Police on the Beat at Casuarina Square

Acting Chief Minister Marion Scrymgour today opened the Territory’s first Police Beat at Casuarina Square, the NT’s busiest shopping centre.

Ms Scrymgour said the Police Beat was the first of five to be established in Territory shopping centres over the next four years.

“I’m delighted to be opening this new Police Beat, promised at the election, and now up and running for the busy Christmas period,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“Like many Darwinites I enjoy shopping at Casuarina and its great to have this accessible and visible police presence here.

“People should be able to go about their shopping and daily business in a safe and hassle free environment.

“This is a fresh idea for the Territory and will deliver real results for shoppers.”

Police Beats is a $12.3 million commitment over four years which will also include an additional 20 police officers and another 10 police auxiliaries.

Police Beats will complement a range of measures introduced by the Henderson Government to crack down on crime including 60 extra police to patrol our suburbs, holding parents legally accountable for the activities of their children and legislating for violent offenders to face jail. There are more than 280 extra police, ACPOs and auxiliaries now employed compared to 2003.

The Police will be regularly patrolling within Casuarina Square and will also periodically patrol the surrounding precinct.

This includes liquor outlets and licensed venues, the Library, service station, food outlets, the Bus Interchange, Centrelink Office, retail shops, roads and footpaths.

Police Beats will be also established in the Alice Springs CBD, Parap Shopping Village, Palmerston Shopping Centre and Karama Shopping Centre.

Ms Scrymgour congratulated Casuarina Square management, particularly Ben Gill and Allan McKean, Casuarina’s contractors and the Police on delivering the Police Beat so quickly.

“This is a great project and working together we will only enhance Casuarina’s Square’s reputation as one of the Territory’s favourite shopping destinations,” she said.

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