

Question on Notice No. 217 Tuesday 27 April 2004

Mrs ATTWOOD asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Cummins) – Will he detail the content of his department’s Community Safety Kits which are being sent throughout the State?

Mr CUMMINS:

The Community Safety Kit are an outcome of the Community Safety Project, a partnership between the Department of Emergency Services (DES), the Queensland Police Service and targeted Neighbourhood Watch communities throughout Queensland.

This innovative project has been successful in broadening the current crime prevention focus of the Neighbourhood Watch program to incorporate a broader focus on community safety, particularly in the home.

In conjunction with the Community Safety Project, the DES has developed the Community Safety Kit.

The kit has been designed as a tool for community groups to increase community awareness of safety issues and to encourage access to the personal and community safety programs of Emergency Services.

Specifically, the Community Safety Kit:

- provides information about the DES personal and community safety programs and activities;
- increases awareness of safety issues and encourages the community to access the DES personal and community safety programs;
- increases the profile of the DES within the community;
- encourages Neighbourhood Watch and other community groups to make use of and/or promote the DES personal and community safety programs within their local communities; and
- increases community awareness of the DES volunteer groups and their activities, and encourage recruitment.

The contents of the Community Safety Kit include:

- a Ministers Message, signed by myself, encouraging community groups to utilise the kit to enhance safety awareness and practices in individual communities;
- a Foreword, signed by Michael Kinnane, Director-General, DES and Bob Atkinson, Commissioner, Queensland Police Service;
- 15 “fact sheets” describing individual DES personal and community safety programs, which provide information such as the program’s intended target group, approximate cost, duration of the program and relevant contact details;
- 2 “fact sheets” describing the various DES volunteer groups and outlining their roles and activities, and recruitment opportunities.

Some of the programs profiled in the Community Safety Kit include:

- **Baby Capsule Hire Service**, to assist parents with baby capsule hire and fitting;
- **Chemical Advice**, providing advice on home chemical safety;
- **CPR 2000**, a program which enables community groups to become self-sufficient in their own Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training;
- **Emergency Services Cadet Program**, introducing young people to a variety of emergency services related voluntary training programs, which will better equip them for community life;
- **Fight Fire Fascination (FFF)**, a program targeted at children and young people who have displayed an unhealthy interest in fire;
- **Older and Wiser**, an injury prevention course targeted at people over 65 years of age, and those who care for them;
- **One Step Ahead**, a child injury prevention program targeted at new parents, any childcare worker and grandparents;
- **Operation Safehome**, a program focusing on home safety, which targets owners and occupiers of private residences such as houses, units, apartments, flats, mobile homes and caravans;
- **Preparing for Disasters**, providing information to improve preparedness for and safety during natural disasters;
- **Road Awareness and Accident Prevention (RAAP)**, a program targeted at pre-licensed and novice drivers, mainly Year 12 students; and
- **Seniors Fire Ed**, a fire safety program presented by retired firefighters, and targeted at retirees or people close to retirement