

YARNTIME NEWS

Issue 6

July 2006

MAPOON CDEP LOST

- *Community Enterprise Australia to take over the role of management.*
- *Tuesday 11th July, 2006 the last day of Mapoon CDEP scheme.*

FEATURES

- **New Alcohol Restrictions**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that effective Friday 23rd June 2006, Janie Creek and the associated camping grounds and north of Pennefather River will be closed to all visitors. It is requested that anyone currently using this area vacate by this date.

All enquiries about approved camping areas should be directed to:

Lawrie Booth
Senior Ranger
Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council
Business Hours: 07 4090 9124

By Order
Stuart Wright

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BIG CHANGES FOR MAPOON CDEP

Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council is angry and disappointed it will lose control of its CDEP Program under sweeping changes to be introduced by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) commencing in July 2006.

Every year the Council makes a submission to DEWR to run CDEP, however this year DEWR offered a contract to another company, called Community Enterprise Australia.

"This decision is a kick in the guts for the Council and the community who have been committed to meeting ever increasing DEWR performance indicators, including creating full time employment for 15% of its CDEP workforce this year.

Mapoon has demonstrated a long term commitment to achieving economic independence by developing a real economy and engaging with wider orbits for the community and its residents through CDEP.

Mapoon CEO Stuart Wright said without the commitment of Mapoon Council to CDEP there would have been limited job readiness to assist peo-

ple into the real economy.

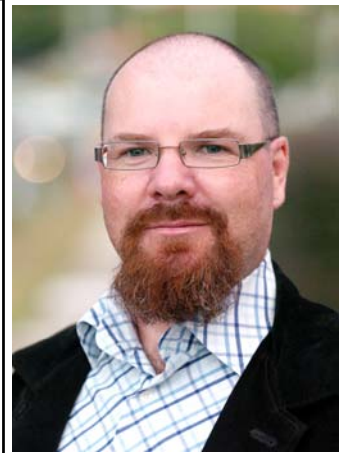
"It's through the support of this program that three economic ventures have been established within the community over the past two years and over the past few months council has transferred ten local people from CDEP into real employment," he said.

"This decision is consistent with the approach DEWR has taken since the demise of ATSIC by failing to follow recognised protocols and blatantly ignoring the government's agenda of 'shared' responsibility with indigenous communities," he said.

The Mayor and CEO flew to Canberra on the 20th June 2006 to meet with Minister for Employment, Kevin Andrews and Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Mal Brough and appeal this decision and fight for Mapoon's CDEP.

The Council also invited CEA and DEWR to come to Mapoon on the 26th and 27th where everyone sat down to negotiate an agreement.

Unfortunately, an agreement could not be



Mapoon CEO Stuart Wright

reached and following a special council meeting with solicitor Michael Neal, it was agreed that Council would hand over management of CDEP to CEA, but would offer to employ as many Mapoon people as possible with Council.

A community meeting was held on Thursday 6th July commencing at 9:30am behind the office for all CDEP participants to explain the changes.

CDEP workers are asked to contact Denis Fields if they have any further queries however Dennis will be meeting with all workers to explain their options and choices.

THE MAYOR'S MOMENT

DUYFKEN SHIP WILL NOT BE VISITING WESTERN CAPE

The replica "Duyfken" ship which is presently making a voyage to Qld to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the earliest recorded contact with Australia's Indigenous people and Europeans, will not be coming to the western Cape York this journey but will be calling at Brisbane and some other eastern ports.

Whilst in Brisbane, the Premier will be hosting a reception to welcome the ship's crew to Queensland. The Mayor and another artist rep from Mapoon have been invited to attend this reception also on 26th July, 06.

TURTLE CAMP RECOMMENCES

The Turtle Conservation Project at Janie Creek has recommenced for a fifteen (15) week season. New tents have been provided and the campsite has been upgraded. A new Camp Manager, Tony Wittkopp has been engaged by Council to manage the project. Bonnie Douthat will be running the kitchen. The season has kicked off with three (3) guests at the camp.

Tony has been busy looking at other opportunities for maintaining the camp out of season. A new barge has been purchased to assist to carry tourists across Janie Creek. We are also looking at the participation of the Mapoon Elders in the historical content of the district.

Many thanks to the workers who played a part in improving the project and gave their time and energy.

