

**Question on Notice
No. 550
Asked on 19 May 2004**

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

QUESTION:

With reference to a police beat which is currently being established at Highfields -

Is training, specific to the operations of a police beat, available to police officers who take up a position at a neighbourhood police beat?

ANSWER:

The successful officer who will perform duties at this Police Beat will be required to have skills in areas such as applying laws, policies and procedures relating to general duties, leadership, supervision and communication.

A five day police beat course has been developed by the Queensland Police Service to prepare officers for working in Neighbourhood Police Beats and Police Beat Shopfronts. The first joint course was held between in June 2002. The course provides a comprehensive training package to assist beat officers in the performance of their role.

The content of the course addresses topics such as:

- Intelligence – theory, practical, operational, strategic planning and a practical exercise;
- Legislation – juvenile, criminal and civil;
- Office administration – roles and responsibilities of an officer in charge of an establishment addressing topics such as cash handling, property, exhibits, supervision of staff and addressing policing problems; and
- Problem orientated partnership policing skills appropriate to the Neighbourhood and Shopfront Police Beat environments.

A network public forum is held and is made up of invited representatives from areas such as media, retail industry and other government departments such as Education Queensland, Department of Housing (Home Assist Secure) and Department of Communities. Each participant is required to successfully pass a formal assessment on the last day of the course.

Regional and computer based training and Competency Acquisition Program information is also available at district and regional level to support beat officers in their roles.

