

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 294**  
**Asked on 10 March 2005**

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

QUESTION:

Will she advise how the number of police officers on the Gold Coast today compares with the number at 17 February 2001?

ANSWER:

The Beattie Government is committed to ensuring the safety of Gold Coast residents through the provision of appropriate policing resources.

As at 1 April 2005, there are 695 police officers within the Gold Coast District. This represents an increase of 95 positions since February 2001. This equates to an increase of nearly 16 percent.

In addition, recruitment activity is currently underway for a number of new positions within the Gold Coast District including the Gold Coast District Juvenile Aid Bureau (Suspect Child Abuse and Neglect team).

The Gold Coast District is located within the South Eastern Police Region. The number of police within the region has increased from 1029 in February 2001 to 1213 as at April 1 2005.

Since February 2001, the Beattie Government has increased the number of police officers throughout Queensland from 7633 to 8936 as at 1 April 2005.

This Government made an election commitment to increase the number of police to 9150 by 2005, bringing Queensland up to the national average for police to population ratio. We are on target to exceed this goal and once this is achieved, we will maintain police numbers above the national average.