INVITATION

With the start of the tourist season, Council would like to invite the Elders and Traditional Owners of this country to attend the Turtle Camp for either 2 nights or the 5 nights of each camp to be the guests of the Council. This is a great opportunity for people to tell their stories of Mapoon and this country and also give our tourist visitors an insight into Indigenous culture. Anyone interested should see the CEO for more details.

Anyone else who would like to be involved should also see Stuart.



POLICE CITIZENS YOUTH CLUB (PCYC)

Senior Police Officers attended the community on Wednesday 5th July to discuss working in partnership with the Council to run after school and evening activities for the young people of Mapoon. PCYC will provide equipment and resources including a coordinator that will work with the community to decide what activities Mapoon wants. PCYC will also operate vacation care for school kids to help relieve some of their boredom and give the parents a break.

PCYC currently operates at Yarrabah and Palm Island but is also opening in Napranum this month.

NEW ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT RESTRICTIONS FOR MAPOON.

New Alcohol Management carriage restrictions for Mapoon will come into effect on **Monday 24th July, 2006**. These restrictions were renegotiated with the Mapoon Community and the Qld Liquor Licensing through the Justice Group.

Current restrictions were deemed unsuitable to circumstances at Mapoon and the community sought to renegotiate the limitations to suit the situation.

These restrictions apply to all boats, vehicles and aircraft. Persons caught

The new limits are as follows: -

- A. **3 x 30 Can Cartons of light to mid-strength beer and 1 x 2 Litre Wine unfortified).**
- OR**
- B. **2 x 30 Can Cartons of light to mid-strength beer and 1 x 24 Can of UDL premix and 1 x 2 Litre Wine (unfortified).**

Any carriage of alcohol above these limits could result in confiscation of the entire alcohol within the vehicle, a fine and criminal record for offenders and possible confiscation of cars and boats etc.

COMUUNITY PHONES DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Recently, Council was very lucky to secure some funding from DCITA to install fibre optic into the community and connect 15 houses and council buildings to new technology called Voice Over Internet (VOIP). This will allow people to use computers to make cheap telephone calls and also get better access to the internet.

This project has been developed in partnership with Cape York Digital Network (cydn) along with commercial partners Cisco. Peter Inglis will be working in the community with our roads and plumbing crew for all of July to install the new cabling.

So parents, for their safety please keep your children away from any open pits or ditches.

This project is another example of how Mapoon is leading the way with new

technology and making sure that the people of Mapoon get the same services as anyone in Cairns or Brisbane.

VEHICLE THEFT

A brand new four door tray-back was stolen from the Council compound by a couple of juveniles. This type of behavior has not been seen out at Mapoon for decades and the culprits were easily identified and reported.

The same juveniles are accused of breaking and entering a private room at the crab shed and stealing items from the bedroom. Council has the option of reporting these juveniles to Police and pursuing the matter to the fullest extent of the law, including the return of such persons into custody for their own good and the welfare of our own community. Our community members are also getting sick of the rot coming from these irresponsible youth and don't have to put up with their rubbish.

WILD RIVERS LEGISLATION MORATORIUM

CAPE YORK LAND COUNCIL WELCOMES THE PROPOSED WILD RIVERS MORATORIUM

Cape York Land Council Chairman Michael Ross has welcomed the news that the Queensland Government is actively considering a moratorium on wild rivers declarations.

Mr Ross said that the announcement that the Queensland Government is considering placing a moratorium on wild river declarations in the Cape York Peninsula is a step forward for economic development, cultural protection and native title in the Cape York region”.

Mr Ross stated that “we now have time to enter into meaningful negotiations with the State Government and all stakeholders interested in environmental protection, cultural protection, economic development and tenure certainty. These are the elements that CYLC has been interested in pursuing since the historic signing of the Cape York Heads of Agreement a decade ago.”

Mr Ross has stated that the proposed wild rivers moratorium will provide stakeholders with a unique opportunity to return to the principles of the historic Cape York Heads of Agreement.

The agreement sets out a ‘careful and sensible balance’ of the indigenous, pastoral and conservation interests, while respecting the interests of Government.

Mr Ross is calling for all stakeholders in the region to join CYLC in returning to the Cape York Heads of Agreement in order to reach a win, win, win outcome on wild rivers.



