

**Question on Notice
No. 1728
Asked on 11 November 2009**

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how the government is increasing police resources to maintain safe communities throughout Queensland, and in particular in the Mount Ommaney Electorate?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and interest in the ongoing commitment of the Bligh Government to maintaining safe and secure communities across Queensland.

In 2009-10, this Government has allocated a record \$1.706 billion to provide the Police Service with the staff, resources and facilities it needs to effectively police a state with the geographical and cultural diversity of Queensland. The Bligh Government has also committed to increasing police numbers to more than 10,600 by March 2012 – an increase of 600 police positions over three years.

The Queensland Police Service continually reviews police staffing allocations throughout the State as part of its annual planning and budgetary processes.

These annual reviews include assessments of population and crime trends (including in the Mount Ommaney Electorate) to ensure that police numbers are kept at appropriate levels in all areas.

The Mount Ommaney Electorate is policed by the 24-hour Mount Ommaney Police Station, the Oxley Police Beat and the Centenary North Police Beat within the Oxley Police District. Since 1 July 1998, the approved police strength for the Oxley Police District has increased from 202 to 315 as at 1 November 2009 – an increase of 113 or 55.94%.

On 6 November 2009, a total of 94 First Year Constables graduated from the Queensland Police Service Academy at Oxley. Of these, four graduates have been allocated to the Oxley Police District and will provide an increased policing presence to maintain community safety and fight crime across the District.

Police Divisions within the Oxley Police District are also supported by officers attached to district functions such as the Traffic Branch, Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection Investigation Unit and Tactical Crime Squad.

The Bligh Government's commitment to maintaining safe communities throughout Queensland is supported by an investment of \$126 million over three years in police capital works. Key projects to be delivered include:

- a new police station at Badu Island;
- replacement police stations at Camp Hill and Lockhart River;

- a replacement Oxley District Forensic Facility – Scenes of Crime;
- relocation of the Sunshine Coast District Water Police to the Mooloolaba Spit;
- replacement of Townsville District Support Facilities;
- refurbishment or upgrade of police stations at Beenleigh, Burleigh Heads, Calliope, and Goodna;
- accommodation improvements at the Mackay Police Complex; and
- refurbishment of the Richlands Watchhouse and Townsville Police Academy.

The Bligh Government is committed to ensuring that the Queensland Police Service is provided with the resources it needs to maintain effective and responsive policing services in all areas of Queensland, including the Mount Ommaney Electorate.