



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 3

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-2011

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Police and Finance

Friday 17 September 2010

Answers to be lodged by: Wednesday 13 October 2010

Budget Estimates Secretariat
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Hearing date	Portfolio	Answer to be lodged by
14 September 2010	Local Government	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Juvenile Justice	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Mental Health	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Attorney General	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Regulatory Reform	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	Citizenship	8 October 2010 [21 days]
14 September 2010	The Legislature	8 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Police	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Finance	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Gaming and Racing	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Sport and Recreation	13 October 2010 [21 days]
17 September 2010	Major Events	13 October 2010 [21 days]

Questions relating to the portfolio of Police

17 September 2010, 9:15 am – 1:00 pm

Questions from Mr Shoebridge

Police Death and Disability Scheme

1. What was the initial contribution made by the NSW Government to the Police Death and Disability Scheme?
2. Has any money been provided to the Police Death and Disability Scheme by the NSW Government to meet the costs of claims for injuries that pre-dated the commencement of the scheme?
 - a) If so, how much?
 - b) If not, why will the NSW Government not fund these claims?
3. Does the Police Death and Disability Scheme have sufficient agreed funding sources to meet all expected claims on the scheme?

Tasers

4. Has the allegation that some of the officers involved may have given false information to Ray Hadley at 2GB about a judicial officer who made a finding that the arrest and Tasing of Mr Alkan was unlawful, been investigated by the Police Integrity Commission or NSW Police Force?
 - a) If so, what was the finding(s) of those investigation(s)?

Mumbulla Community Blockade

5. What was the total cost of policing operations related to community blockades of Mumbulla State Forest between March and June 2010?

Settlements/payments for unlawful arrests

6. How much did the NSW Police Force spend as a result of court orders or settlements relating to police making unlawful arrests for 2009-2010?
7. How many of these cases involved minors?

Settlements/payments for unreasonable force causing injury

8. How much did the NSW Police Force spend as a result as a result of court orders or on settlements relating to police officers using unreasonable force and causing injury for 2009-2010?
9. How many of these cases involved minors?
10. How many of these court orders or settlements involved Riot Squad police officers?
11. In regards to the incident in Byron Bay where 15 year old Georgia Enter was arrested, what was she charged with (if anything)?
12. Why was a 'move on' direction given to Georgia Enter when she and the other teenagers were standing at a bus stop?
13. Prior to arresting her, did the arresting officer give her a warning that she would be arrested if she did not move on?
14. Prior to arresting her, did the arresting officer tell her what offence she was committing?
15. There were also another incidence of a 16 year old young man being arrested for talking back to police after being allegedly asked to "get off the streets" by police in Byron Bay. He was released without charge. What is being done to train police in the Ballina and Byron regions to prevent such unlawful arrests?

McGurk murder investigation

16. Has there been any progress with the McGurk murder investigation, or is this case likely to remain unsolved?

Questions from Mr Khan

Monaro

17. As at 30 March in each year since 2007, what was the authorised frontline police staffing strength of the Monaro Local Area Command, citing specific figures for the stations at:
 - a) Adaminaby
 - b) Berridale
 - c) Bombala
 - d) Braidwood
 - e) Bungendore
 - f) Captains Flat
 - g) Cooma
 - h) Delegate
 - i) Jindabyne
 - j) Michelago
 - k) Nimmitabel
 - l) Perisher Valley
 - m) Queanbeyan
 - n) Thredbo
18. As at 30 March in each year since 2007, what was the authorised frontline police staffing strength of the Monaro Local Area Command, citing specific figures for:
 - a) Adaminaby
 - b) Berridale
 - c) Bombala
 - d) Braidwood
 - e) Bungendore
 - f) Captains Flat
 - g) Cooma
 - h) Delegate
 - i) Jindabyne
 - j) Michelago
 - k) Nimmitabel
 - l) Perisher Valley
 - m) Queanbeyan
 - n) Thredbo
19. As at 1 September 2010, what was the current number of frontline police staffing strength of the Mid North Coast Area Command, excluding those officers currently on stress leave, long term sick leave, maternity leave or leave on compassionate grounds, citing specific figures for:
 - a) Adaminaby
 - b) Berridale
 - c) Bombala
 - d) Braidwood
 - e) Bungendore
 - f) Captains Flat
 - g) Cooma
 - h) Delegate
 - i) Jindabyne
 - j) Michelago
 - k) Nimmitabel
 - l) Perisher Valley
 - m) Queanbeyan
 - n) Thredbo

20. What was the lowest number of frontline officers available for duty from July 1, 2009, to the current moment in each of these stations due to staff leave? At what point was this staffing low point reached? How long did this staffing low point prevail for?

