

MINISTER FOR POLICE

OVERVIEW

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Budget 2005-06 \$m</i>	<i>Budget 2006-07 \$m</i>	<i>Variation %</i>
Ministry for Police			
Total Expenses	10.2	7.4	-27.5
Capital Expenditure	0.1	0.1	...
NSW Police			
Total Expenses.....	2,021.4	2,181.0	7.9
Capital Expenditure	112.3	111.1	-1.1
New South Wales Crime Commission			
Total Expenses	16.9	17.6	3.6
Capital Expenditure	2.6	2.6	...
Police Integrity Commission			
Total Expenses.....	18.0	18.3	1.9
Capital Expenditure	2.5	2.4	-6.9
Total, Minister for Police			
Total Expenses	2,066.5	2,224.3	7.6
Capital Expenditure	117.5	116.2	-1.1

MINISTRY FOR POLICE

The Ministry provides the Minister for Police with independent advice on issues affecting the Police portfolio and supports the Minister in the performance of Ministerial and Parliamentary functions. The Ministry develops and assists the passage of legislation to statute.

RESULTS AND SERVICES

The Ministry assists and supports the Minister for Police in achieving the best possible law enforcement outcomes for the people of New South Wales.

The Ministry aims to operate effectively and efficiently within its allocated budget to achieve this mission by working towards the following results:

- ◆ Increased capacity in terms of resources for police to perform their functions.
- ◆ Effective legislative powers for the police to carry out their duties.

Key services provided by the Ministry which contribute to these results include:

- ◆ developing policies and legislation;
- ◆ providing advice to the Minister;
- ◆ overseeing the NSW Police budget to ensure record levels of funding are improving frontline performance;
- ◆ monitoring the deployment and recruitment of police officers; and
- ◆ working towards ensuring legislative tools are practical and applicable to police on the frontline.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Achievements during 2005-06 include:

- ◆ tougher police powers to respond to potential terrorist threats;
- ◆ improving legislation relating to Controlled Operations, car rebirthing and Commercial and Private Inquiry Agents;
- ◆ developing a legislative response to public order disturbances on Sydney's beaches;
- ◆ overseeing the development of new legislation to improve death and disability entitlements for police officers;
- ◆ executing a five year contract with United Group Services to provide improved accommodation and better value for money in the management of police property; and
- ◆ arranging both the construction of several new police stations and major facility upgrades.

As outlined in the Government's Economic and Financial Statement, the Premier's Department initiated a functional review of the Ministry. As a result of that review the size of the Ministry has been reduced to contribute to the funding increase to frontline policing activities.

The Ministry's core business of providing policy advice and support to the Minister will be retained.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The Ministry is an important source of policy ideas for Government and the portfolio agencies. It supports the Minister's legislative program covering a wide range of issues including police reform, police powers, confiscation of the proceeds of crime, firearms, the security industry and the registration of child sex offenders. The Ministry is also involved in wider policy issues arising from, and impacting on the criminal justice system.

The Ministry's level of direct involvement in police properties matters will decrease following implementation of the new arrangements for the United Group Services to provide property management services for NSW Police.

Issues of resource allocation and management continue to be a focus of attention across the portfolio. These include recurrent and capital budget monitoring, police strength and organisation, the use of technology, corporate services and performance monitoring and improvement.

2006-07 BUDGET

Total Expenses

The Ministry's total expenses are estimated at \$7.4 million in 2006-07, a reduction of \$2.8 million, or 27.5 per cent compared to last year's allocation. This reduction reflects the reform of the Ministry.

The 2006-07 allocation will continue to support the Ministry's core functions of developing policy advice and legislation and monitoring portfolio budgets and management. The Ministry will also continue to support the Office of the Inspector of the Police Integrity Commission.

The Ministry's budget includes \$2 million of Recovered Assets Pool funds that are used to fund police investigations of offenders.

Capital Expenditure

The Ministry will spend \$107,000 on minor equipment in 2006-07, including the ongoing purchase of IT equipment as current leases expire.

NSW POLICE

NSW Police provides community-based policing services from 80 Local Area Commands. The agency's governing legislation is the *Police Act 1990*. A better understanding of policing activities and powers can be gained from the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002*.

RESULTS AND SERVICES

NSW Police works to protect the community by reducing violence, crime and fear. NSW Police works towards the following results to achieve its mission:

- ◆ Reduced crime and violence with offenders brought to justice.
- ◆ The community has confidence in police and works with NSW Police to improve personal and public safety.
- ◆ Improved road and public transport user behaviour and reduced trauma.
- ◆ The rights of victims, witnesses and alleged offenders are upheld.

