

Our ref:
Your ref: 11.1.46.c
Contact name: Scott Mason
Telephone: (07) 4982 8384
Fax: 1300 242 687
Email: SMason@chrc.qld.gov.au
PO Box 21 Emerald Qld 4720

18 July 2014

Research Director
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir / Madam

Inquiry on Strategies to Prevent and Reduce Criminal Activity in Queensland

I refer to your letter of 28 May 2014 in relation to the above and would like to provide the following feedback:

- **Particular trends and type of criminal activity occurring in your particular region or across the State more generally**

The trends observed are sporadic high speed driving cases and drug related offences.

Domestic violence - in 2012 there was a mining downturn and domestic violence has increased. We believe that the increase is related to economic circumstances. We are also seeing an increase in breaches of domestic violence orders that are greater than the state average. However we point out that is a whole of society problem and that it is not contributed to a downturn in one particular sector.

- **What you consider to be the key social and economic contributors to crime**

Employment – downturn in economic activity which has created unemployment and generally poorer economic conditions.

- **How criminal activity has impacted you, or your community, directly or indirectly, including the social and economic impacts to families, businesses or the community at large**

Has not been any significant impacts and that vandalism within our larger communities is actually quite low and that we are not seeing any obvious impacts in criminal activity.

- **The effectiveness (including the costs effectiveness) of crime prevention strategies such as:**

- **Imprisonment**
- **Justice reinvestment**
- **Early intervention**
- **Alternative dispute resolution**

Crime Stoppers within the community is quite effective and we do have Centacare and PCYC system which has proven invaluable from the perspective with providing the youth with activities and therefore possibly preventing crime.

We suggest that it would be advantageous for boot camps for the youth would also be a good crime prevention strategy.

- **Whether you consider other modes in national and international jurisdictions could be implemented in Queensland and whether you consider they would be more effective**

The concept of the liquor industry core group should be expanded to incorporate identification scanning on a live network.

Crime Stoppers should be promoted.

Safe night out precincts should be established.

CCTV should be included in main activity areas.

- **Experiences or observations of the Queensland criminal justice system, including experiences from victims of sexual violence and / or domestic violence**

Nil.

- **Your interactions with Queensland Police Service, the courts, prosecuting authorities, legal and support services and compensation processes**

Council enjoys a good solid working relationship with the Queensland Police Service within the Central Highlands Regional Council area.

- **Possible strategies to increase collaboration and cooperation between various participants in the criminal justice system**

For Council's to foster good working relationships with the Queensland Police Service in their respective communities.

If you would like any further details, please do not hesitate to contact me on 4982 8384 or email smason@chrc.qld.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



Scott Mason
Chief Executive Officer

18/7/14