
From: ESNoreply <ESNoreply@tmr.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 26 August 2024 2:24 PM
To: 'COMMISSIONER'
Subject: DG46865 - Department of Transport and Main Roads - Do not reply to this email
Attachments: DG46835_DGsigned_26082024.pdf

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Ms Sally Stannard, Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Kind regards

Cabinet, Legislation and Executive Services | Department of Transport and Main Roads
GPO Box 1549 | Brisbane Qld 4001
W: www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Please do not reply to this email.

CONFIDENTIAL

Our ref: DG46835

26 August 2024

Commissioner Steve Gollschewski APM
Commissioner of Police
Queensland Police Service
[REDACTED]

Dear Commissioner

I am writing in response to the recent news article published by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) concerning allegations of criminal threats and involvement by outlaw bikie groups within the Centenary Bridge Upgrade project. In light of the gravity of these allegations and Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) unwavering commitment to uphold public safety and integrity, I would like to affirm that my department has taken this matter with utmost seriousness.

A rigorous investigation led by the project's contractor, Georgiou BMD Joint Venture, has been conducted with conclusive results. Upon examination, the contractor has assured TMR that neither Mr Bemir Saracevic nor Mr Krstomir Bjelogrljic were employed at the project site. TMR supports compliance with all relevant laws and ethical standards among our contractors. The department took proactive steps to investigate the claims, reinforcing our principle of transparency. As part of the due diligence process, TMR have confirmed that all on-site security personnel engaged from interstate have provided necessary documentation and secured valid Queensland security licenses, including criminal history checks.

Since late April 2024, the project's security team has varied between 40-60 guards, adjusted to approximately 20 following a May 2024 Federal Court of Australia Fair Work Division order that gave a finding against Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union that prohibits them from physically obstructing or physically impeding the free movement of goods or people to and from the project. Additional security measures, including expanded fencing and comprehensive CCTV surveillance, has been strategically implemented. The contractor has also been working with Brisbane-based security firm Concentric Concepts, with senior staff members Mr Grant Killen and Mr Matthew Foots, both of which have past professional relationships with Queensland Police Service and the State's Crime and Corruption Commission.

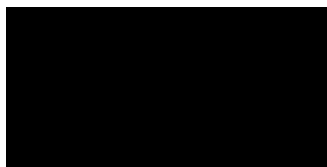
In regard to the ABC's specific claim involving a CFMEU delegate being allegedly threatened near TMR's site by individuals purporting to be connected to outlaw bikie groups, TMR and the contractor are unaware of any reports to the police by any staff member or CFMEU regarding the allegations or threats. TMR's contractor conducted an investigation that established this alleged incident may have involved the threatening of a site employee, who was a Health and Safety Representative (for Australian Workers' Union AWU). The investigation reviewed the site's CCTV footage and conducted interviews with relevant staff members. However, it did not produce conclusive evidence to substantiate the claim. TMR's contacts for the project and the investigation are:

- Mr Mathew Quay-Verlander, Operations Manager QLD & NT BMD Constructions, [REDACTED] and,
- Mr Sean Donald, General Manager QLD Georgiou Group, [REDACTED]

TMR is invested in the integrity and safety of its projects and maintains rigorous standards to prevent and address any concerns. TMR are prepared to provide full support and any necessary documentation to aid in your inquiries. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information or assistance. TMR appreciate the opportunity to ensure that mutual goals of safety and integrity within public works are upheld to the highest standards.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours sincerely



Sally Stannard
Director-General
Department of Transport and Main Roads