Port Macquarie

21. As at 30 March in each year since 2007, what was the authorised frontline police staffing strength of the Mid North Coast Area Command, citing specific figures for:
- Kew Police Station?
 - Laurieton Police Station?
 - Lord Howe Police Station?
 - Port Macquarie Police Station?
22. As at 1 September 2010, what was the current number of frontline police staffing strength of the Mid North Coast Area Command, excluding those officers currently on stress leave, long term sick leave, maternity leave or leave on compassionate grounds, citing specific figures for:
- Kew Police Station?
 - Laurieton Police Station?
 - Lord Howe Police Station?
 - Port Macquarie Police Station?
23. What was the lowest number of frontline officers available for duty from July 1, 2009, to the current moment in each of these stations due to staff leave? At what point was this staffing low point reached? How long did this staffing low point prevail for?

Wellington

24. What is the current posted strength at Wellington police station?
25. What are the ranks of officers posted at Wellington police station?
26. How many personnel posted conduct general duties activities of patrolling?
27. Are any posted officers currently on leave from duties?
If so, what type of leave?
28. How many and what type of vehicles are available to personnel at Wellington police station?
29. How many patrol cars on average have been in use on Friday and Saturday nights for the last year?
30. What is the estimated cost for the provision of additional personnel at Wellington police station in order to make the facility operational for 24 hours?

Dubbo

31. In regards to Police numbers in the Orana Local Area Command;
- How many Police officers in the Orana LAC?
 - How many Police officers are on long-term sick leave?
 - How many Police officers are on maternity leave?
 - How many officers are due to go on maternity leave before the end of the year?
 - How will each of the officers be replaced?
 - Will the officers be replaced for the full duration of their leave? If not, why?
32. Given the NSW Police Association has queried the safety of some police vehicles; Does the Orana LAC use Ford Ranger police vehicles?
- How many of this make of vehicle are used by the Orana LAC?
 - Have any of the vehicles have undergone independent safety testing?
 - What was the result of that testing?
 - Will the Orana LAC continue to use these vehicles?
 - If yes, do you think it's safe considering the poor track record/accident rate of the vehicles?
 - Have these vehicles been involved in any accidents within the Orana LAC?
 - If so, how many?

Tamworth

33. What are the current force numbers at all Oxley LAC Police Stations? Please provide details for each Police Station within the Oxley LAC
34. Is there any document/ report/ audit which details the optimal force numbers at Oxley LAC? If so, what are those optimal force numbers? Please provide details for each Police Station within the Oxley LAC.
35. Over the past 12 months have there been any recommendations to increase force numbers at any Police Station in Oxley LAC? If so please details for each station.
36. Subsequent to the document/ report/ audit, have any additional Police been assigned to any police Station in Oxley LAC? If so please details for each station.
37. In relation to question 36, have these assigned officers actually begun their duties? If so please details for each station.
38. If no additional Officers have yet to be assigned, are there plans to increase Police numbers in Oxley LAC in the immediate (12 months) future? If so please provide details for each Station.
39. Does the Oxley LAC have any Ford Ranger police vehicles with the prisoner pods attached?
40. If so how many Ford Ranger police vehicles with the prisoner pods attached does Oxley LAC have?
41. Does Oxley LAC still use the Ford Ranger police vehicles with the prisoner pods?
42. In the opinion of the Department, is the Ford Ranger with prisoner pod still safe to operate?
43. Have any police in Oxley LAC refused to operate the Ford Ranger police vehicles with the prisoner pods?
44. Have there been any incidents, i.e. tipping over, involving the Ford Ranger police vehicles with the prisoner pods since their introduction?
 - a) If so please detail their nature and the number of incidents.
45. Have any police officers been injured as a result of a Ford Ranger police vehicle with prisoner pods tipping over?
 - a) If so, how many have been injured and what was the extent of their injuries?
46. Have any of the Ford Ranger vehicles with prisoner pods attached undergone independent safety tests?
47. In relation to question 46, if so, what was the result of those tests?
48. Will Oxley LAC continue to operate the Ford Ranger vehicles with prisoner pods in the future?

Bathurst

49. What is the authorised frontline police staffing strength of the Chifley Local Area Command (LAC), citing specific figures for:
 - a) Bathurst Police Station?
 - b) Lithgow Police Station?
 - c) Oberon Police Station?
 - d) Blayney Police Station?
50. What are the current number of frontline police staffing strength of the Chifley LAC, excluding those officers currently on stress leave, long term sick leave, maternity leave or leave on compassionate grounds, citing specific figures for:
 - a) Bathurst Police Station?
 - b) Lithgow Police Station?
 - c) Oberon Police Station?
 - d) Blayney Police Station?
51. How many frontline police officers at Bathurst Police Station have been on maternity leave at some point from July 1, 2009, to the current moment?
52. How many frontline police officers at Bathurst Police Station have been on carers leave at some point from July 1, 2009, to the current moment, due to the fact a wife or partner serving on the force in Bathurst had given birth?
53. What was the lowest number of frontline officers available for duty from July 1, 2009, to the current moment due to staff leave?

