

**Question on Notice
No. 98
Asked on 8 February 2007**

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the staffing levels of police in the Gold Coast region-

1. How many current vacancies for operational police (listed separately by rank and station) are there in the Gold Coast district?
2. How many of the above vacancies are positions that will not be filled by first year constables?

ANSWER:

1 & 2

The current staffing position of the Gold Coast Police District is the best it has been for many years.

Gold Coast District	
	Actual Strength
01/07/1998	537
01/02/2007	692

Within the Queensland Police Service, the variance in the actual number of officers attached to districts can fluctuate above or below the approved strength; however, the Service endeavours at all times to maintain the actual strength in line with the approved strength. First Year Constables are part of the funded strength of the Service and are therefore counted as part of the district approved and actual strength.

Currently the actual policing strength of 692 exceeds the approved strength of 689.

The Commissioner constantly monitors the policing and resource needs of the District. The Service has already made provisions for future growth with a further 15 positions for the Gold Coast District, which will see the approved strength increase from 689 to 704. These extra positions will support the Beattie Government's: Police Beat initiatives at Pacific Pines, Biggera Waters and Arundel; the Child Protection Blueprint initiative; and commitment to growing the general staffing strength of the Queensland Police Service.

It has also been announced that the Gold Coast area will received an extra 40 police by the end of 2007. Since the Beattie Government was elected eight years ago, we have continued to increase funding for police numbers and as a result police officer positions in the South Eastern Region have increased from 862 to 1216

This clearly demonstrates a significant commitment to the Gold Coast community through increased police numbers.