The key services provided by NSW Police which contribute to these results include:

- ◆ responding to crime, emergencies and other calls for assistance;
- ◆ investigating crime, detecting offenders and prosecuting accused persons;
- ◆ patrolling identified crime hot spots, providing a police presence at public events and contributing to the security of critical infrastructure;
- ◆ patrolling roads and public transport corridors, and investigating major traffic accidents; and
- ◆ educating the community on crime prevention and road safety.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Excluding costs associated with Olympics security, total expenses have risen at an average annual growth rate of 8.3 per cent since 2000-01. This increase is primarily due to the increase in police numbers from 13,716 at 30 June 2002 to 14,579 at 28 February 2006.

Other significant recent developments include:

Reduced Levels of Crime

The December 2005 crime statistics released by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) shows a sustained decrease in most robbery and stealing offences since December 2003.

Over the last two years all other offences have either decreased or remained stable with the exception of vandalism. This increase may, however, have resulted from increasing detection and reporting of such incidents. Special programs are being put in place to reduce the number of incidents.

BOCSAR has also recently examined long term trends in property and violent crime. The analysis showed that robbery with firearm, burglary and car theft are at their lowest level in 15 years. Furthermore, since 1995 the rate of robbery with a firearm is 39 per cent lower, murder 37 per cent lower, motor vehicle theft 44 per cent lower, and break and enter dwelling 26 per cent lower.

Taskforces and High Visibility Policing

NSW Police is continuing its response to community concerns and crime trends through specialised taskforces and high visibility policing, including Vikings operations. High visibility policing is an important strategy, overtly deploying large numbers of police officers in identified crime areas.

In the three years to 30 June 2006, NSW Police will have conducted around 1,348 Viking Operations at a total cost of more than \$10.5 million.

High visibility operations reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, increase community and business confidence, and strengthen relationships between local police and the community.

Counter-Terrorism

The Counter-Terrorism Coordination Command (CTCC) manages intelligence and investigation of potential terrorist activity, dignitary protection, critical infrastructure protection and high level threats. The CTCC, working closely with other state, national and international agencies, has undertaken several high profile counter terrorism operations and investigations.

An increasing emphasis will be given to engaging business and local communities in identifying and responding to potential terrorist threats. Closer ties will be developed with international jurisdictions to exchange intelligence and operational tactics.

Police Death and Disability Scheme

The Government has provided \$145 million over five years to improve support for officers who are injured and the families of those who are killed in the performance of their duty. The new scheme applies to officers employed after 1988 and puts them in a similar position to pre-1988 officers.

Corporate Services Efficiency Review

NSW Police is conducting a Corporate Services Efficiency Review to provide a more focused and cost efficient delivery of corporate services support for front line operational policing. The review aims to provide a consistent and strategic approach to corporate service delivery to maximise resources available for front line policing operations.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The Government is supporting a number of initiatives to assist NSW Police in achieving its goal of reducing violence, crime and fear. These include:

Police Numbers

The Government recently committed to further increase NSW Police's authorised police numbers by 750 positions. This will result in an authorised strength of 15,206 officers by 2007. These extra officers will strengthen current programs and support new initiatives to reduce crime, violence and community fear.

This initiative continues the Government's record of increasing police strength at a greater rate than population growth. Since 1995, police numbers have increased by 17.8 per cent.

Public Order Riot Squad

In January the Government announced the establishment of a permanent Public Order Riot Squad (PORS) comprising 50 highly trained and specially equipped officers. PORS will be deployed as the first response to any outbreak of public disorder, disturbance and unrest and its officers tasked with maintaining and restoring law and order and ensuring public safety and security.

Officers will be equipped with specialist resources including new riot squad vehicles, a water cannon and riot shields and helmets. A trial of Taser guns as a non-lethal option for controlling offenders is also underway.

Middle Eastern Crime Squad

In January 2006, the Government announced that Task Force Gain, established in October 2003, would become a permanent Middle Eastern Organised Crime (MEOC) Squad making it the 10th specialist squad attached to the State Crime Command.

The MEOC squad will be tasked to focus on Middle Eastern offenders and their associates, targeting those involved in organised crime at all levels. The new squad will comprise 58 permanent positions.

Integrity Testing

The Government has committed \$1 million to implement the recommendations of Operation Abelia, a Police Integrity Commission inquiry into illegal drug use by police officers. Major changes will include:

- ◆ increasing random drug testing to 15 per cent of police per year; and
- ◆ introducing the targeted drug testing of off duty police.

2006-07 BUDGET

Total Expenses

Total expenses are expected to increase by \$160 million to almost \$2.2 billion in 2006-07, an increase of 7.9 per cent compared to last year's allocation.

