



Queensland  
Government

# smart

statebudget

2003-04



## Budget Highlights

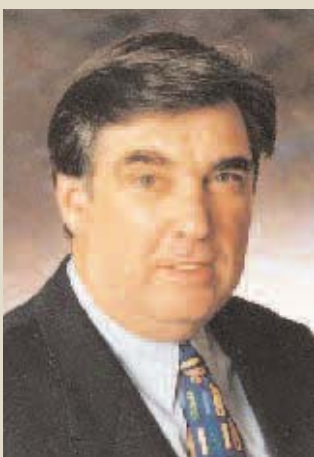
### Police and Corrective Services



## Police and Corrective Services

### Message from the Minister

The 2003-04 budget represents somewhat of a watershed in Queensland, with the State Government allocating in excess of a billion dollars toward enhancing policing services and crime fighting for the first time in history. This year's \$1.001 billion police budget represents an increase of \$84 million compared with the 2002-03 budget.



Residents throughout Queensland are benefiting from the State Government's record investment in policing services and policies aimed at being tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime. In 2001-02, as compared with the previous year, about 7,000 fewer premises were broken into in Queensland, about 290 fewer robberies took place, and about 3,000 fewer unlawful use of motor vehicle offences were reported.

The 2003-04 budget will see the continuation of key Government commitments to increase police numbers, provide more Police Beats and Police Beat Shopfronts, and implement more Tactical Crime Squads. We will also continue our commitment to smart policing with \$15 million in funding to improve police technology.

The Government has also maintained its commitment to building safer communities with a \$397 million Corrective Services budget in 2003-04. With the allocation of a \$23 million capital budget, this year the Beattie Government will complete its massive six year and \$475 million Corrective Services capital works renewal and development program.

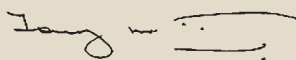
Our commitment to ensuring the highest security standards within our prison system ensured the Beattie Government's record of no escapes from secure custody continued this financial year.

The opening of the Maryborough Correctional Centre in March also signified the final phase in the largest capital works expansion program ever undertaken in the Queensland correctional system. This year the program of works includes the upgrading of three community corrections area offices at Emerald, Smithfield and Roma, and the purchase of plant and equipment.

In this budget, the Beattie Government has again confirmed its commitment to expansion and enhancement in the key policy and service outputs of the drug court trials, urinalysis drug testing of offenders and sex offender programs.

The 2003-04 budget ensures the Police and Corrective Services portfolios continue to be well positioned to meet future challenges in the drive to build a safer and more supportive Queensland.

I remain committed to working hard in partnership with the departments in my portfolio and with the Queensland community to make Queensland not only the Smart State but also the Safe State.



**The Honourable Tony McGrady MP**

Minister for Police and Corrective Services  
and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Carpentaria Minerals Province

### The Government has increased the Queensland Police Service budget by 9.2% resulting in an operating budget slightly over one billion dollars for 2003-04.

The Police Service capital budget for 2003-04 is \$99.4 million, which is an increase of \$5.3 million or 5.6% on the comparable 2002-03 capital budget.

Funding in this budget will see the continuation or finalisation of a number of election commitments. Major initiatives being progressed during 2003-04 include:

- Around 300 additional police positions as part of the Government's commitment to increasing police numbers to 9,100 by 2005. The Service will also continue its civilianisation program with approval given for an additional 25 staff member positions;
- \$32.2 million capital works budget to progress the Government's capital works projects in key regional areas. This will include important infrastructure projects such as the Mackay North police station, Mundingburra police complex and completion of Stage 2 of the Toowoomba police complex;
- \$1.0 million to enable continuation of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Police project;
- \$15 million for projects to enhance police technology as part of the Service's Information Management Strategic Plan, including the commencement of the Incident Recording and Management System;
- Completing the commitment to establish 16 Tactical Crime Squads throughout the state. Through funding provided in this budget new 14-officer squads will be established in the Redcliffe, North Brisbane, Oxley and Wide Bay areas, as well as a squad of seven officers at Mount Isa;
- The continued establishment of 13 Police Beats and 10 Shopfronts, exceeding the Government commitment. Funding in this

budget has been provided for an additional Police Beat at Pioneer in Mount Isa and three Shopfronts at Aspley, Buderim and Kawana Waters. The Government is on target to have, by February 2004, a total of 35 Police Beats and 50 Police Beat Shopfronts;

- 6 additional staff will be appointed to the State Flying Squad taking the Squad's strength to a total of 20 officers;
- 4 additional Specialist Drug Detection Handler / Dog Teams will be trained;
- The Government will administer and contribute to the handguns buyback set to run from 01 July 2003 to 01 January 2004; and
- Continuation of illicit market scans, used to enhance the Service's capabilities to detect drugs.

#### More Drug Detection Dogs

*Drug detection dogs are yet another tool for police in the fight against drugs and prove the Government's commitment to tackling the issue of drugs*



The 2003-04 budget marks the culmination of a commitment over six budget years by the Beattie Government to delivering modern, secure correctional infrastructure. With a record of new prisons at Maryborough, Capricornia, Wolston and Brisbane Women's and expansions at Arthur Gorrie, Woodford, Borallon, Townsville and Lotus Glen, the Beattie Government's focus in Corrective Services turns to maintaining its priority of expanded and enhanced rehabilitation programs. In 2003-04 the Department of Corrective Services is allocated \$397 million.

### **Budget highlights include:**

#### **Drug court trial South-East Queensland and North Queensland \$2.6 million**

The drug court trial in South-East Queensland commenced in June 2000. It has achieved strong community support as an approach to stemming property crime associated with offenders supporting their drug addiction and as a means to helping offenders overcome addiction and reclaim their lives.

In November 2002, the drug court trial was expanded to the Townsville and Cairns Magistrates' Courts fulfilling the Beattie Labor Government's election commitment on this issue. The trial is an example of a whole-of-Government approach to crime prevention and is scheduled for completion in December 2004.

#### **Urinalysis drug testing for offenders under community supervision \$1.7 million**

The Government is committed to reducing the number of offenders caught in the vicious cycle of drugs and crime. To this end, this budget provides for the continuation of the expanded urinalysis drug testing regime across the State. It provides a uniform testing tool for the effective case management of offenders who are subject to orders.

#### **Sex offender programs**

In the coming financial year, the Beattie Labor Government will enhance the delivery of sex offender programs by breaking down lengthy programs into smaller modularised components. This approach will enable offenders to complete components at the appropriate time during their sentences and will result in improved program delivery.



Opening the state-of-the-art Maryborough Correctional Centre are from left Acting Director-General Peter Rule, Premier Peter Beattie, Minister Tony McGrady and General Manager David Brown.



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### **State Budget 2003-04**

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