)(k) of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act* are used.

- (c) When completing a report, one of the options available in QPRIME is "search being conducted for a dangerous attachment device". QPRIME enables accurate reporting of all types of searches.

The use of Body Worn Cameras provides a high level of accountability. The footage of the specific interaction can be reviewed and remedial or punitive action can be taken against officers, if required.