

Question on Notice
No. 350
Asked on 23 March 2011

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister inform the House about how the Queensland Labor Government is investing in more police resources for the Caboolture police district?

ANSWER:

Increasing police resources across Queensland remains a priority for the Bligh Government.

This continued commitment to law and order has seen the number of police officers in Queensland increase by 3,700 under successive Labor Governments – from 6,800 officers in June 1998 to over 10,500 police officers at the beginning of April 2011 – an increase of 54 percent.

When the Caboolture Police District first commenced operations in October 2007, the approved police strength of the Caboolture District was 125 positions. As at 1 April 2011, the approved police strength was 209 positions, an increase of 84 police officers or 67%.

The approved police strength of 209 for the Caboolture District includes nine (9) new positions as part of a total of 22 positions allocated to the North Coast Police Region this financial year. The nine (9) new positions include three (3) officers for the Traffic Branch and three (3) officers each for the Burpengary and Caboolture Police Divisions.

During the 2006-07 budget process, the Labor Government committed to, and has since delivered:

- the creation of the Caboolture Police District to give a specific focus on local policing issues and responses;
- an increase in policing resources through the development of the Caboolture District Headquarters;
- a new 24 hour police station and district headquarters at Burpengary; and
- upgrades to the Caboolture Police Station and Watchhouse, Bribie Island Police Station and Woodford Police Station.

Resources for the Caboolture Police District have also been boosted by the allocation of an additional eight police vehicles to the district during 2009-10.

These capital works projects and resourcing allocations have ensured the increasing numbers of police in the Caboolture Police District have the facilities and resources they need to fight crime and protect the community.

The Bligh Government is committed to ensuring the Queensland Police Service is provided with the resources needed to maintain effective and responsive policing services in all areas of Queensland, including the Caboolture District.