

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP
Attorney-General
Minister for Racing



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Making Things Fair.

Wednesday, 14 February, 2018

NEW SECURITY OFFICERS FOR EDENHOPE COURT

Edenhope residents will soon have access to safer and more secure court facilities as part of a state-wide rollout of Court Security Officers at Victorian courts under the Andrews Labor Government.

Attorney-General Martin Pakula announced that the Edenhope Court will have three Court Security Officers from Friday, 16 February 2018.

The new Court Security Officers will be present on all court sitting days, undertaking entry screening and roving security as well as providing assistance to vulnerable people, including women and children who have been victims of family violence.

The Court Security Officer deployment forms part of the Labor Government's \$58.1 million investment in the state's courts delivered in the *Victorian Budget 2016/17*.

The new Court Security Officers will also allow Victoria Police, where they consider it appropriate, to re-deploy police officers to front-line duties.

The presence of Court Security Officers will help to create a safer experience for those attending court and deliver on key recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

Quote attributable to Attorney-General Martin Pakula

"The Andrews Labor Government is increasing security measures at courts across the state to help make them safer for the Victorian community."

"In addition to their entry screen duties, court security officers will provide important assistance services for vulnerable people, delivering on key recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence."

Quotes attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jaala Pulford

"Edenhope residents deserve to have access to safe and secure facilities when attending court, especially if they are vulnerable or a victim of family violence."