Funding has been provided for a number of new and continuing initiatives within the NSW Police budget. These include:

- ◆ \$48.2 million (\$67.7 million per annum) for the training and deployment of a permanent increase of 750 officers in average authorised police strength;
- ◆ \$21.3 million to meet the ongoing costs of IT infrastructure upgrades;
- ◆ \$5 million to continue the high visibility policing strategy Operation Vikings, which commenced in 2002-03;
- ◆ an additional \$1.8 million towards the maintenance of counter-terrorist activities;
- ◆ \$1.6 million to meet the operating costs of the new permanent Middle Eastern Organised Crime Squad; and
- ◆ \$1 million to expand the drug testing of police officers as recommended by the Police Integrity Commission.

Capital Expenditure

The 2006-07 Budget capital program allows for expenditure of \$111.1 million on asset acquisitions. The NSW Police's capital program aims to:

- ◆ provide functional and cost effective accommodation where it is needed;
- ◆ improve the safety of operational police;
- ◆ equip police to enable them to perform their role effectively; and
- ◆ increase the efficient use of operational and administrative data.

Major New Works

The capital program provides for the commencement of major new works with a total estimated cost of \$85.5 million, of which \$6.3 million is allocated in 2006-07.

The building program provides for the continuation of the State-wide police station upgrade and replacement program. Additional Budget support of \$40 million per annum is being provided to NSW Police for this purpose. In addition, NSW Police will be re-investing the proceeds from asset sales in future new major building works.

The total estimated costs of new building works for which funding has been provided to complete planning in 2006-07 are:

- ◆ Burwood Police Station - \$17.1 million;
- ◆ Kempsey Police Station - \$14.9 million;
- ◆ Wyong Police Station - \$14.7 million;
- ◆ Windsor Police Station - \$12 million;
- ◆ Granville Police Station - \$16.9 million; and
- ◆ Port Stephens Police Station - \$5.1 million.

Pre-planning will also proceed for a new police station for the Lake Illawarra Local Area Command.

An amount of \$0.6 million has been provided towards the replacement of Polair 3, at a total cost of \$2.8 million. This new helicopter will provide updated primary support for covert operations and, with the use of technology, command and control facilities for high profile operations.

An updated Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) system will be purchased at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million. FLIR's variety of sensors and cameras makes it a valuable tool for gathering intelligence and evidence (covertly and overtly) both day and night. FLIR can also successfully locate missing persons and offenders in all terrains and at sea.

To expand the options available to Police for public order maintenance, \$0.5 million has also been provided to purchase a water cannon.

Work-in-Progress

A total of \$82.1 million has been provided in 2006-07 for works-in-progress, including:

- ◆ \$4.2 million to complete the new police station at Armidale;
- ◆ \$8 million for the new police station at Campsie;
- ◆ \$10 million for the new Dubbo police station;
- ◆ \$7.1 million for the new police station at Lismore;
- ◆ \$5.6 million to complete the new Muswellbrook police station;
- ◆ \$6.1 million for the new police station at St Mary's;
- ◆ \$8.1 million for the new Orange, Wagga Wagga and Fairfield police stations;
- ◆ \$4.9 million for the ongoing Marine Fleet replacement program;
- ◆ \$1 million to complete the Forensic Research and Investigative Science Centre; and
- ◆ \$25.6 million for continuing improvements to NSW Police's information technology systems, including \$14.1 million for the Computer Aided Dispatch System; \$1.9 million for the Alcohol Related Crime Information Exchange; \$3.4 million for Portable Electronic Fingerprint devices; and \$3.2 million for Forensic Services Digital Imaging.

Minor Works

In addition to funding for the pre-planning of future new police stations and for minor building works, the 2006-07 minor works allocation of \$22.6 million provides for the replacement of counter-terrorism equipment (\$1 million) and additional equipment for the Public Order Riot Squad (\$2.5 million).

Minor works funding has also been allocated for the ongoing replacement of IT equipment as current leases expire.

NEW SOUTH WALES CRIME COMMISSION

The New South Wales Crime Commission combats illegal drug trafficking and organised crime and other serious crime in New South Wales. This involves obtaining evidence for prosecutions and/or the forfeiture of criminal assets.

RESULTS AND SERVICES

The Commission aims to reduce the incidence of drug trafficking and organised crime and its impact on the community by working towards the following results:

- ◆ High-level drug traffickers and other serious criminals are arrested and referred for prosecution.
- ◆ The assets of serious criminals are restrained and confiscated.

