

Question on Notice
No. 670
Asked on 16 June 2004

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the "anti-hoon" legislation -

What is the total number of vehicles that have been confiscated in the Mackay/Whitsunday Police District since the introduction of this legislation?

ANSWER:

The Government's "anti-hoon" legislation came into force on 4 November 2002.

The laws include provisions to empower police officers to impound vehicles used for hooning in the first instance for a period of 48 hours.

In instances of repeat offenders, the provisions enable courts to make orders to allow for impoundment of a vehicle for up to three months after a second offence and possible forfeiture of a vehicle to the State after a third or subsequent offence.

The laws also allow police to issue directions to the driver of a vehicle to cease using sound equipment for 12 hours where the noise created is considered excessive. A failure to comply with the direction could result in the equipment being confiscated for 24 hours and prosecution for failure to comply with the direction.

The laws were designed by the Beattie Government to make the roads safer, aid in the preservation of public safety and place reasonable checks on noisy vehicles which disturb the peace. The new laws have delivered a tough but fair response to the problem of hooning.

Since the introduction of the "anti-hoon" legislation, there have been 44 vehicles impounded for a period of 48 hours under the provisions of section 59 of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* in the Mackay/Whitsunday Police District. Two second offences have been detected by Police. No third offences have been detected by Police in the Mackay/Whitsunday Police District. These results show the laws are deterring repeat offenders.