

Rebuilding the Police Service

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The Plan to rebuild essential services

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Rebuilding the Police Service

A majority Liberal Government will restore Tasmania Police to the levels in place before Labor and the Greens cut the frontline in 2011 (1,228 officers), by the end of our first term of Government.

Based on current police numbers of 1120, this will mean an extra 108 police on the beat.

The Liberals will also fully re-establish specialised units cut by Labor and the Greens such as the **Public Order Response Team (PORT)**, the **Marine and Rescue Team**, the **Fraud and e-Crime Unit** and the **Cold Case Unit**, which will be included as part of a new **Serious and Organised Crime Unit**.

Following years of Labor budget mismanagement, in the 2011 budget Labor and the Greens slashed 108 police officers from the frontline, in every region across the state.

This was despite the fact that in the 2010 election campaign Labor promised to employ an additional 30 police officers and the Greens promised an additional 100 police officers.

As a result of these Labor-Green cuts, Tasmania now has less police per capita than when Labor came to power 16 years ago. Crimes are going undetected and unresolved and police can't do the work they used to.

- Serious crime offences have increased from 38 victims per 10,000 people, to 51;
- Clear ups of robberies are down from 73.3 per cent to 66.2 per cent;
- Massive reductions in the time police spend patrolling our roads; and
- Random breath tests conducted are down from 53,174 to 43,029.¹

This is not acceptable, and only the Liberals have a plan to fix it.

Regional breakdown

While the distribution of police around the state is ultimately a matter for the Police Commissioner, the below are indicative numbers, based upon the number of police in each District before the Labor-Green cuts.

Southern District

The Southern District (Hobart and surrounds) will receive an **additional 48 officers**.

Western District

The Western District (North-West and West Coasts) will receive an **additional 17 officers**.

Northern District

The Northern District (Launceston, surrounds and the North-East) will receive an **additional 19 officers**.

Other Units and Support Services

Other units, such as the **Fraud and E-Crime Unit** and the **Marine Rescue Unit** will receive an **additional 24 officers** that will be based around the state on an operational basis.

The **Public Order Response Team** and the **Serious and Organised Crime Unit** (including the **Cold Case Unit**) will be established from within the overall complement of the **additional 108 police**.

Costings

\$33 million over four years

ⁱ All statistics from the Tasmania Police Corporate Report – July 2010 to July 2013