

Refurbished City Station is state-of-the-art



At the opening of the refurbished City Station in Canberra on August 9, the ACT Attorney-General Gary Humphries said the station is now one of the most modern police facilities in Australia.

“The role of the City Police Station now is quite different to its previous role as regional headquarters. It is to provide a key focus for law enforcement in the City area and surrounding suburbs, including provision of the whole range of policing services,” he said.

ACT Capital Works, on behalf of the ACT Attorney-General's Department undertook the refurbishment and Manteena Pty Ltd was engaged by ACT Capital Works as the Project Managers for the refurbishment.

Geoff Butterworth and Partners was engaged by ACT Capital Works as the architects.

Accommodation

Now located at City Station are:

Lower Ground Floor:

Regional watch-house

Ground Floor:

OIC City District
Administration Unit
General Duties Response Squads
Weapons Registry
Inquiry Office and Control Centre

First Floor:

Juvenile Aid Branch
City Crime Branch
City Legal Section

Second Floor:

Community Policing Branch
Diversionary Conferencing
Public Relations
Education Unit
Court Liaison Section
Coroners Office
Traffic Document Section

A controlled public entry is provided off the legal precinct plaza. Staff amenities include toilets, showers, locker rooms, meals rooms and a

gymnasium. Building utilities include lower ground floor and roof top plant rooms, service risers, stairs and ground floor secure vehicle yard with associated storage areas. The watch-house includes a 'sallyport', which provides a secure prisoner loading and unloading area. The sallyport has ramped access off Knowles Place.

Finishes

The original external finishes and windows have been restored in the refurbishment. The building image has been updated with the introduction of new public and staff entries and signage.

A patterned metal security fence with sallyport entry gate has been constructed around the watch-house access and light court area to limit over-viewing by the public.

The building has been re-roofed and existing storm water systems substantially renewed.

New internal finishes have revitalised the building with visual interest being created by the terrazzo

tiled foyer, accented corridor intersections, strongly coloured "entry portals", patterned counters and unique carpet.

Partitions and ceilings

Specialised partition and ceiling systems have been installed to provide the specified high level acoustic and durability performance. Sound rated partitions and flush plasterboard ceilings have been installed where privacy is required.

Watch-house

Pre-charge holding comprises four cells for group holding with two exercise yards and person-at-risk holding comprises five cells.

There are five secure cells (Type D – able to hold 1, 2 and 3 persons), six secure cells (Type E – able to hold 1, 2 and 3 persons) and six secure cells (Type F – able to hold 1, 2 and 3 persons)

The operation of the watch-house is managed from the control console which directly overlooks the pre-charge holding and person-at-risk cells.

The cells have been constructed by "Safetell" in accordance with the



The public entry to City Station while being designed for ease of access and service for the public, provides the appropriate security level to stop unauthorised entry to the rest of the station.

recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

Walls and ceilings are constructed from 75mm thick epoxy paint finished steel faced panels with lightweight concrete cores. Wall linings to showers are stainless steel. Doors and window frames are constructed of epoxy paint finished steel sections with 12mm "Attackguard" glazing. Floors are surfaced with epoxy paint finished granolithic topping. Fixtures are constructed of epoxy paint finished steel. Sanitary fittings are stainless steel cell specification units.

The watch-house has been designed to allow for a future tunnel to the ACT Magistrates Court.

Other features

A vehicle turntable installed in the sallyport enables police vehicles to enter and exit the sallyport in a forward direction. The turntable is rated up to 3 tonnes. In the event of power failure or malfunction the turntable can be manually operated by a lever which is located adjacent to the motor drive.

A secure surface carpark off Knowles Place provides car parking for 38 cars with 10 of these undercover. Access to the carpark is controlled by boom gates during normal hours and motorised gates after hours.

Fire exits are identified by self-contained exit lights. Fire exits from the watch-house are managed from the control console to permit orderly evacuation.

The building structure has been altered to accommodate new stair and service riser layouts. The structure, fire walls and penetrations have been fire protected in accordance with authority requirements and asbestos-based materials were removed from the building interior during refurbishment.

Participating in the opening, Commissioner Palmer said that the the new station was significant in that is was a tangible example of the commitment of the ACT Government and the AFP had to the people of the ACT and to ACT Region personnel.



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