

Commissioner's message

The 2013-14 Annual Report describes the Queensland Police Service's (QPS) achievements, performance, outlook and financial position. It supports accountability and transparency which underpin public trust and confidence.

2014 is the Service's 150th year anniversary. The Queensland Police Force was inaugurated on 1 January 1864 with only 287 officers under the command of Acting Commissioner David Thompson Seymour. Today approximately 14,500 police officers and staff provide policing services to more than 4.5 million people, across an area of 1.8 million square kilometres. The QPS officially launched the celebrations to mark the 150 year history with a parade and ceremony at King George Square in Brisbane on 28 February 2014. A number of activities have been held throughout the state to celebrate our 150th year including the QP150 Gala in Townsville in May and Brisbane in July, and the QP150 Police Expo in Brisbane in August 2014.

150 years on we can be extremely proud of the services we deliver to the Queensland community. We are working with the community to stop crime and make Queensland safer, including stopping road trauma.

Policing today is highly visible, using innovative technology, with a greater emphasis on intelligence, specialist support and taskforces to target crime and road safety.

We are focusing on:

- providing more options for the community to communicate with police
- building relationships with the community, based on fairness and integrity
- releasing police from tasks that do not add value or can be completed by other means
- being more mobile, flexible and capable of working across boundaries, to deliver the services the community needs
- proactively working and responding quickly when needed.

The outcome of our efforts can be seen in the level of community satisfaction and confidence. National survey data indicates

general satisfaction with police in 2013-14 was 76%; and 86.4% of Queenslanders said they had confidence in police. These results are equal to or above the national results.

Also in 2013-14, the rate of reported personal safety and property crime fell by 11% compared to 2012-13. Other offences, which includes drug, liquor and weapons offences, were up 11% compared to 2012-13 due to greater community confidence and more frontline police on the beat to uncover these offences.

The road toll continued to decrease in 2013 with 271 fatalities - 5.82 fatalities per 100,000 people. This is the second lowest fatality rate recorded in Queensland for a calendar year since accurate records began in July 1952.

Other achievements for 2013-14 include:

- a net increase of around 520 police officers as part of the government's commitment for an additional 1,100 new police officers by July 2016. There has been a total net increase of over 800 police officers since 2012-13
- creation of a Rapid Action Patrol (Police Hub) on the Gold Coast with planning in progress for a second hub in Townsville
- provision of iPhones and iPads to more than 800 QPS frontline officers to enhance officer and community safety and reduce administrative processes
- the creation of Operation Resolute in October 2013 resulting in over 1,000 criminal motorcycle gang members and their associates charged with more than 2,600 offences
- development of strategies to address unacceptable behaviour at out-of-control events; child safety; anti-hooping and road safety; and public safety and security during the upcoming G20 events.

As Commissioner, I am committed to continuing to work with members of the QPS and the community to ensure the QPS is a client focussed, modern organisation, with a strong culture of performance.



Ian Stewart APM
Commissioner