An old historical photograph of a camp at Flinders Camp during Mission times, courtesy of Grace McLachlan. This camp was one of three camps set up to contain a whooping cough outbreak in the late 1930's. Other camps were set up at Janie Creek and the Pennefather River, with the severest cases of the disease confined to the mission dormitory hospital itself.

FISH ARE BITING



(Pictured Left) - Peter Tonin with two of the magnificent Barramundi that are a trademark of our community.

The crabs are also coming back on and the season is already looking good.

Staff at the Crab Shed include Matthew Sagigi, Nicholas Woodley and Shane Royan. Jason Tilberoo has since left but is looking possibly to return.

Congratulations to Matthew Sagigi for completing his Certificate 2 in Seafood Industry (Fishing Operations).

Concern has been voiced over certain individuals and tourists and visitors stealing crabs from the pots. Persons found to be interfering with Mapoon crab pots and fish nets will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

DEMAND REDUCTION

The Mapoon Community Justice Group through the Mapoon Shire Council have lodged an expression of interest for funding over four (4) years. This funding is a co-joint application on behalf of Napranum and Mapoon communities seeking the following: -

- A. Costs for visiting specialists paying monthly/fortnightly visits into the communities.
- B. Capacity building within the communities and the placement of Men's and Women's officers.
- C. Costs for staging Monthly Men's & Women's meetings.
- D. Costs to stage annual camps out on country.

The application was lodged with the DATSIP department who maintain the Alcohol Management Plans and the Demand Reduction Strategy program.

The Mapoon Justice Group moves from under the jurisdiction of DATSIP and the Community Services Act to the Department of Justice and Attorney General, otherwise known as JAG as at 1st July, 2006.

Nominations continue to be sought for representatives on the Mapoon Community Justice Group for the following groups: - Tjungundji, Taepathiggi, Thankiwth, Yupangati, Warrangku, School P & C and HACC.

PENINSULA DEVELOPMENT ROAD TO CAIRNS

The Peninsula Development Road to Cairns has been under repair and is in relatively good condition. Driving with care is essential. The more serious sections of the highway are from Coen to Musgrave, Musgrave to Hann River where water still sits in culverts and dips etc.

The road from Northern Peninsula Area is also in good condition, however vehicles are warned off the Batavia Downs short-cut as it is in a bad state and virtually unusable due to the cyclone activity last wet season.

LOTUS GLEN VISIT

The Mapoon members who attended the Lotus Glen Correctional Facility were deeply moved by the respect and hospitality afforded them by both inmates and staff of the Lotus Glen Correctional Facility and the Lotus Glen Farm during the recent NAIDOC celebrations.

The brothers at both centers were courteous and mindful of the needs of the visitors. The food included the exotic dish of pigs blood (dinagwan) which is made only on very special occasions. Traditional dancing by both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inmates and Band music was the order of the day. We were advised that the inmates had access to the Torres News, Koori Mail and the Mapoon Yarntime.

To all our brothers and sisters who are incarcerated within the state prisons and read our newsletter, we send our regards with messages of love, strength and endurance.

CAIRNS SHOW

The Cairns Show will be held from 19th — 21st July, 2006.

MAPOON MINI SHOW.

The Mapoon show was again with us and was open for business from Tuesday 27/06 to Friday 30/06/06 from 6.30pm to 10.00pm every night.

CONTACT NUMBERS

WEIPA POLICE	40 699 119
CAIRNS POLICE	40 307 000
WEIPA COURTHOUSE	40 699 999
SPER (FINES etc)	1300 365 635
CORRECTIONS OFFICER	40 484 777
CAIRNS LEGAL SERVICE	40 314 878
FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT	1800 300 633
LOTUS GLEN PRISON	40 933 911
FAMILY & PRISON SUPPORT	40 514 485
DEPT OF COMMUNITIES	40 398 953

LOTUS GLEN NAIDOC

Mapoon Community Justice Group sent community representatives to the Lotus Glen Correctional Facility for NAIDOC 2006 celebrations on 1st & 2nd July. Ricky Guivarra, Ian Ngalametta and Zoe Driscoll had travelled to the prison complex and farm for the NAIDOC celebrations. Representatives from other Cape communities also visited the complex during this time.

