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

QUESTION:

With reference to the funding committed in the 2004-05 Budget for planning at the new police station at Loganholme-

Will she provide further details and timeframes for this project?

ANSWER:

The Beattie Government is committed to improving facilities for the officers of the Queensland Police Service. In the 2004-05 State Budget $29.5 million was allocated for capital works to further improve facilities and accommodation for these officers.

In February 2004 this Government completed a new police station at Loganholme. The Loganholme Police Station provides the approximately 32,000 residents of suburbs including Loganholme, Shailer Park, Tanah Merah, Carbrook and Cornubia with a localised policing service. In area, the Loganholme Police Division covers approximately 65 square kilometres.

Since the station officially commenced operations on 4 February 2004 it has provided the above listed communities with a 24 hour, seven day per week, operational policing patrol. A counter service is maintained during business hours.

The Loganholme Police Division also includes the Hyperdome Police Beat Shopfront which operates during business hours and on Thursday evenings.

The current allocated strength of the station is 20 officers. This number will be increased to 23 uniform officers during this financial year. The policing services within the Division are further enhanced with four Criminal Investigation Branch and two Juvenile Aid Bureau officers who operate from the station.

Officers are very active within the community and have formed partnerships with the community in a number of proactive initiatives. For example, the Loganholme Blue Light Disco Association conducts monthly discos at the Logan Hyperdome with in excess of 1,200, 12 – 17 year olds attending and enjoying themselves in the alcohol and drug free environment. This activity is one of the largest in the state, and the association is currently looking to undertake further community projects to assist the local youth.

Officers from the station have been welcomed in local school communities with all nine schools within the division having an 'adopt a cop'. These officers are particularly active in educating and working within the school communities. There are also four active Neighbourhood Watch Programs in the Division, which all meet on a regular basis and assist in the reduction of crime. Steps are currently being taken to form a Community Consultative Committee within the Division to provide the local community with a further forum to address local policing issues and concerns.

The Loganholme Division has submitted 1633 crime reports since opening. The Logan District Police Communications Centre has recorded that officers from the new Loganholme Police Station have responded to 1,425 calls for service between February and May this year.* This equates to approximately 356 calls for service per month.*

Senior police management will continue to monitor the progress of policing services within the Loganholme Police Division and are pleased to report that its establishment has been well accepted by the local community who have expressed their appreciation, on a number of occasions, for the work done by local police officers.

In the 2004-05 State Budget a contingency of $240,000 was allocated.

This contingency was to fund justifiable claims by the builder resulting from changes in design documentation or changes in requirements.

The majority of claims for additional works have now been processed.

In regards to future planning, the Queensland Police Service is still considering its options in reference to the residence next door to the station.   At this time, the land will be retained for the future expansion of the station or for possible use as a dwelling.

NOTE - *Disclaimer - these figures are not official Service statistics. Official Police Service statistics are produced to police boundaries and therefore these figures should be treated as estimates only.