

Question on Notice
No. 79
Asked on 4 March 2014

MR GRIMWADE asked the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services (MR DEMPSEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how the Morayfield Electorate is safer under the Newman Government following the commitment to increase police officers by 1,100 over four years?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is committed to reducing crime and making Queensland a safe place to live, visit and do business. That is why the Government is committed to revitalising frontline policing by providing an additional 1,100 new police officers over four years. To date, the Government has delivered around 700 additional officers who have been allocated throughout the State to areas of critical need. This increase in frontline police will enable the Queensland Police Service to commit more officers to proactive policing tasks.

The Morayfield Electorate is served by police principally from the Caboolture and Burpengary Police Divisions within the Moreton Police District. The general duties police in these divisions are supported by many police resources within the district, including Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection and Investigation Unit, Tactical Crime Squad, School Based Police Officers, Crime Prevention, and Domestic Violence and Family Protection. Further support is provided by various centrally commanded units, including Road Policing, Forensic Crash, Scenes of Crime, Dog Squad, Intelligence, Police Citizens Youth Clubs and Police Prosecutions Corps.

All police work collaboratively to achieve the Queensland Police Service's objectives to stop crime, make the community safer (including stopping road trauma) and build relationships across the community.

Members of the community within the Morayfield Electorate have benefitted from the allocation of an extra 31 police positions to the Moreton District. This includes nine general duties officers at Caboolture Station and three general duties officers at Burpengary Station, as well as an additional six officers each at the District Criminal Investigation Branch and the Child Protection and Investigation Unit. Extra officers have also been allocated (one each) to Woodford Station, Moreton District Tactician, District Child Protection Offenders' Registry, Disaster Management, Professional Practices, Police Prosecutions and Dog Squad.

These increases in police resources are paying dividends for the people of the Morayfield Electorate. When comparing the period 1 July 2013 to 28 February 2014 with the corresponding period in the previous financial year, there have been reductions in the numbers of reported offences for a range of categories of crime within Caboolture and Burpengary Divisions. The combined figures (covering both divisions) for these reductions include 20 per cent for robbery, 19 per cent for unlawful entry and 27 per cent for vehicle theft.

On 27 February 2014, I visited a number of police stations including Caboolture and met with officers, district managers and parliamentary colleagues to discuss local issues and offer my support. I can say with confidence that the Morayfield Electorate is being served by a dedicated group of officers who are achieving positive results for the local community.