

**Question on Notice
No. 570
Asked on 17 April 2007**

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

QUESTION:

- (1) How many current vacancies per division are there in the Gold Coast District (listed individually under the following divisions: Coomera, Nerang, Runaway Bay, Southport, Surfers Paradise, Mudgeeraba, Palm Beach, Coolangatta, Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection Investigation Unit and Communications)?
- (2) How many first year constables are there currently allocated to the Gold Coast District in total and what are the numbers currently allocated to the abovementioned divisions (listed individually)?

ANSWER:

In February of this year I announced that the South Eastern Police Region will receive a large injection of another 40 new police officers by the end of 2007. This will almost double the previous allocation of 23 police during the 2005-06 financial year.

More police are now stationed on the Gold Coast than ever before with 201 extra positions established since 1 July 1998 - a 40% increase since the Beattie Government was first elected. This clearly demonstrates a significant commitment to the Gold Coast community through increased police numbers.

As at February 2006, there are 75 police serving as constable in their first year of service allocated to the Gold Coast District. The total number of police in the Gold Coast District was 692 which includes FYC's.

Since this Government was elected in 1998 we have increased numbers by approximately 300 each year and have succeeded in raising Queensland's police to population ratio to better than the national average. This Government will continue to maintain police numbers at or above the national average of the police to population ratio. The 2006-07 State Budget provides for an extra 350 front-line, first response general duties police officers.

As a result of this of this commitment to boosting police numbers, the number of police officers in the Queensland Police Service will increase to 9728 officers by September 2007- an increase of 3000 police officers since this Government came to office.