Alice Police Beat Takes Another Step

Police Minister Paul Henderson said today a lease had been signed for the new Alice Springs Police Beat.

Mr Henderson said the Police Beat would be located in the Cinema Complex, Todd St Mall and was expected to be operating in about two months, with at least four extra police officers recruited to staff the Police Beat and patrol the streets.

“This represents one of the final steps towards honouring our election commitment to establish a Police Beat in Alice Springs,” Mr Henderson said.

“The Police Beat aims to increase public safety - people should be able to go about their daily business without worrying about anti-social behaviour and crime.

“The key focus of the Police Beat is patrolling the streets and shopping centres for maximum police visibility.

“Having a Police Beat in the centre of Alice adds a visible police presence, deters those who would engage in unacceptable behaviour and contributes to a sense of safety for the community.

“Increasing safety and police presence will also help business – and encourage tourists to spend time and money with local businesses.”

Since 2003 the Northern Territory Government has increased the number of police, ACPOS and police auxiliaries by more than 340 – that’s an additional 340 in the force.

This increase means we have twice as many police per head of population as the Australian average.

Mr Henderson said the extra police and the Police Beat complemented the Government’s other plans to crack down on crime and anti-social behaviour.

“This includes an additional 10 police under the Safer Streets initiative for Alice funded in the recent 2009 budget and the Alice Springs Youth Action Plan.”

“A Superintendent position will also be established for the Alice Springs Youth Hub.”

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