

End of an era with closure of Moturoa police station

THE two police constables who cover the New Plymouth suburb of Moturoa have shifted from their Breakwater Rd base to the Westown police station.

"I want to stress that those two constables still cover the same area," said Sergeant Vaughan Watson, who was in charge of the city's community stations.

"The decision was made to economise in terms of staff and the use of resources. The building at Moturoa was sub-standard."

The Moturoa constables, now based at the Tukapa St station, cover the area from Seaview Rd out to halfway to Oakura, he said.

No jobs had been lost in the move, he said.

Mr Watson said the old concrete Moturoa building — which was probably the oldest community police station in the city — was dated and there was not a lot that could be done with it.

"With only one Westown constable, it actually gives us better coverage, a better opportunity to back each other's areas."

The police district commander had yet to decide what would happen to the old building, he said.

The decision to close the station was awaiting final approval from police headquarters in Wellington.