Big Government Hurts Aboriginal Population (Australian Newspaper)

Private-sector partnerships represent the way forward, argues an indigenous leader. PROFESSOR Greg Craven has asserted that the federal Government is no longer adhering to its conservative philosophy. Craven argues that, traditionally, "Liberals are suspicious of government power ... Liberals regard government omniscience as a mythical beast. Governments do not know everything, and their activities should be correspondingly modest and circumscribed".

In our area, indigenous policy, the main trend has indeed been the rise and rise of governments. The notion that indigenous problems must ultimately be solved by indigenous people themselves has almost completely disappeared. At the community level, local community councils and organisations which have run CDEP (indigenous work-for-the-dole programs) are soon to be stripped of their role. At Cape York peninsula, two of the best-performing CDEPs - at Cooktown and Old Mapoon (see Tony Koch's article in The Weekend Australian last Saturday) - have this month been informed that private-sector companies will take over their CDEP programs.

Old Mapoon has made impressive progress with the development of its new community. It is financially sound, has employed good staff over the years, has developed several enterprises in the community and has run a good CDEP program. Audit reports and reviews unanimously support the assessment that indigenous governance is working there. The new policy lacks confidence in indigenous Australians and is utter madness. Such policy ignores the role that government has played in the indigenous social disaster in the first place. There is no appreciation that passive welfare has included passive service delivery by governments. One of the biggest problems faced by indigenous communities is that our lives are dominated by our dependency on and relationship with government. Government and its ubiquitous service deliverers affect our lives to a degree most Australians would not understand. Non-indigenous Australians have forgotten about the limits of government competence because their lives are not so much dependent upon government as our people's lives are.

In the past five years, Cape York peninsula people have entered into partnerships with corporate and philanthropic organisations through the aegis of indigenous enterprise partnerships. The main features of this model are that the reform agenda is led by indigenous leaders, the private-sector partners provide financial and in-kind support for the reform agenda, and senior corporate leaders champion his or her company's commitment to a long-term partnership. The most important contribution of our private-sector partners is competent personnel. These partnerships have given us freedom to take action without being dependent on government authorisation and for government funding approval. Where government could not be persuaded to face up to chronic failure and to try new approaches, our private-sector partnerships have enabled us to try something new. The lesson: government is at its best when it realises its limitations. To be sure, governments are a welcome partner, but they are ideally junior partners who should limit themselves to playing a supporting role.

The task of reconstructing indigenous Australia socially and economically is so difficult that the logical thing for the government system would be to build a long-term partnership with each and every individual and organisation that is honest, well-intentioned and reasonably competent. Governments and bureaucracies should not be distracted from the long-term goal of indigenous self-reliance by making the flaws and problems of indigenous people the main determinant of policy direction.

We are not arguing for relaxed standards of accountability for indigenous people and organisations. We urge governments to adopt indigenous capability building as the goal of all programs and actions, even when the indigenous party is struggling. We from the Cape York peninsula would advise political leaders and senior officials to see intervention, reform and rebuilding of capabilities in indigenous communities in three distinct phases. The first phase is the immediate need for government to intervene in those communities where the safety and protection of children and community members is an urgent priority. Simultaneously with emergency interventions, work must begin in partnership with responsible community members to rebuild functional social and cultural norms, which are much more important than simple compliance with law enforcement. The second phase is the intermediate need to ensure that routine services and programs in health, education, housing and infrastructure are delivered as competently and efficiently as possible. It is this routine service delivery and routine community development which governments that talk about whole-of-government coordination are concerned with.

However, it is our view in Cape York peninsula that routine service delivery will not solve the profoundly difficult questions involved. Reform is necessary across all policy areas, and there is not the competence within government to locate and develop these reforms. Co-ordination, while desirable, is not reform. Therefore, reform innovation must be part of the intermediate phase. This is where partnerships between people and organisations from the private sector, working with indigenous people, can research, develop and trial social innovations. The third, long-term phase is where successful reform innovations developed in the second phase become the mainstream programs administered by governments and indigenous organisations. In this phase, the government's role should retreat so that it takes responsibility only for those things that are appropriate for them. The present over-reach by government in response to the crisis in indigenous affairs will eventually be exposed as a failure. In the meantime, much good work and progress made by indigenous communities and organisations will be destroyed. People might question our main contention here: that the political and bureaucratic top leadership does not have any strategy for the indigenous crisis. And consider this: things are admittedly still very difficult for people in Cape York peninsula. But during recent years there have been a large number of initiatives that have improved people's lives, or promise to do so in the near future: nationally renowned family income management, alcohol management, education trials, and Milton James's Work Placement Scheme.

