

**Question on Notice
No. 1531
Asked on 28 October 2008**

MR RICKUSS asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Sport (MS SPENCE)—

QUESTION:

How many first, second and third year police officers are currently serving in the Logan Police District (reported separately by year of service)?

ANSWER:

The Bligh Government is committed to ensuring Queensland's Law and Order future.

That is why we continue to increase police numbers. For this term alone, Government has increased police numbers by 583 from 9,323 to 9906.

In 2007/08 we inducted nearly 700 new police officers. In 2008/09 this will increase to nearly 800.

In the Logan District these additional police have increased by 49 from 498 to a current strength of 547. This represents a 10% increase in just over 2 years.

Our commitment to increasing police numbers has been reflected in this year's annual statistical review with overall crime falling by 5%. In fact since 2000/01 the overall crime rate has dropped 24%.

The Queensland Police Service is committed to ensuring our police are highly trained professionals with the skills required to effectively perform their duties, with training and development available across all ranks. Police recruits are provided six months of full-time training prior to being sworn in.

The Police Recruit Operational Vocational Education (PROVE) Program commenced in January 1994, and incorporates the traditional core subjects of policing skills with other areas of communication, humanities, ethics and social sciences.

The PROVE Program aims to equip recruits with a quality foundation so that they can provide excellent service to the community. While undertaking the Program, the skills of recruits are developed to a level necessary for operational policing.

Part of this development requires recruits to acquire competency in the operation of computers, motor vehicles, firearms as well as officer safety and physical fitness.

This training is provided by the Queensland Police Service Academy and the North Queensland Campus in Townsville. The program is designed to give recruits sufficient skills and knowledge in front-line policing.

In their first three years on the beat, police take part in the Constable Development Program. This program is specifically designed for constables to provide them with the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and behaviours which are important to a constable, and in preparation for the performance of duties at the rank of Senior Constable.

The QPS is committed to the development of all officers across all ranks and this commitment manifests itself in the creation of an integrated education and training focus and the production of high quality, well researched training materials, which are designed to assist police in undertaking their duties in the operational environment.

The Queensland Police Service is committed to achieving excellence in the training and development of their officers and ensures that they meet high standards.

These 63 police in their first year on the beat in the Logan Police District possess a wide range of life experience and are equipped with operational policing skills to enable them to perform efficiently and effectively in all communities across the State.