

**Question on Notice
No. 793
Asked on 17 August 2004**

MR SHINE asked the Minister for Police and Corrective Services (MS SPENCE) -

QUESTION:

What is the progress with respect to the proposed Highfields Police Beat and the expected date of commencement of operation?

ANSWER:

I am pleased to advise that the Highfields Police Beat commenced operation on 28 August 2004. Arrangements for the official opening of the beat are currently being considered.

In April 2004 a house was purchased for approximately \$300,000 and the process of converting it for use as a police beat commenced. The conversion process was completed on 27 August 2004, and the expected final cost of the Beat establishment was just over \$342,000.

The Assistant Commissioner, Southern Region, approved interim arrangements to ensure the new facilities were put into use as a matter of priority. As a result, from 28 August 2004, an officer has been working out of the new beat for a minimum of five shifts per week. This policing service will be further enhanced when a permanent officer is appointed and takes up residence in the beat facility in early November 2004. This selection process has already commenced, and a selection panel will be convened on 31 August 2004.

The Queensland Police Service has also undertaken a review of future policing needs at Highfields, and in 2003, land was purchased to support future planning for the development of a police station.