



The Hon Stuart Ayres MP
Minister for Sport

The Hon David Elliott MP
Minister for Counter Terrorism

The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP
Minister for the Environment
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Dear Minister *Gabrielle*

Re: Permanent closure of a section of Driver Avenue at the Moore Park Sydney

Driver Avenue at Moore Park is regularly closed for the staging of events within the entertainment precinct. For more than a decade it has been temporarily closed to secure patron safety for major events held at Allianz Stadium and the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG). In the current threat environment, this measure has become increasingly important.

While there is no specific threat against Allianz Stadium or the SCG, a number of global factors and events have come together to indicate a terrorist attack in Australia is likely. Crowded places such as stadiums and major events have become attractive targets for terrorists. Attacks on crowded places overseas including Nice, Berlin, London and most recently Barcelona demonstrate how vehicles are being used by terrorists to devastating effect.

The Counter Terrorism Unit of the NSW Police force completed a report earlier this year that provided recommendations on the infrastructure requirements for the permanent closure of Driver Avenue to mitigate threats to safety and security, such as a vehicle-ramming attack.

Both the Minister for Counter Terrorism and I believe consideration should now be given to that report. We support in-principle the permanent closure of a section of Driver Avenue between the entrance to the MP1 car park (north of Driver Avenue) and the southern border of the SCG to improve public safety and mitigate threats to the security of this entertainment precinct.

Closure of that section of Driver Avenue will also provide significant benefits to the public. It will allow for the beautification and pedestrianisation of a stretch of parkland, plaza and road.

Your assistance in expediting consideration of the report and its recommendations would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Ayres MP
Minister for Sport
September 2017

David Elliott MP
Minister for Counter Terrorism
September 2017

The Hon Troy Grant MP, Minister for Police