

2015-16 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Budget Estimates Hearing

The Hon. Wade Noonan MP
Minister for Police

Portfolio Breakdown

- The 2015-16 State Budget has provided Victoria Police with a \$2,512.4 million output cost for Policing Services. There is \$44 million in new asset funding with an estimated total asset expenditure in 2015-16 of \$137.5 million.
- This Budget also provides output funding of \$259.5 million for Infringements and Enhancing Community Safety and Crime Prevention.

2015-16 Election Commitments

- This Budget also provides capital and operational funding, over four years to meet our election commitments:
 - \$148.6 million for custody officers to manage prisoners at police cells
 - \$35.4 million to upgrade the Police Radio Communications
 - \$7.8 million for the Bellarine and Geelong community safety package
 - \$50.0 million for the Homesafe trial – 24hr public transport on weekends
 - \$4.5 million for cracking down on clandestine drug labs
 - the TAC will provide \$17.7 million for new drug and booze buses and increased drug tests
 - \$15 million for Mernda Police Station

Election commitments

Police Custody Officers

- The 2015-16 State Budget provides \$148.6 million, over four years, to transition the management of police cells to new police custody officers.
- This commitment will release 400 frontline police back into the community.
- The Acting Chief Commissioner will recruit and train 400 custody officers to supervise people held in police cells
- The custody officers will initially be deployed to supervise prisoners at high demand police stations across Victoria.

Election Commitments

Police Radio Upgrade

- The Victorian Government has committed \$11.5 million in additional funding over four years, to upgrade to a secure encrypted digital network.
- Work on removing the analogue system will begin in July, with the digital radios phased in from January 2017.
- The total estimated cost, including existing funds currently allocated to the legacy analogue system to be retired, is \$35.4m.

Election commitments

Homesafe 24-hour public transport on weekends

- The Government has provided \$50.0 million to trial Homesafe – a plan for public transport to operate through the night on Fridays and Saturdays, to begin on 1 January 2016.
- As part of the Homesafe policy, funding has been provided to allow for additional police personnel to provide a community safety/security presence on the rail network.
- Details about the operational model are currently being finalised by Victoria Police and PTV.

Election commitments

Drugs – Ice Intervention

- The 2015-16 State Budget provides \$45.5 million in new investment, focusing on priority initiatives to reduce the supply, demand and harm of a drug that's ruining lives
- \$4.5 million to expand the capacity of Victoria Police Forensic Drug Branch to help drug profiling and intelligence gathering
- The TAC will provide \$17.7 million additional funding for new drug and booze buses and funding to conduct 100,000 drug tests each year over the next two years to improve road safety.

Election commitments

Bellarine and Geelong Safety Package

- Funding of \$7.8 million over four years.
- Fifteen new sworn police officers will be deployed in the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong area.
- Extend the opening hours of Portarlington, Queenscliff and Drysdale police stations.

Election commitments

Mernda Police Station

- The Government has listened to the community and has committed \$15.0 million to build a new police station for the growing areas of Mernda and Doreen:
- The funding will support the purchase of land and construction of the new police station.

Other initiatives and Programs

- Community Crime Prevention
- Wyndham Multi-Disciplinary Centre
- Police component of the Assessment and Referral Court list
- Road Safety Cameras

Questions