Commissioner's message



During 2016-17, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) continued to engage with communities and our government and non-government partners to ensure the ongoing safety and security of our State.

We collaborated on a range of preventative initiatives to support and assist victims and vulnerable members of our community, and continued to deliver effective enforcement activities to reduce crime and make Queensland's roads safer.

Highlights for the year include:

- delivering training to improve police responses to vulnerable persons, particularly victims of domestic and family violence, to over 11,000 sworn members
- ongoing high visibility road safety operations, focussing on the 'Fatal Five' high risk road user behaviours, including the conduct of over 3.11 million random breath tests, a 13.6% increase in roadside drug tests and issue of more than 203,000 speeding infringement notices
- successfully leading and coordinating disaster management responses to Severe Tropical Cyclone
 Debbie and the subsequent flooding in Central and South East Queensland
- establishing a Digital Office and dedicated Innovation Unit to harness the opportunities for continuous improvement presented by technological advancements
- continuing the roll out of body-worn cameras and QLiTE devices (iPads) to support frontline officers across the state
- continuing the development of new and innovative capabilities in collaboration with our partner agencies in preparation for the 2018 Commonwealth Games
- establishing the Senior Women's Collective to support the increase of diversity of our organisation at all ranks and levels, improve opportunities available to women, advise the QPS executive on issues affecting women, and developing and promoting initiatives that will enhance the working environment for women in the QPS
- celebrating a range of pride events to affirm our internal support of LGBTI members as well as the LGBTI community, including Wear it Purple Day, Brisbane Pride March and the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia.

Whilst we acknowledge our achievements, it is equally as important to honour those police officers and staff members who passed away during this year. In particular, the QPS family, and many Queenslanders, deeply felt the impact of the tragic loss of Senior Constable Brett Forte who was killed in the line of duty in May of this year. The support offered by the Queensland community towards our organisation at the time was extraordinary and I extend my heartfelt thanks for the gratitude and respect shown.

As always, I was honoured to lead the QPS during the year and remain committed to delivering safe and secure communities through innovation, collaboration and best practice. Policing is a complex business which continues to challenge our organisation. Our members strive daily to serve the community of Queensland and I wish to acknowledge their outstanding work and commitment.

IAN STEWART APM COMMISSIONER

13 September 2017