Question on Notice No. 765 Asked on 16 September 2015

MR DE BRENNI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON J MILLER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister inform the House of the benefits to the capability of the Queensland Police Service in the Springwood Electorate as a result of the 2015 budget announcements?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question and his commitment to community safety.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering on its election commitment to deliver 266 new police over the next year, bringing the total number of extra officers sworn in over the past four years to 1100. These officers provide a great service to the community across Queensland, including the Springwood electorate, which is policed by the Loganholme and Springwood Police Divisions.

As at 1 October 2015, Loganholme Police Division had an approved police strength of 30 permanent positions, an actual police strength (headcount) of 34 police officers, and an actual police fulltime equivalent (FTE) strength of 33.4.

As at 1 October 2015, Springwood Police Division had an approved police strength of 33 permanent positions, an actual police strength (headcount) of 37 police officers, and an actual police fulltime equivalent (FTE) strength of 36.4.

There are three Police Beats and two Police Stations in the Springwood Electorate. These facilities are: Springwood Police Beat, Rochedale Police Beat, Logan Hyperdome Shopfront, Loganholme Police Station and Springwood Police Station.

In addition to officers stationed within Police Divisions in the Springwood Electorate, the area has access to specialist police services within District, Regional and Central Functions; including CIB, CPIU, Intelligence, Forensic Crash Investigators and Road Policing including 14 district police vehicles. Six of these vehicles are scheduled to be replaced this financial year.

All police work collaboratively to achieve the Queensland Police Service's (QPS) objectives to stop crime, and make the community safer, including reducing road trauma and building relationships within the community.

Both the Loganholme and Springwood police divisions have a strong focus on educating members of the community on their safety, be it in their own home or out in the community. This is achieved through programs such as Neighbourhood Watch and Adopt-a-Cop within the schools. The Springwood division has four Neighbourhood Watch Groups operating, and Loganholme division is currently working to rejuvenate several groups that have become inactive over time. Support is provided to these groups by the Springwood Community Beat and the Rochedale Community Beat.

The Springwood division utilises the CCTV network which is managed by the Logan City Council to target known hot spot areas in an effort to make the community safer, providing a visual deterrent to committing crime. Officers work in partnership with the Council to obtain footage which is used to help identify offenders and to solve crimes.

Both the Springwood and Loganholme Police Divisions are heavily involved in the Adopta-Cop Program. Officers regularly attend both high and primary schools; and liaise with students, parents and teachers to build relationships within the local community. Officers have conducted road safety initiatives; such as traffic crash and drink driving awareness programs, and information sessions educating soon to be licenced drivers of the inherent dangers associated with texting and speeding whilst driving. These are all focused on reducing road trauma.

The Tudor Park PCYC focusses on early intervention programs for at risk youth, reengaging them in the community through skill development and employment pathways.

Volunteers in Policing (ViPs) are engaged within the community, providing personal and property security advice at local shopping centres and community meetings. ViPs in conjunction with local Police also conduct regular Safe Plate events, whereby one way screws are attached to vehicle number plates to reduce theft. VIP's also conduct security audits at businesses and residences to stop crime within the community.

I look forward to working with the Member to ensure that Springwood's police officers, staff and community members can continue to improve community safety.