

STATE BUDGET

2021-22

MINISTER FOR POLICE, EMERGENCY SERVICES AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES HON VINCENT TARZIA MP MEDIA RELEASE

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South Australians' safety and security supported with increased investment for Police and Emergency Services

Almost \$100 million has been dedicated to SAPOL over the last two budgets for its COVID-19 response as officers continue their valued work protecting South Australians, forming part of the Marshall Liberal Government's crucial recovery plan from the pandemic.

A total \$77.5million is invested in SAPOL in today's State Budget 2021-22 to support the continued COVID-19 operational response at medi-hotels, border checkpoints and for compliance tasks. This includes a significant boost to policing resources across the state to further enhance the safety and security of South Australians, with \$15.2m provided in 2021-22 and a further \$8.4m in 2022-23 to extend the employment of 54 Protective Security Officers (PSO's) employed in 2020-21 and recruit and train an additional 114 PSO's.

"The Marshall Government is dedicated to forging a safe passage out of the pandemic while supporting SAPOL and its hardworking officers who protect South Australians," Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services Vincent Tarzia said.

"We value the critical work they do in keeping the community safe, and the Government's increased investment for SAPOL will ensure they continue to be well-resourced and well-equipped to carry out their important duties."

Stage 3 and 4 of SAPOL's Shield System will get \$21.2m over three years to finalise the implementation of a comprehensive integrated system, directly linking with other justice sector agencies, not only improving data sharing but leading to a more efficient use of policing resources.

More than \$22m will also be delivered to the Department for Correctional Services for significant upgrades at the Adelaide Women's Prison and Yatala Labour Prison. This includes \$8 million for the completion of the Adelaide Women's Prison Reception and Visitors Centre project, including the final transition from analogue to digital electronic security technology, and \$14.4m to complete the construction of 270 new beds at Yatala Labour Prison as well as the construction of secure walkways and the final transition from analogue to digital electronic security technology.

"A further \$1.5million is provided to conduct a full business case for a new rehabilitation prison. An initiative for Closing the Gap, including strategies to reduce the rate of Aboriginal reoffending across the prison system, will get \$10m over the forward estimates. Another \$1.9m will fund critical security upgrades at the Adelaide Remand Centre," Minister Tarzia said.

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“The Marshall Government is focussed on rehabilitating offenders and supporting them with opportunities to transform into productive members of the community and programs to improve their health.”

Almost \$4 million will be spent on 100 additional electronic monitoring bracelets to track offenders in the community.

The South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM) will receive an additional \$7.7m for the full rollout and ongoing support of Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) technology.

AVL allows real-time tracking of trucks on the fireground and forms part of the Marshall Government’s response to the Independent Review (Keelty Review) into South Australia's 2019-20 Bushfire Season. The previous State Budget provided \$5m to commence the initiative.

“AVL technology increases situational awareness on the fireground and safety for those who risk their lives to protect South Australians,” Minister Tarzia said.

“This technology has been needed for a long time and the Marshall Government is proud to deliver this capability which is another step towards futureproofing the state against bushfires.”

Adelaide’s north will benefit with \$100,000 towards planning and design work for a new joint Country Fire Service (CFS) and State Emergency Service (SES) facility at Willaston.

To increase volunteer numbers at the SES more than \$4m over five years will be spent to attract new members.

The *New Pathways: Volunteering Recruitment and Retention* program will support the recruitment and retention of volunteers and help implement new volunteering options for responding to emergencies.