



Northern Territory

Budget 2005

Fact Sheet

Backing Territorians...less tax, more jobs, better skills

Safer Communities Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Putting More Police on the Beat

The Territory Government is backing Territorians by providing safer communities.

We are focused on preventing crime, getting tough on those who commit crime, and tackling anti-social behaviour.

Budget 2005 delivers a record Police, Fire and Emergency Services budget of \$189 million – an increase of 38% since 2001.

Funding has been targeted at building the police force and getting more police on the beat.

To further support communities, the Office of Crime Prevention has been allocated \$3.5 million to continue leading crime prevention strategies throughout the Territory.

TACKLING CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Territory Government is ensuring police have enough resources and support to address crime and anti-social behaviour with:

- An extra 120 police on the streets, leading to more pro-active policing
- Mobile Police Stations to target hotspots
- Personal and Domestic Violence Protection Units established across all major Territory centres
- A register of convicted child sex offenders
- 25 additional police vehicles provided for Aboriginal Community Police Officers over three years, better supporting them to address violence and anti-social behaviour across the Territory
- Government, community organisations and businesses cooperating on a 'hotspot' management program
- More community day and night patrols of 'hotspots' with an additional police presence
- Police presence strengthened at public events, such as football finals and concerts
- Increased focus on hard core drinkers through intervention programs and alcohol withdrawal programs

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BUILDING THE POLICE FORCE – MORE POLICE ON THE BEAT

Budget 2005 continues the roll out of the Territory Government's four-year \$75 million Building our Police Force Plan.

We are on track to deliver 200 extra police on the beat by the end of 2006-07.

Highlights include:

- Two years into the Plan, 120 extra police are already on the beat
- The full strength of the Police Force has reached 1000 for the first time
- A new Drug Detection Dog Unit was started up earlier this year
- Stage 2 of a \$700 000 Police Call Centre was introduced this year, freeing up police officers to spend more time on the beat
- An additional \$2 million has been provided for police to purchase better day-to-day equipment

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY – CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS

In Budget 2005, funding available for Crime Prevention Grants has been significantly increased to \$750 000 – from \$400 000 in Budget 2004.

- Of these funds, \$400 000 will be for crime prevention grants and \$350 000 for approved Community Safety Plans from Regional and Indigenous Regional Crime Prevention Councils across the Territory
- Budget 2005 also includes support for seven Regional Crime Prevention Committees and three Indigenous Crime Prevention Committees across the Territory
- Neighbourhood Watch will receive its annual allocation of \$110 000, as well as receiving administrative and police personnel support in all centres

SAFER COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED BY STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE

Budget 2005 includes further spending on infrastructure aimed at making communities safer, including:

- \$3.6 million for a new fire station at Marrara to service Darwin's northern suburbs
- \$230 000 to strengthen fire fighting and emergency response capability at Yulara with the Voyages Group
- \$210 000 for an NT Emergency Services presence at Kings Canyon
- \$1 million for improvements to Darwin Correctional Centre as well as continuing the \$8 million project to build a low security facility at Darwin Correctional Centre
- \$150 000 to improve security at Alice Springs Court House