

# Year In Review

- The Government introduced new powers for police. The *Terrorism (Community Safety) Amendment Bill 2004* gives police greater surveillance powers and the capacity to call on the assistance of interstate and federal police in the event of a terrorist incident. Other pieces of legislation introduced include the *Chemical, Biological and Radiological Emergency Powers Amendment Act 2003*.
- Consistent with the Government's Aligning Services and Priorities (ASAP) Initiative, the Service has committed a number of corporate service units to ASAP. The shared services approach aims to improve efficiencies in the delivery of services.
- The Service's Operational Performance Reviews continued in 2003-04. Each of the 29 districts was the subject of two reviews during the year. Performance reviews were also conducted for State Crime Operations Command, Operations Support Command, Administration Division and Information Management Division.
- The Service is developing strategies in relation to recommendations of the CMC report: *Protecting Children* and the Government's Child Protection Blueprint. A Coordination Support Unit under the authority of a Superintendent (Child Safety Director) will be established within State Crime Operations Command to implement and monitor the Service's role. The Government has also allowed for funding of an additional 50 Juvenile Aid Bureau officers by September 2005.
- The Service restructured its Awards for Excellence to better align them with the Government's outcome of Safe and Secure Communities and with the priorities of the Operational Performance Reviews. It also expanded the award categories to include an Award for Excellence in Crime Prevention.
- The Service provided additional Police Beats at Pioneer (Mt Isa) and Redbank Plains, and Police Shopfronts at Milton, Deception Bay, Aspley and Buderim. The Springfield Beat was relocated and converted to a Police Beat Shopfront.
- A secure digital radio network to support police operations was established in the Brisbane metropolitan area. New secure digital radio network cells also became operational in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Maryborough and Toowoomba.
- The Service carried out its role of ensuring the safety of Queenslanders and visitors at a number of major events, including ANZAC Day, Schoolies' Celebrations, New Year's Eve, Brisbane River Festival, Rotary International Conference, Rugby World Cup and Rugby Masters' Tournament.
- A firearms amnesty for Category H (handguns) was declared from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 to give effect to the resolutions of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) aimed at reducing the number of concealable weapons in the community. In excess of \$22M in compensation was paid for approximately 15,000 handguns.
- Tactical Crime Squads commenced at Oxley, North Brisbane and Mt Isa Districts.
- The Radio Electronics Calibration Laboratory received NATA accreditation in chemical testing for breath analysis instruments, and electrical testing for speed measuring devices.
- Between 4 November 2002 and 31 March 2004, the Service confiscated 1,199 vehicles for 48 hours under the anti-hooning legislation.

- The Service introduced the Complaints, Other Matters, Processing and Statistical System (COMPASS). COMPASS provides a central electronic repository of complaint information and allows the Service to better manage and reduce misconduct or disciplinary complaints.
- Further forensic facilities have been upgraded to allow the Service to apply for accreditation by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) during 2004. This accreditation will provide formal recognition that the Service meets international standards in performing forensic examinations.
- In accordance with the Government's establishment of a Seniors' Task Force, the Service has initiated a project to investigate existing policies and practices across a range of government services to identify and then implement successful programs.
- Three additional Specialist Drug Detection Handler/Dog Teams were trained. By the end of 2003-04 there will be five operational specialist teams.
- The Major Fraud Investigation Group jointly hosted the Asian Pacific Fraud Convention and Trade Show on the Gold Coast in September 2003. The convention provided information on international developments in fraud investigation and strengthened relationships between the Service, State and federal agencies and major financial institutions.
- In July 2003, the first Police Prosecutors Training Course was held outside Brisbane, at the North Queensland Police Academy, Townsville.
- Approximately 500 new police officers were recruited and trained and an additional 25 staff member positions approved to meet the *Ten Year Staffing Plan* of 9,150 police officers by September 2005.
- The Service has implemented arrangements to meet its collection, use, disclosure, security and access obligations under the Information Privacy Principles (IPP). A Privacy Officer has been appointed and an Information Privacy Plan developed.
- The Service introduced a new training program, the Justice Entry Traineeship (Certificate IV in Justice - Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples). The program provides greater opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to gain employment as Queensland police officers. A record number of Indigenous recruits were sworn in to the Service on 31 March 2004.



*Traffic policing assists in maintaining a safe and efficient road network throughout Queensland.*