Governments have given us vital legislative and financial support. But not one of these ideas came from the bureaucracies or the politicians. Indigenous people and the private and philanthropic sectors did it all.

Noel Pearson is Director of the Cape York Institute for Policy and Leadership.

MAPOON COMMUNITY NEWS

ROADWORKS

The road from Mapoon to Weipa has been tended by the Mapoon road crew. The state of the road is in very good condition. The road can stay in this state if drivers observe some simple procedures, by not speeding on the dirt tracks and using the left drive lanes.

The five year contract with Comalco is for the re-sheeting of the road. Three kilometers were done in the past week and a further one kilometer is yet to be completed near the Andoom mine site. The contract with Mapoon states for three gradings a year to keep the road in a drivable state. The dirt road will be upgraded from the end of the bitumen near Tharng Creek to Cullen Point. Future bitumen could be in the Mapoon area proper.

Travellers are asked to observe the road signs and respect the road workers by slowing near their work sites.

MAPOON MEN'S GROUP

The Mapoon Men's Group have taken possession of their new boat courtesy of the WCCCA Trust. The 6 metre Hooker fibreglass dinghy has a 75 hp Suzuki 4 Stroke Outboard.

This new edition will compliment their Troop-carrier vehicle.

The boat is expected to be lent over in the first instance to the Turtle Conservation Project at Janie Creek for a season.

Expect to see more men's group outings and hunting expeditions and possible trips away to neighbouring communities. We wish them Bon Voyage and safe travelling.

SENATE INQUIRY INTO INDIGENOUS WAGES

The Senate is to inquire into non-payment of wages to indigenous workers over decades.

Democrats Senator Andrew Bartlett, who proposed the inquiry, said it was appropriate that the Senate investigate this historical injustice by which Aboriginal workers were either underpaid or paid nothing at all, their wages supposedly held in trust.

Under the terms of the inquiry, the Senate legal and constitutional references committee will conduct a broad-ranging investigation and report back by the end of the year.

Senator Bartlett said one expert estimated the total of wages, savings and entitlements not paid to indigenous people amounted to more than \$500 million for Queensland alone.

In 2002 the Queensland Government offered \$55.6 million in reparations to Aboriginal and Islander people whose wages and savings were held in trust by previous governments.

"While there has been some focus given to the stolen wages issue in Queensland and NSW we do not know how widespread the practice was around the country and whether or not all governments have responded properly if at all," Senator Bartlett said in a statement.

"The terms of reference are very comprehensive. It will provide an opportunity for Aboriginal people to be heard on a very serious issue that affects many of them deeply."

WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING.

A Meeting of the Mapoon Women's Group was had on 20th June, 2006. A good turn out for the ladies on the day, with a lot of business covered during the meeting. A nice lunch was catered for and Ray Sambo from Australian Bureau of Statistics gave an introduction to the forthcoming Census.

Unfortunately, the Men did not have the opportunity during the late afternoon to have their meeting, (there being no food left too), but there will be lots of time left for the guys to have their gathering also.

GATHERING AT THE MAPOON COUNCIL OFFICE

Can we please take the opportunity to remind everyone that the Council offices are a place of business. They are not a social gathering point. This means that if people come to visit for other than business matters, please take your socializing to the appropriate places.

It does not present a very good image to our visitors to see people hanging around the offices all the time and it is also not easy for our staff to work with all the interruptions and disruptions.

All children should be kept under parental control at all times and are not permitted to enter into the workplace. The consumption of alcohol in the Council yard or smoking of tobacco and other substances near the office entrances are also against the law. The CDEP smoko shed is available for workers near the HACC office. Coffee and Tea making facilities are for Council office workers and visitors only. Toilets at the rear of the Council office are not for the general public.

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2006 CENSUS

CENSUS

CENSUS

CENSUS

What is the CENSUS?

The CENSUS is when everybody in Australia is counted.
Every man, women and child, Black, White, Brown, or Brindle,
EVERYBODY

WHEN?

