

Question on Notice
No. 1758
Asked on 11 October 2016

MRS STUCKEY ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON BILL BYRNE MP)—

QUESTION:

With reference to schoolies celebrations on the Gold Coast—

Will the Minister advise for 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 (reported separately by year) (a) how many additional QPS resources are required for this event and for how long, (b) what is the cost of these additional resources and (c) how many officers have been seconded from Coolangatta and Palm Beach police stations (reported separately by station and by year)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that on 1 March 2015 the Gold Coast Police District had 836 approved permanent positions and a headcount of 858 officers.

As at 1 November 2016, the district had 843 approved permanent positions and a headcount of 862 officers. This is an increase of seven approved permanent positions.

The additional resources required in 2016-17 have been estimated based on projected needs included in planning for the 2016 schoolies events and are as follows:

- (a) The Gold Coast School Leavers Response utilises police resources from the Gold Coast District and additional resources from the Logan District, Brisbane Region, Central Region, Southern Region, Ethical Standards Command and Operations Support Command.

Due to the nature of the event, resource deployment is fluid and dynamic and based on many factors including the environment, events conducted during the period, intelligence holdings and calls for service.

Traditionally, the QPS response covers the Queensland school leaver's week followed by the interstate school leaver's week and is focused within the Surfers Paradise Central Business District. The additional police resources required and the duration for which they are required have been reduced over the past four years, based on the ongoing operational reviews and the introduction of a number of initiatives and efficiencies, including the effective utilisation of support services external to the QPS.

It should be noted that the number varies nightly and decreases as the response period progresses.

- (b) The cost of additional/external police resources deployed to the Gold Coast has been estimated based on Senior Constable rank, pay point 2.9. The costs listed below include base wages, travel allowances, relevant shift allowances, and accommodation and meal costs. They do not include overtime costs as, while the total hours and costs are recorded, each individual claim would have to be examined to determine if the cost was incurred by an additional officer.

YEAR	ESTIMATED COST
2013-14	\$1,127,787
2014-15	\$826,282
2015-16	\$758,236
2016-17	*\$569,629

* 2016 costs are estimated to include accommodation and meals costs based on current planning.

- (c) A leave management strategy is implemented in the Gold Coast District to ensure local divisions, including Palm Beach and Coolangatta, can support the response to schoolies celebrations while maintaining business as usual policing functions.

The below table outlines the officers seconded from Palm Beach and Coolangatta during the response periods.

YEAR	COOLANGATTA	PALM BEACH
2013-14	5	6
2014-15	6	6
2015-16	6	6
2016-17	5	5