

Community Safety

Delivering More Police on Our Streets

Budget 2008 tackles crime with tough new laws and 60 extra police targeting crime and antisocial behaviour in our suburbs.

The Police, Fire and Emergency Services budget is \$247 million, an increase of 81% since 2001.

More Police Patrolling Our Suburbs

Budget 2008 provides for 60 extra police over two years, as part of the Government's \$9.3 million Safer Streets plan.

Crime and antisocial behaviour will not be tolerated with the 60 new police dedicated to patrolling our suburban streets. 10 additional auxiliaries will also be provided. The 60 extra police are on top of the 40 extra resources from the Closing the Gap initiative. Budget 2008 provides for 110 more police resources than a year ago.

Police Stations

Budget 2008 provides an additional \$2.5 million for the continued construction of the new police station at Casuarina. This state of the art facility will provide a critical role in cracking down on crime and improving public safety.

A total of \$7.76 million from the Commonwealth will fund the construction of the Galiwin'ku Police Station and officer accommodation. This will provide a permanent police facility to service one of the Territory's largest remote localities.

Better Resources For Police

Police communications are to receive a \$13 million state of the art upgrade over three years.

Improved communications are a vital tool and help police respond rapidly and effectively to keep our streets safer.

Budget 2008 provides ongoing funding of \$0.65 million to monitor the closed circuit television network in the Darwin CBD.

Tough on Youth Crime

Budget 2008 backs the Government's commitment to crack down on youth crime.

Juvenile offenders will be targeted with \$2.5 million towards tough new measures, including family responsibility agreements and orders, and new youth camps to stop the revolving door of youth offending.

Another \$5 million will be spent on a range of measures to crack down on antisocial behaviour including community and night patrols and an antisocial behaviour reporting hotline.

Delivering Justice

A New Prison

A new 1000-inmate jail will be built in the Darwin region to meet demands created by the Government's continuing crackdown on crime.

The Government will invest \$274 million to construct the new prison.

Too many of the Territory's prisoners are repeat offenders and the new jail will have improved vocational education and training facilities, and increased rehabilitation and mental health services to help get prisoners back on track.

While the new prison is constructed, existing capacity at the Darwin and Alice Springs correctional centres will be expanded to accommodate an additional 240 prisoners.

Increased ongoing funding of \$6.9 million in 2008-09, rising to \$10.6 million in 2010-11, has also been provided to meet the costs of rising prisoner numbers.

Additional funding of \$0.5 million has also been provided in Budget 2008, increasing to \$1 million in 2009-10, for improved prisoner education and rehabilitation programs to stop the cycle of crime.

Tough on Crime and More Support for Victims

Budget 2008 supports the Government's tough on crime approach and provides increased support for victims of crime.

This includes:

- \$0.39 million for additional prosecutorial resources for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to improve the prosecution of child sex offenders

- \$0.43 million to support the Crime Victims Services Unit and Victims Register
- \$3 million in grants to compensate victims of crime

Safer Buses

Budget 2008 provides an additional \$0.75 million to deliver more staff and resources to crackdown on antisocial behaviour and create a safer bus network.

Closing the Gap

Budget 2008 provides additional funding for justice initiatives as part of Closing the Gap, including:

- implementing a licensing identification system in regional and remote takeaway alcohol outlets
- establishing 10 Community Courts to provide input into sentencing, and additional community corrections officers
- additional court clinicians, based in Darwin and Alice Springs, to service the Katherine, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy regions
- expansion of the Indigenous Family Violence community based program
- \$5.96 million for both child protection workers and police to expand the Child Abuse Taskforce
- \$2.3 million for additional police services in remote communities