Police Minister Paul Henderson today welcomed 15 new Aboriginal Community Police Officers (ACPOs) to the Northern Territory Police Force as they undertake their first month of intensive training.

"In endorsing the O'Sullivan Report, the Government’s $75M Building our Police Force Plan’ will deliver an extra 200 police on the beat by the end of 2006 – and 28 of these positions will be ACPOs," Mr Henderson said.

"ACPOs play a vital role in policing in the Northern Territory, providing an interface and insight into the issues in aboriginal communities."

The 15 ACPOs are halfway through their first training block.

After the month of training, they will be stationed across the Territory - seven in Darwin, and one each in Angurugu, Alice Springs, Nguiu, Maningrida, Alyangula, Galiwinku, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek.

"I am pleased to welcome these 15 new officers and I wish them well in their career."