Question on Notice No. 1244 Asked on 16 September 2009

MR SHINE asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the extent of police facilities in the form of stations, police beats and shop fronts currently operating within the electorate of Toowoomba North and respective police numbers at each?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question and ongoing interest in the policing resources which service his electorate.

Our record budget allocation of \$1.706 billion for the Queensland Police Service in 2009/10, and our commitment to increasing police numbers by 600 over three years, is testament to the Bligh Government's focus on enhancing community services to meet Queensland's growing population.

The Toowoomba North area is policed by the Toowoomba Police District. Since 1July 1998, the approved police strength of the Toowoomba District has increased from 167 to 259 as at 1 September 2009 – an increase of 92.

The police facilities which are physically located in the Toowoomba North electorate, and their respective approved police strengths, are as follows:

Toowoomba Police Division (93)
Toowoomba Police Shopfront Grand Central (1)
Wilsonton Police Shopfront (1)
Newton Neighbourhood Police Beat (1)
Toowoomba East Neighbourhood Police Beat (1)
Harlaxton Neighbourhood Police Beat (1)
Highfields Neighbourhood Police Beat (1)

It should be noted that in addition to the services provided by the local police, the Toowoomba North area also receives policing services from officers attached to district functions such as the Traffic Branch, Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection Investigation Unit, Tactical Crime Squad, Dog Squad and others. The officers attached to these units perform operational duties and provide backup support throughout the Toowoomba District, including the Toowoomba North area.

The Queensland Police Service constantly monitors the delivery of policing services across Queensland. If areas are identified as needing additional policing, consideration is given to increasing approved strength.