



# POLICE ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA

## Media Release

Sunday 24 January 2010

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The Police Association of Tasmania welcomes the Government's announcement of funding for 30 new frontline police.

The announcement comes after twelve months of Police Association lobbying to address an insufficient number of frontline police.

Increasing frontline police is important for all Tasmanians as it will ensure the continued delivery of security and safety of the community.

Police Association President Sergeant Wierenga said in the current environment, increasing frontline police was not only sensible and prudent, but critical to maintain the delivery of police services.

"We welcome the government's decision to improving the resourcing levels of frontline police; it's a critical provision in ensuring the Tasmanian Police can maintain its high standards with the support of appropriate numbers.

"More frontline police will be able to not only better protect the community, but reduce the impact of crimes that are costly on the community like vandalism.

The announcement comes shortly before a State Election and Sergeant Wierenga called on all major parties to back the improved resources for ensuring the continued delivery of police services.

"The government agrees that it is important to increase police numbers, and we call on all major parties to support the proper resourcing of police.

"Over the past year, numbers have become a huge concern for frontline police who, like any other person in a dangerous job, want to know that everything that can be done to protect them is being done.

"In this light, we hope that the political process does not elicit opposition to the government's decision for the sake of political opposition.

"We're aware that election cycles are competitive processes, we simply call on the other major parties to recognise the consequences of not increasing the number of frontline police.

"All police believe that more police are required to do their job safely and properly and today's important announcement bears testament to the concerns of police.

For more information please call Adrian Dodd on 0401726476