

Inquest into the deaths of Brett Andrew Forte and Ricky Charles Maddison

On 29 May 2017, Senior Constable Brett Forte died after he was shot by Ricky Maddison following a police pursuit culminating in a confrontation. Mr Maddison was wanted for arrest on offences of violence against his former partner and for breaching Domestic Violence Orders. Following a protracted siege, he died after Special Emergency Response Team Operators shot him after he opened fire upon Queensland Police Service officers with an automatic rifle.

State Coroner Terry Ryan delivered his findings on 14 March 2023.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating to the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 1

I recommend that the QPS permanently establish District Duty Officer positions in the Toowoomba District at the level of Senior Sergeant.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

On 22 March 2024 the Minister for Police and Community Safety responded:

The Queensland Police Service has established six permanent District Duty Officer positions at the level of Senior Sergeant in the Darling Downs District within Southern Region. The six positions were advertised on 31 March 2023, of which four were filled permanently. The remaining two positions were re-advertised on 14 July 2023. These two positions are currently filled on a temporary basis, pending the outcome of the recruitment process.

Recommendation 2

As a matter of priority, the Queensland Police Service implement a solution to enable searches to occur across all QPS information systems and intelligence holdings to ensure frontline offices have access to reliable and current information. The QPS should report on its progress in relation to the implementation of this recommendation within six months.

Response and action: implementation of the recommendation is in progress.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

On 22 March 2024 the Minister for Police and Community Safety responded:

The Queensland Police Service Research and Analytics has commenced a pilot of a new QSearch tool that will facilitate searches across all types of data and attachments held within the Queensland Police Records Information Management Exchange (QPRIME).

Recommendation 3

Queensland Police Service ensure that all offices are regularly trained in relation to their obligation to enter intelligence information correctly within relevant QPS databases in a timely manner and the ongoing management of those databases.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

The Queensland Police Service is ensuring officers are regularly trained to enter intelligence information correctly in QPS databases. The People Capability Command has updated the Recruit and First Year Constable curriculums to enable members to provide face-to-face intelligence-based training with an emphasis on the obligation to record information and the step-by-step processes for the submission of intelligence on QPRIME.

An online learning product is also being developed for all police officers from Constable to Superintendent on the use of and obligations relating to entering intelligence reports.