



CRIME FIGHTING EQUIPMENT FUND

Better Resources to Protect the Community

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National Government will increase investment in the crime fighting equipment, specialist weapons and technology that a modern police service needs.

The Problem

Drug and violent crime is increasing and youth crime in North Queensland is out of control. Labor's softly, softly approach is failing Queenslanders, doing nothing is not working.

North Queensland has had to make do with a makeshift police helicopter and Labor have continually resisted the call for more resources, instead blaming residents for the increased crime rates.

Our hard-working police are having to ride bicycles and catch public transport because of a severe shortage of police vehicles. To make matters worse, Labor's then Police Minister tried to fudge the figures on how many new vehicles were part of the annual allocation.

Labor failed to deliver \$26 million of the crime fighting equipment it promised in 2016-17. This highlights Labor's do-nothing approach and neglect of the crime fighting resources needed to keep Queenslanders safe.

Our Record

In government, not only did the LNP deliver 1,100 more police on the beat, we made sure they had the equipment they needed to keep Queenslanders safe. The LNP invested in world-class infrastructure supporting frontline officers, including modern stations and new vehicles to assist with patrol work.

Our plan for safe communities delivered cutting-edge technology to our police, fire and emergency services staff including nearly 2,800 iPads which saved officers 30 minutes per shift. The LNP also delivered a state of the art digital Government Wireless Network to improve communications between emergency services. This \$500 million Government Wireless Network, a major ICT infrastructure project, was delivered on time and on budget.

As well, we delivered two dedicated police helicopters for southeast Queensland to support major crime investigations and allow safer police pursuits.

Our Real Plan

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will provide an additional \$22 million as part of our *Crime Fighting Equipment Fund* so that our police have the tools they need to keep Queenslanders safe and provide safe and liveable communities.

Our *Crime Fighting Equipment Fund* will provide:

- **a dedicated police and emergency response helicopter for North Queensland**, to be based in Townsville
- **up to 120 additional police and specialist vehicles** across Queensland
- police on the beat with **1,000 new body worn cameras, 1,000 new personal body armour vests and 1,000 new QLite iPads or iPhones**
- **\$2 million investment in additional specialist training**, including more firearms training
- the **latest counter-terrorism weaponry for our specially trained counter-terrorism officers**, and
- the **establishment of an Australian first anti-drone squad.**

With drug and violent crime increasing, youth crime out of control in North Queensland and the bikie gangs revving back up again, our frontline police officers need more resources to fightback against crime, protect the community and also protect themselves.

The *Crime Fighting Equipment Fund* is part of our comprehensive plan to provide safe and liveable communities, with tougher laws and better resources.

Only the LNP will put community safety first in the fightback against crime as we Build a Better Queensland.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Why do police need additional equipment, such as more vehicles, personal body armour and QLite kits?

The Palaszczuk Labor Government has failed to provide the frontline support police need to do their jobs effectively, with a lack of investment in additional police cars and specialist equipment that protects frontline police and allows them to do their job more efficiently and effectively.

How will a dedicated police helicopter improve community safety for residents and business owners?

A dedicated police helicopter, fitted with Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) technology, will assist police with the trial of the new police pursuit policy and enable a local crackdown on property offences, including break-ins and motor vehicle theft/hooning.

An eye in the sky, with proper technology, would be a major boost in the efforts to make the streets of Townsville safe again.

According to newspaper reports: *“Without the power to chase stolen cars, police are left with their hands tied, with many senior officers believing a helicopter could help them coordinate ground searches and set up cordons to catch offenders earlier.*

Senior police say it is only by sheer luck no-one has been killed with young criminals driving stolen cars at high speed through red lights, some hitting more than 100km/h over the speed limit.”

Source: Townsville Bulletin 15 November 2016

Why is an anti-drone squad needed?

Anti-drone squads have been established in Tokyo, the United States, the United Kingdom and across Europe, allowing law enforcement agencies to enforce no-fly zones for unmanned aerial vehicles or drones.

The Queensland Police Service will establish an anti-drone squad with specialist equipment. DroneShield, a Sydney-based company, specialises in providing protection against drones threatening safety, security and privacy. The Queensland Police Service will now have the funding to develop an anti-drone squad.

What additional counter terrorism weaponry will be provided?

Under our *Crime Fighting Equipment Fund*, the Queensland Police Service Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) will receive the latest specialist equipment – 125 SIG Sauer automatic machine guns with silencers, following a similar move by Victorian police in March 2017.



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A portrait of a man and a woman smiling. The man is on the left, wearing a white shirt and a blue tie. The woman is on the right, wearing a blue blazer. They are both looking directly at the camera with friendly expressions.

Together, Let's Build a Better Queensland

To learn more about Our Plan visit betterqueensland.org.au

The logo for the Liberal National Party (LNP) of Queensland, featuring the letters 'LNP' in a stylized font with a yellow and blue color scheme, followed by the words 'LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY' in a smaller, sans-serif font.