

Question on Notice
No. 624
Asked on 15 June 2004

MRS ATTWOOD asked the Minister for Police and Corrective Services (MS SPENCE)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the Oxley Tactical Crime Squad which I understand was recently established.-

- (1) What type of offences are targeted by this squad?
- (2) How does their role differ to that undertaken by general duty officers working in this area?

ANSWER:

- (1) The mission of the Oxley District Tactical Crime Squad is to investigate a broad range of criminal offences, respond to good order offences and attend to tasks that require a concentration of police officers focused to a specific area. The officers are also tasked to assist other specialist units with major criminal investigations including the detection and prosecution of drug-related offences.
- (2) The role of the Oxley District Tactical Crime Squad is to support district and divisional strategies in reducing crime, preserving public safety and the investigation of criminal and public order offences. This squad also develops and participates in operations aimed at policing issues of concern to the Oxley District including property and drug-related offences.

Whilst these are also the objectives and roles of general duties officers, the Tactical Crime Squad members are not tasked to provide a first response to calls for service, unless the circumstances and urgency of the incident dictate otherwise. This allows for the Tactical Crime Squad to be deployed in line with an intelligence-based rostering system focusing on particular crime trends or 'trouble-spots'.

The Oxley District Tactical Crime Squad can be deployed at short notice to perform mobile patrols (in both marked and unmarked vehicles) or foot patrols. The duties of a Tactical Crime Squad member are predominately performed in uniform, however plain clothes operations are undertaken at the discretion of the District Officer.

These members are also tasked to assist in less 'high-visibility' roles, such as surveillance and provide a primary regional response for counter terrorism and chemical, biological and radiological incidents.

The Tactical Crime Squad offers a proactive, flexible and timely response to policing concerns by working in partnership with various stakeholders, both internal and external to the Queensland Police Service.