- a) At what point was this staffing low point reached?
- b) How long did this staffing low point prevail for?

Questions from Mr Brown

54. Is it a fact that serving police officers do not need to have a current NSW Firearms Licence, issued in whatever categories that may be appropriate to their employment.
55. If not, can you please explain why serving officers should not be subjected to the same stringent legal requirements as to genuine reason, or special purpose, or safety, as other firearms users in NSW?

Questions from Mr Gallacher

Police College

56. When is the next class after December 2010 scheduled to attest?
57. What is the projected size of this class given confirmation in the Public Hearing on 17 September 2010 that decisions on class sizes are made months in advance of attestation dates?

ANPR

58. The Minister indicated in the Public Hearing on 17 September 2010 there were currently 435 Highway Patrol vehicles. What are the milestone dates and projected costs to have all Highway Patrol vehicles fitted with Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology?

Tasers

59. As the Minister would be aware the NSW Police Association is seeking to have Tasers made available to plain clothes and Highway Patrol officers. What action is being taken to roll them out to these officers?
60. Are all recruits at the Police College receiving training in using Tasers?
61. The Minister on 17 September 2010 indicated Tasers can be used by Police to protect against injury from animals. On how many occasions have Tasers been drawn by Police Officers in response to an animal attack or animal acting aggressively towards Police or members of the public since their introduction?
62. Has an animal been hit by a Taser since their introduction in NSW? If so, on how many occasions has an animal been hit and what species of animal was involved?

Load-Bearing Vests

63. Why are new recruits not being automatically issued with load-bearing vests?
64. Are recruits given the option at the Police College to be issued with a load-bearing vest?
 - a) If not, why not?
65. What are the milestone dates and projected cost for complete delivery of the vests across the entire Police Force?

Mobile Police Command Units

66. The Budget contains \$3.3m for 25 additional mobile police command units. What are or will be the 25 locations of each of these units?

Malabar Police Station

67. What is the latest update on the status on the sale of this former Police Station?

Mental Health Training

68. Given the findings of the recent Coronial Inquest into the Police-involved shooting death of Michael Capel and its recommendation to increase mental health training for Police, what action is being taken to implement this and the other recommendations made by the Coroner?

Dob-in-a-Bikie

69. The 'dob-in-a-bikie' initiative was launched in June 2009. To date how many reports have been received as part of the 'Dob-in-a-Bikie' initiative?

Operation View

70. In March 2008 former Police Minister David Campbell announced that Police would be establishing 'Operation View' which was to encourage the public to film a serious crime (on their mobile/video/digital camera) if they witness one and then send the material to a police website. Is the NSW Police Force still actively seeking to implement "Operation View"?
- a) If so, what progress has been made in this implementation?

Windsor Police Station

71. How many off-street parking spaces have been made available for duty personnel?
72. Has the NSW Police Force received any correspondence about sworn and non-sworn personnel parking in residential streets?
73. What consideration, if any, was given to the impact the new Windsor Police Station would have on parking in Mileham Street and other surrounding streets?
74. Did the NSW Police Force request Hawkesbury Council to build a footpath from the newly constructed Police Station to Hawkesbury Hospital?
75. What is the cost of the new footpath Police have requested be built?
76. Will the NSW Government bear any of the cost of the new footpath?
- a) If so, how much? If not, why not?

Warilla Police Station

77. Does the Minister, the Government or the NSW Police Force have any plans to close Warilla Police Station following the completion of the new Lake Illawarra Police Station in 2011? If so, when is this closure scheduled to occur?

Riverstone Police Station

78. Is the proposed site for the new Riverstone Police Station deemed flood prone? If so, what was the rationale for choosing this site?
79. What are the projected police response times from the proposed new Riverstone Police Station site?
- a) Does this take into consideration cases where the Riverstone railway crossing, with boom gates, is in operation?
80. Does the Minister, the Government or the NSW Police Force have any plans to close Quakers Hills Police Station following the completion of the new Riverstone Police Station? If so, when is this closure scheduled to occur?

Kiama Police Station

81. Does the Minister, the Government or the NSW Police Force have any plans to close Kiama Police Station? If so, when will this occur?
82. Does the Government or the NSW Police Force have any plans to make the station operational 24 hours, 7 days a week?
- a) If so, when will this occur?

Gerringong

83. Does the Government have any plans to build a police station in Gerringong? If so, when will this occur?

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There were no additional questions on notice lodged by members relating to the portfolio of Finance