

Labor to boost police by 480 officers to drive down crime and keep our community safe

Posted by **Nsw Labor** on March 15, 2015

A Foley Labor Government will deliver an additional 480 police officers in our first term in office as part of a comprehensive package to drive down crime and keep our communities safe.

Labor will also equip our police with the latest technology they need to stay one step ahead of the criminals by investing in a \$100 million Police Technology Fund.

Labor will:

- Boost the NSW Police Force by 480 officers in our first term – recruiting an additional 300 officers on top of the 180 which will be delivered by August 2015;
- Invest \$100 million in a Police Technology Fund for the provision of improved technological tools for our police;
- Commit to a \$50 million Secure Stations Fund to ensure our police are working in safe and secure facilities; and
- Fund the \$17 million Police Force Wellbeing Program.

Every member of our community has the right to feel safe, and it is our police who are on the frontline protecting our community.

Labor will support our police by boosting their numbers and providing the resources, equipment and facilities needed to drive down crime.

We need an intelligent and smart police force to complement the high visibility policing on our streets.

Quotes attributable to Labor Leader Luke Foley:

“Our police put their lives on the line day in and day out protecting our community and Labor will support them by giving them the resources they need to do their job.

“We will boost our police force with extra officers to ensure that our local police stations are properly staffed.

“By putting more police on our streets we can ensure that we further drive down crime and anti-social behaviour that impact all members of our community.

“Placing more police on our streets in known crime hotspots conducting high visibility patrols, we can ensure that we further drive down crime.

“Our police have done a wonderful job driving down crime – even though this Liberal Government has left many stations across western and south-western Sydney understrength.

Quotes attributable to Shadow Minister for Police Steve Whan:

“Labor acknowledges that high visibility policing needs to be supported through a smart and intelligent police force.

“Labor will invest \$100 million to improve technology and equipment for our police.

“Labor will work with our police to allocate the additional officers where they are most needed – across both specialist commands and general duties. We will have a particular focus on addressing under staffing and workload issues in key areas such as western Sydney, Wagga Wagga, Nowra and the northern region.”

Read more about [Labor's plan for safer communities](#).



Labor

*Safer
Communities*
**MORE POLICE,
NEW TECHNOLOGY
and SECURE
STATIONS**

A message from **LUKE FOLEY, NSW LABOR LEADER**

Our police officers are hard-working members of the community trying to bring down the general rates of crime and keep us safe.

Sadly, the Liberals have allowed bkie gangs and organised crime to get a foothold in NSW and we are now seeing growing evidence of gang activity with over 460 shootings in our suburbs over the past four years and growth in use of hard drugs like 'ice'.

No family and no child should have to worry about gunshots or drive-by shootings on their street or in their suburb but we are seeing shots fired into homes across Sydney.

Like all parents I want my kids to feel safe not only in their own street, but also in their own home.

That's why a Labor Government will:

- Boost the NSW Police Force by 480 officers in our first term;
- Invest \$100 million in a Police Technology Fund for the provision of improved technological tools for our police;
- Commit to a \$50 million Secure Stations Fund to ensure our police are working in safe and secure facilities; and
- Fund the \$17 million Police Force Wellbeing Program

Under a Foley Labor Government, we will back our police officers and provide the resources, equipment and facilities needed to drive down crime and keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely



Luke Foley
NSW Labor Leader



Safer COMMUNITIES

MORE POLICE, NEW TECHNOLOGY AND SECURE STATIONS

Every member of our community has the right to feel safe, and it is our police who provide the protection for our community which allows us to feel secure, whether in our homes or out on the streets.

Labor in government recruited almost 3000 additional police officers, helping crime rates drop significantly between 2000 and 2010. Before 2011, official independent crime statistics from the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) showed that crime declined across the State to a point where all 17 major crime categories across the state were either falling or stable.

By placing more police on our streets we can ensure that we further drive down anti-social behaviour, intimidation and those crimes that have an impact on every member of the community.

Our police will also receive the technology they need to allow them to be a smart and intelligence driven force with the ability to prevent crime before it occurs.

Labor pledges to continue backing our police officers and provide the resources, equipment and facilities needed to drive down crime.

LABOR WILL BOOST THE NSW POLICE FORCE BY 480 OFFICERS IN OUR FIRST TERM

There is a need for a boost to police numbers if we are going to continue to drive down crime.

By placing more police on our streets in known crime hotspots conducting high visibility patrols we can ensure that we further drive down anti-social behaviour, intimidation and those crimes that have an impact on every member of the community before it occurs.

Labor commits to recruit an additional 300 police officers. This is on top of the 180 already committed to be delivered by August 2015, taking the NSW Police Force to record strength in our first term.

With the advice of the Police Commissioner, the additional police will be allocated to both specialist commands and general duties. The officers allocated to Local Area Commands will boost police number right across the state and address under staffing issues in key areas such as Western Sydney, Wagga, the South Coast and the northern region.



LABOR WILL INVEST \$100 MILLION IN A POLICE TECHNOLOGY FUND FOR THE PROVISION OF IMPROVED TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR OUR POLICE

Labor's four-year plan also recognises the need for intelligent, smart policing to complement highly visible patrols of our streets.

Labor will invest \$100 million for the provision of improved technological tools for our police.

The fund will support investment to:

- Continue the roll out of body worn video cameras to all frontline officers;
- Purchase smart phone and tablet devices for operational police which could lead to police officers being able to issue infringement notices and court attendance notices electronically; and
- Purchase mobile fingerprint scanners and narcotics testing machines.

LABOR COMMITS TO A \$50 MILLION SECURE STATIONS FUND TO ENSURE OUR POLICE ARE WORKING IN SAFE AND SECURE FACILITIES

Labor believes in backing our police so they can continue doing their job to protect the people of NSW. That's why Labor commits \$50 million to a Secure Stations Fund to upgrade police stations and ensure police officers work in safe and secure facilities.

Sadly, police officers can be the target of attacks which can have tragic consequences. Police officers and police stations can become the targets of violence - including lone wolf terrorist attacks.

In September 2014, two police officers were attacked and seriously injured outside Endeavour Hills Police Station in Victoria. Here in NSW, a police officer was shot by the officer's own gun when an offender jumped the counter at Wetherill Park Police Station in 2006. Since 2011, there have been incidents close to Redfern, Castle Hill and Surry Hills Police Stations where suspects have been confronted by police officers.

Labor's fund will support the funding of safety screens at front counters, security lighting, closed circuit TV, duress alarms and other infrastructure to increase the safety and security at police stations.

The \$50 million fund will be available for those older stations which do not have the appropriate infrastructure or procedures in place to protect the safety of police officers and visitors.

FUND THE \$17 MILLION POLICE FORCE WELLBEING PROGRAM

Backing our police means supporting our officers during tough times. That's why Labor supports the Police Force Wellbeing Program and will commit \$17.1 million to services which support injured officers, former officers and their families.



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