

MEDIA RELEASE

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BUDGET SETS UP POLICE FOR THE FUTURE

The NSW Government has delivered a record \$3.9 billion budget for the NSW Police Force in 2018-19, Minister for Police Troy Grant announced today.

Mr Grant said the investment will boost NSW Police Force's strong record of fighting crime and reflects the Liberals & Nationals Government's ongoing commitment to improving community safety.

"This Government is absolutely committed to providing our police officers with the support and resources they need to do their job," Mr Grant said.

"More than \$118 million has been dedicated in this budget to redevelop police stations at Parramatta, Hurstville, Port Macquarie, Cessnock, Broken Hill and Inverell, upgrade Gosford Police Station and to redevelop an additional fifteen regional police stations in towns across the state.

"A further \$48 million has been allocated over the next three years to replace three Police helicopters, boosting aerial surveillance capability."

The Budget also includes:

- nearly \$20 million allocated to upgrade and replace Marine Area Command's fleet.
- An additional \$83 million has been allocated for policing on country roads, including doubling the mobile drug testing program with 100,000 additional tests per year.
- \$26 million over four years will enhance the post-sentence detention and supervision of offenders in custody or on parole who pose an unacceptably high-risk of committing a serious terrorism crime at the end of their sentence.

Given the ongoing threat of terrorism, \$12 million has also been invested in facial matching services in NSW under the National Biometric Matching Capability.

NSW Police Force recently underwent its biggest organisational transformation in 20 years.

“This budget will ensure Police Commissioner Mick Fuller has the flexibility and resources required to address and reduce crime,” Mr Grant added.

The NSW Government has added an extra 1000 officers to the Police Force since 2011 and exceeded its target of increasing the authorised strength to 16,795 officers this term.

The 100 extra police officers funded as part of this year’s record State Budget will be deployed later this year.

In addition, the Government is working with Commissioner Fuller and other key stakeholders, to determine the location, duty type, and amount of further officers required.

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