

Question on Notice
No. 943
Asked on 12 June 2019

MR PEGG ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how the record police budget for 2019-20 will support the work of our police and keep our community safe?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government has delivered a record Police Budget for 2019-20.

A total of \$2.6 billion has been allocated for the Queensland Police Service (QPS) operating and capital budget spending, demonstrating this Government's commitment to delivering the frontline services to keep communities safe.

An additional \$2.3 million over the next four years and ongoing funding of \$685,000 a year has been allocated to make Queensland's unique Taskforce Orion a permanent fixture in the QPS.

Taskforce Orion, in conjunction with Taskforce Argos, leads the world in hunting down on-line child sexual abuse predators and saving children's lives.

The Palaszczuk Government is supporting the fight against organised crime, investing \$5 million in capabilities aimed at targeting criminal groups including Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs.

Capabilities will also be enhanced to target alcohol-fuelled violence and the drug Ice. Funding in the 2019-20 budget includes \$28 million to continue work on the Counter-Terrorism and Community Safety Training Centre at Wacol with a further allocation to increase Special Emergency Response Team numbers in Brisbane and Cairns.

The Palaszczuk Government has allocated \$10.8 million to complete a new police facility in Arundel and \$4.9 million to continue work on a replacement police facility at Pomppuraaw.

Project Booyah is giving young people in Ipswich pathways to jobs, education and training.

This Government has committed an additional \$1.8 million for the highly successful *Project Booyah, Framing the Future* initiative which is helping to turn young lives around.

The 2019-20 budget enhances the ability of hardworking police to boost community safety.

There are more police on the beat in the South Brisbane Police District.

The QPS has advised that there are more than 1,000 police in the South Brisbane Police District as at 31 March 2019, an increase in approved positions of 64 from 1 July 2014 to 31 March 2019.

This Government continues to roll out 24 Domestic and Family Violence Coordinators across the state, including three in the South Brisbane District.

This Government has also committed to a new police facility at West End, which will see officers working out of a modern, state-of-the-art facility, equipped with the latest technology.

Officers have been equipped with Body Worn Video Cameras, new tasers and mobile QLITE devices as part of our election commitment to roll out 1,400 additional devices across the state.

The South Brisbane Police District services a diverse community which currently hosts 16 Police Liaison Officers fluent in many languages, representing several faiths, cultures and religions in the local community.

Many Police Liaison Officers have specialist skills and use their extensive community networks to enhance community safety, advise and educate sworn officers on cultural and religious issues, improve community knowledge of law and order issues and police services, and divert people from the criminal justice system.

The QPS has advised that the South Brisbane District Police Liaison Unit continues to maintain a high standard of engagement and is regularly called upon to provide support and guidance across the state.