



# Allegra Spender MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WENTWORTH

December 17, 2025

**The Hon Anthony Albanese MP**

Prime Minister  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister,

**RE: SUPPORT FOR SECURITY FUNDING FOR MORIAH SECONDARY COLLEGE**

I am writing to express my strong support for Moriah College's request for Federal Government assistance to fund critical security infrastructure as part of the redevelopment of its Secondary School campus in Queens Park, Sydney.

Moriah College is Australia's largest and oldest Jewish day school, educating approximately 1,600 students from early learning through to Year 12. For more than 80 years, the College has played an important role in educating young Australians and fostering civic participation, community contribution and social cohesion.

With thousands of students, staff, parents and visitors on its campus each day, as well as after hours and on weekends, Moriah has more people on site for more hours a week than any other Jewish institution in New South Wales or indeed in Australia. This scale of activity, combined with predictable operating hours and the presence of very young children, significantly heightens its exposure to risk.

The urgency of this request has been underscored by the devastating terrorist attack at Bondi Beach on 14 December 2025, where Jewish people gathered to mark Chanukah were targeted in a senseless act of violence. That this attack occurred on the first night of Chanukah, a festival symbolising hope and resilience, has deeply shaken the Jewish community and the broader community.

Moriah faces a security threat profile that is fundamentally different from that of other schools. As a result, it is compelled to spend approximately \$3.9 million per annum on operational security alone. In addition, around \$12.8 million of the Secondary School redevelopment cost is directly attributable to essential security measures that would not be required at a comparable non-Jewish school.

I am advised that Moriah formally sought Commonwealth support in May for this security component and that, to date, this request has not been successful. This is despite the community having already raised more than \$64 million toward a project with a total cost of approximately \$95 to \$100 million.

I urge you to give favourable consideration to Moriah College's request. Supporting this project is not only an investment in school safety, but a clear statement that Jewish Australians have the right to feel safe, secure and welcome in their community.

Yours sincerely,

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**Allegra Spender MP**  
Federal Member for Wentworth



# Allegra Spender MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WENTWORTH

December 20, 2025

The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600

The Hon. Tony Burke MP  
Minister for Home Affairs  
Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600

## **Re: Inquiry into Bondi Beach terrorist attack**

Dear Prime Minister and Minister Burke,

I am writing to share my recommendations on the structure of a government inquiry to investigate the circumstances and response to the devastating Bondi Beach terrorist attack.

It is critical that the inquiry be an independent and transparent review of how the attack could happen and how we can ensure nothing like this is ever repeated.

My recommendations are as follows:

1. You should consult with the Jewish community (particularly the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the Jewish Board of Deputies, and the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism) on the terms of reference of any inquiry, given this attack specifically targeted the Jewish community.
2. The inquiry should be headed by an independent, non-partisan figure rather than a current senior official (as was the case with the Lindt siege inquiry). For example, a former Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security may be an appropriate choice.
3. The inquiry should be joint between the Commonwealth and NSW governments, given the involvement of various agencies at both levels.
4. A parliamentary committee (potentially joint between Commonwealth and NSW governments) should be established with representatives from government, opposition and the crossbench. This committee will develop and agree the inquiry's terms of reference and leadership, to ensure it is credible and politically neutral.
5. The inquiry head should have investigatory powers, akin to a Royal Commissioner.
6. The inquiry head should be appointed for a term of at least three years, with responsibility for monitoring progress against their recommendations. They should be tasked with reporting back to government on an annual basis.
7. The inquiry's terms of reference should be developed in consultation with the families of victims. The process of getting the inquiry's terms of reference right should not be rushed.
8. The inquiry should include the ability for the public to make submissions. This inquiry will be a critical opportunity for victims and the broader community to feel there is accountability and action, and their participation in this process is essential.

I would be glad to speak to you in more detail about my recommendations. I stand ready to work with you to ensure the inquiry is credible, meaningful and results in tangible action to prevent such horrors ever occurring in Australia again.



# Allegra Spender MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WENTWORTH

Warm regards,

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**Allegra Spender MP**  
Member for Wentworth



# Allegra Spender MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WENTWORTH

December 24 2025  
The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

## RE: PRIORITY REQUESTS FOLLOWING THE BONDI BEACH TERRORIST ATTACK

Dear Prime Minister,

I welcome your government's actions and commitments in the wake of the horrific Bondi Beach terrorist attack, but I write to you to say there is more that needs to be done. For the past week, I have been on the ground in Bondi speaking to local organisations, faith leaders, victims and eyewitnesses, government officials, police and local people to better understand the immediate needs of the community. What I have gathered from these conversations is 5 key priorities I strongly encourage your government to adopt.

### 1. Establish a Commonwealth Royal Commission

The events of 14 December will have profound and lasting implications for our country. We must ensure that the response leads to genuine improvement in safety, accountability and social cohesion. A transparent, independent Royal Commission with strong investigative powers offers the clearest path forward and the level of accountability the public rightly expects.

Such a Commission would also provide victims and families with a formal opportunity to be heard and to begin healing. I urge that it be established with a strict 12-month reporting deadline and include clear mechanisms for ongoing responsibility, delivery and public reporting against its recommendations. The length of previous Royal Commissions is not a sufficient reason to avoid a thorough examination of how Australia's worst terrorist attack occurred, and how we can ensure it is never repeated.

### 2. Urgently strengthen hate speech laws

Words matter. Hate speech — even when it does not explicitly call for violence — fuels division, dehumanisation and the conditions in which violent extremism can flourish. While the passage of the Criminal Code Amendment (Hate Crimes) Bill 2025 was a positive step, it fell short of what was needed after my proposed amendments were not adopted. I ask that stronger legislation be introduced in the first sitting week to criminalise hate speech targeting vulnerable communities.

### 3. Provide clear public accountability

I ask that your government set clear timeframes for the delivery of commitments to combat antisemitism and strengthen gun control. These commitments are important, but so too is their urgent and transparent implementation. This work should proceed concurrently with — not be deferred to — the Royal Commission process.

### 4. Appoint a Minister for Social Cohesion

The attack at Bondi was an attack on belonging and on Australian values. I believe there is a strong case for a Cabinet-level Minister for Social Cohesion, responsible for strengthening our social fabric and our collective capacity to disagree without dehumanising one another. Currently responsibilities are spread across several portfolios with no minister at the centre of this vital role. This senior minister would oversee efforts to combat antisemitism and radicalisation, while also fostering inclusion and resilience across our diverse communities.



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## 5. Strengthen security support for the community

I have already written to you separately about funding for Moriah security upgrades as part of their building works and previously written to your government about the need to support the Hakoah club's security. Jewish Australians deserve to live, gather, and practise their faith without fear. The extra investment needed by the community is simply because they are Jewish organisations, and I believe should be met by the state until the state can better guarantee the safety of Jewish citizens.

I will continue to actively pursue these priorities in the New Year and hope to work constructively with you to deliver the response Australians expect and deserve.

Yours sincerely,

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**Allegra Spender MP**

Federal Member for Wentworth