

Public order and safety

The QPS commits significant resources and effort towards maintaining public order and safety across Queensland. Its focus ranges from drunken and disorderly behaviour, youth violence, drug use, early intervention and diversion programs, to large scale public order incidents including natural disasters, and major events.

The table below provides an overview of the QPS's performance against service standards from the *2012-2016 Strategic Plan* and *2012-13 Service Delivery Statement*.

Public order and safety	Notes	2011-12 Actual	2012-13 Target/Est.	2012-13 Actual	2012-13 National average
Rate (per 100 000 population) of good order offences detected	1,2	1 143	1 000-1 200	1 132	N/A
Public satisfaction with police dealing with public order problems	3	69.2%	≥ 65%	70.3%	67.7%
Public satisfaction with police dealing with disasters and major events	2,3	89.2%	≥ 85%	88.2%	N/A

Notes:

1. Data reported previously may differ from what is reported in this annual report due to settling.
2. No national average is available for this measure.
3. Derived from the *National Survey of Community Satisfaction with Policing*.

Achievement highlights

Queensland police performed outstanding work in containing a dangerous situation in Brisbane's Queen Street Mall, and in keeping Queenslanders safe during severe weather events and flooding.

Deputy Police Commissioner Brett Pointing was appointed to lead the disaster recovery efforts and the rebuilding of Queensland, in the wake of the devastating floods experienced over the past summer.

Drink Safe Precincts and Banning Orders were introduced in December 2010 in response to the Parliamentary Committee's Inquiry into Alcohol Related Violence in Queensland. Three Drink Safe Precincts were created as a trial, in Townsville, Fortitude Valley and Surfers Paradise. In the precincts, state and local government agencies, industry and community organisations deliver coordinated local plans.

During the 2012-13 financial year, police worked 14 820 hours in the precincts and made 1 529 arrests, issued 195 notices to appear in court, and issued 377 infringement notices. Police also intervened on 2 782 occasions to prevent conflict, and issued 732 move-on directions.

Within the three precincts, 211 banning orders have been issued between December 2010 and June 2013. In non-drink safe precinct areas, 412 banning orders have been issued during this period.

The Auditor-General has released a report evaluating the trial, acknowledging the important contribution of police. In light of this report, the Government has formed a committee to evaluate the precincts.

In February 2013, the Party Safe initiative was enhanced by introducing an online registration process. Party Safe provides the community with information on holding safe and lawful parties, and enables people to register their parties with local police. During 2012-13 it is estimated that over 6 700 parties were registered with police.

Operation Unite is a joint initiative of Police Commissioners across Australia and New Zealand. It demonstrates the united determination of police to challenge alcohol misuse, crime, violence and anti-social behaviour. A two-day campaign was conducted in December, resulting in 441 arrests across the state. All QPS regions were involved, with over 1 257 police patrolling 'hot spots' focusing on alcohol misuse, violence and anti-social behaviour.

Over the two nights police arrested 28 people for assault offences. Police also attended licensed establishments and detected 912 licensing breaches, submitted 88 liquor incident reports and issued 169 liquor infringement notices. Police caught 119 people for drink driving after officers performed almost 7 150 random breath tests.

In 2012-13, the QPS provided funding for crime prevention projects across the state through the Community Crime Prevention Fund. The Fund supports partnerships between the QPS and community groups to develop local responses to local problems.

The QPS participated in the Australia and New Zealand Counter Terrorism Committee to enhance Australia's capacity to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from threats or acts of terrorism. During 2012-13, Queensland conducted 24 exercises to maintain and develop key counter terrorism capabilities. The exercises involved numerous stakeholders including the Australian Government, State agencies and private industry groups. QPS representatives were also appointed to national working committees to develop and deliver three new national exercise management courses. The QPS hosted four courses with attendees from all state and federal government agencies.

In September 2012 the CMC released the *Indigenous people in policing roles: A follow-up review to the Restoring Order report*. The report recommended the QPS increase the involvement of Indigenous people in policing roles. The QPS is currently undertaking work to:

- enhance community policing in the Torres Strait;
- participate in community safety and other justice planning processes;
- enhance support for people in complementary policing roles; and
- promote local crime prevention initiatives.

A three month trial of the Watchhouse Emergency Nurse (WHEN) model commenced at the Southport Watchhouse in April 2013 as a partnership between the QPS and Queensland Health. The WHEN model is intended to reduce the number of prisoners being removed from the watchhouse for medical treatment at the hospital. This will reduce pressure on policing and hospital resources, and provide extra care for prisoners.

Future initiatives

In May 2013, the Premier agreed to assist Papua New Guinea (PNG) to reform its police force. To this end, an exchange program, referred to as 'Operation Kokoda', is being developed to provide mentoring and assist PNG in building capacity.

The QPS will enhance law enforcement in the Torres Strait Islands. From 1 October 2013, the QPS will employ Torres Strait Island Police Support Officers to be stationed throughout the Torres Strait Islands. These officers will deliver a range of activities to support the QPS.

The QPS will continue planning to deliver security and public safety services for the G20 Summit in 2014. Approximately 4 800 staff will provide security and public safety to the Leaders' Summit in Brisbane, and up to 1 000 for the Finance Ministers' Meeting in Cairns.

The QPS will also continue to work with the Office of Commonwealth Games Coordination and the Gold Coast 2018 Organising Committee to prepare for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. A security operation over some 29 days will be required to support the Games. The operation will involve around 2 000 police per day during the 12 days of competition.

The Service will establish a new Intelligence, Counter-Terrorism and Major Events Command (ICMC) to improve the QPS approach to intelligence and ensure it is a priority activity across the Service. The amalgamation of intelligence, counter-terrorism, and covert policing activities will align work areas that have a primary purpose of gathering information and analysing it to produce useful data and knowledge that can aid decision making.

The next Operation Unite is planned for December 2013. Police across Australia and New Zealand will work to address alcohol misuse, crime, violence and antisocial behaviour.