

Question On Notice
No. 187
Asked on 27 April 2004

MR MULHERIN asked the Minister for Police and Corrective Services (MS SPENCE) -

QUESTION:

What is the structure the Government has in place to ensure that criminals are kept out of the prostitution industry?

ANSWER:

The introduction of the Prostitution Act on 1 July 2000 allows the regulation of the prostitution industry and the establishment of licensed brothels within strict licensing parameters.

The Prostitution Licensing Authority was established and made responsible for granting brothel licences and managers' certificates to suitable people, regulating the licensed sex industry, approving advertising for prostitution and liaising with the Queensland Police Service in relation to prostitution.

The Prostitution Enforcement Task Force, State Crime Operations Command (PETF), has an overseeing role with respect to the policing of prostitution across the State. Where a prostitution matter arises, the Prostitution Enforcement Task Force is to be notified in all instances. Conversely the relevant region will also be notified of the activities of the Prostitution Enforcement Task Force. Responsibility is decided on a case-by-case basis, and will fall into one of the following categories:

- (i) handled entirely by the region with advice to the Prostitution Enforcement Task Force;
- (ii) handled as determined by consultation between the regional crime coordinator (RCC) or equivalent and the Officer in Charge, Prostitution Enforcement Task Force; and
- (iii) handled by Prostitution Enforcement Task Force with advice to the RCC of the relevant region(s).

The Prostitution Enforcement Task Force includes a Probity and Compliance Section tasked with conducting probity investigations into the suitability of applicants for brothel licences and approved manager certificates and the character of their associates.