Key services provided by the Commission that contribute to these results include:

- ◆ targeting high-level drug traffickers and other serious criminals through the use of the Commission's surveillance and investigative expertise;
- ◆ assembling admissible evidence for the successful prosecution of serious criminals and the confiscation of their assets; and
- ◆ collecting, disseminating and analysing intelligence to advance criminal investigations.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The Commission has an ongoing program of developing and implementing advanced technology to keep pace with changes in the technical environment, especially telecommunications networks.

The Commission has also focussed increased attention on money laundering operations.

The Commission has been very successful in confiscating proceeds of crime. New South Wales set the precedent in enacting this unique piece of legislation enabling the confiscation of proceeds of crime on a civil basis. Other jurisdictions have now adopted, or are adopting, such legislation. The benefits of this model will now be increasingly seen nation-wide.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Keeping pace with changing technology, particularly in the area of electronic surveillance remains a challenge. The Commission maintains a significant investment in technology and expects to extend the capacity and scope of its electronic surveillance systems in the coming year.

The Commission will continue to apply its technological resources to investigate new and emerging areas of crime.

As in 2005-06, there is likely to be an increasing demand for witness protection in future years.

2006-07 BUDGET

Total Expenses

The Commission's total expenses are estimated at \$17.6 million in 2006-07. This represents an increase of \$0.6 million, or 3.6 per cent on last year's budget allocation and is primarily related to additional staffing costs.

Capital Expenditure

The Commission's utilisation of technology to combat serious crime continues to evolve. The capital allocation of \$2.6 million for 2006-07 will allow the Commission to keep abreast of changing technologies, especially in the area of electronic surveillance systems.

POLICE INTEGRITY COMMISSION

The Police Integrity Commission is responsible for preventing, detecting and subsequently investigating serious police misconduct. The Commission oversees and manages other agencies involved with the investigation of serious police misconduct. Relevant legislation is the *Police Integrity Commission Act 1996*.

RESULTS AND SERVICES

The Commission seeks to reduce the incidence of serious police misconduct, improve systems and practices supporting ethical behaviour and enhance community confidence in the effective oversight of NSW Police by working towards the following results:

- ◆ Evidence of misconduct is established through effective investigations and hearings.
- ◆ Evidence of serious misconduct is exposed through hearings and reports.

- ◆ Deterrent against misconduct through effective detection and prosecutions.
- ◆ Development of a knowledge base drawing on the results of investigations and research to inform improvements in police systems and practices.
- ◆ Recommendations for reform from findings of investigations and projects.
- ◆ Consultation with NSW Police to support the implementation of recommendations into practice.
- ◆ Participation in education programs to raise awareness of ethical issues among police and non-sworn staff.
- ◆ Evaluation of complaints of serious misconduct against police officers and non-sworn staff at NSW Police for investigation.
- ◆ Public reporting of investigations and outcomes.

The commission achieves these results through the services it provides, including conducting investigations, research and in the management of complaints.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Investigations and resultant public hearings into instances of police misconduct drive the costs of the Commission. The large increase in total expenses in 2005-06 largely related to additional requirements for the protection of witnesses.

The Commission also received a substantial capital enhancement for the replacement of its ageing telecommunications interception systems. This project has been carried over to 2006-07.

Recent achievements include:

- ◆ a joint investigations/research project which exposed evidence of instances of drug use, drug dealing, theft and robbery, provided insight to the use of drugs by some police and contained recommendations to improve and strengthen the NSW Police approach to drug use;
- ◆ an investigation into a case of serious assault by police and an attempted 'cover-up', and demonstrated a capacity to deal with serious police misconduct beyond the Sydney metropolitan area; and
- ◆ an investigation which exposed evidence of corruption including theft, robbery and extortion.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The Commission balances its core investigative and research functions to achieve ongoing reductions in the incidence of serious police misconduct in New South Wales. Reports of the Commission's activities will continue to focus on practical recommendations for system improvements that support ethical behaviour within NSW Police.

Public hearings and public reporting, where appropriate, will continue to reassure the community that there is effective oversight of NSW Police.

2006-07 BUDGET

Total Expenses

The Commission's total expenses are estimated at \$18.3 million in 2006-07. This represents an increase of \$0.3 million, or 1.9 per cent compared to the 2005-06 Budget. It is, however, \$1.7 million higher than forecast expenditure in the current year, which largely reflects the ongoing program of telecommunications interception systems.

Capital Expenditure

In 2006-07, the Commission's is expected to spend a total of \$2.4 million, including \$1.5 million for the replacement of its telecommunications interceptions system. A further \$144,000 will be used to replace IT equipment as current leases expire.