The CENSUS will take place in Mapoon on
Monday 24th July 2006 - Saturday 29th July 2006

WHY?

We need to count everybody in Mapoon to help with the allocation of funding for things like, housing, education, and health service.

If you don't get counted Mapoon will miss out on
vital infrastructure money.

WHO?

Daisy Caltabiano will co-ordinate the CENSUS along with
four other local people. They will come to your house
and help fill in the CENSUS Form.

Is my Information Private?

YES! The information you give about yourself and your family is completely private. This means other government departments like Centrelink, Housing and the Tax Office will not see your information. They are not allowed to.

If you have any questions?

If you have any questions please contact Daisy Caltabiano or
Ray Sambo on 0420 104 843

REMEMBER

YOUR COMMUNITY IS COUNTING ON YOU

BASKETBALL FUN GAMES

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

5.00PM — 6.30PM

SPORTS & RECREATION HALL

SOFT DRINKS ON SALE \$2 EACH

ALL MEN AND WOMEN IN THE
MAPOON COMMUNITY ARE WEL-
COME TO COME ALONG AND HAVE
A FUN TIME EVERY WEDNESDAY
WEEK DAY

AEROBICS CLASSES

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

5.00PM — 6.15PM

SPORTS & RECREATION HALL

COSTS: \$2.50 PER PERSON PER
SESSION.

(Funds goes towards equipment)
Children & Others who do not par-
ticipate or are not of any participant
are not allowed.

For transport assistance would you
please contact Jessica 40 909 124

TOUCH FOOTBALL

MONDAY, TUESDAY
& WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

MAPOON CAMPUS GROUNDS

3.00PM — 4.30PM Children

4.30PM — 6.00PM Adults

Come along and enjoy a fun filled
afternoon with other community
members after work and school.

All food and drinks are BYO.

General News Items



(Pictures Left to Right) - (1) Cullen Point, Mapoon looking north towards the Torres Strait. (2) Aerial view of township centre. (3) Snr Ranger Laurie Booth with an Olive Ridley Turtle during patrol at the Turtle Conservation Project at Janie Creek and Flinders camp district.

Call for Nominations - 2006 Queensland Road Safety Award

Safety initiatives which help to cut the states road toll will be recognised in the 2006 Queensland Road Safety Awards.

Now in their seventh year the awards, co-sponsored by Queensland Transport, are a joint initiative of the RACQ and the Queensland University of Technology's Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety Queensland (CARRS-Q).

The Queensland Road Safety Awards seek to promote road safety across all user groups and this is encouraged by a wide range of nomination categories, from community and school-based programs to industry as well as local and state government activities. Entries will be judged on ownership and community impact, collaboration, feasibility, relevance, innovation, scope and effectiveness. No project is too small to warrant consideration for an award. Every initiative to encourage safer road use is important, no matter how small it may seem.

The co-organisers welcomed Queensland Transport's support for the awards in 2006 through its sponsorship of a new category recognizing the efforts of local State Government employees in the cause of road safety. Winning a Queensland Road Safety Award is a prestigious accomplishment, bringing with it national and international recognition. This year's Awards Ceremony will be held in September at Parliament House in Brisbane. You can nominate yourself or someone you know for an Award.

FAR NORTHERN POLICE TO RECEIVE NEW WHEELS

Police in far north Queensland will soon take delivery of three marked 4WD troop to strengthen policing resources in Weipa, Aurukun and Kowanyama. The Member for Cook, Jason O'Brien, said the new vehicles will enable the police to boost services to these remote communities.

"These troop carriers are designed to handle even the toughest terrain," Mr O'Brien said. "This is essential in the Cape, where the landscape and long-distance travel can take their toll on vehicles. "Each vehicle will also have the capacity to transport up to three officers and eight offenders at any one time."

Mr O'Brien said the resource boost was terrific news for police and community safety. "These vehicles will allow police to enhance their services to these communities, whether it be responding to incidents and emergencies, or transporting offenders."

"They will also help provide a highly visible police presence in the region and provide even greater support to the Cairns Police District." Police would take delivery of the new vehicles by August this year.

"This is part of a \$737,000 spend by the Beattie Government to expand the Queensland Police Service's fleet by an extra 28 vehicles across the state," Mr O'Brien said. "A further \$206,000 will be spent fitting out the vehicles for operational duties."

