



Greg Piper MP

Member for Lake Macquarie



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GREG PIPER DEFENDS MORISSET POLICE STATION

Following recent media speculation that the Morisset Police Station site might be sold, Greg Piper, Member for Lake Macquarie, spoke in Parliament last night about the need for a continued police presence in Morisset.

According to Mr Piper, the Morisset area's population will grow by over 80% in line with the Government's Lower Hunter Regional Strategy.

"This is vital data that cannot be overlooked when planning policing for this area," Mr Piper said. "Plans for regional growth should bring corresponding upgrades of police services and other infrastructure."

"The major concern at Morisset is the level of staffing now and into the future."

According to Mr Piper, the Local Area Commander has a difficult task in deciding how best to deploy officers to meet existing demands with less officers than the area deserves.

"The concern is the number of officers he is working with and this is what really needs to be resolved, Mr Piper said. "Lake Macquarie Police are at half strength compared to the rest of the state."

"I support Commander Rae in finding the best way to deploy his resources but I am strongly opposed to selling the site. This Station will be very valuable to the community, particularly as population rises." Mr Piper said.