

Question on Notice
No. 821
Asked on 17 August 2004

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

QUESTION:

With reference to police numbers in Queensland as at 17 August-

- (1) Of the total number of police officers in Queensland, how many are currently on secondment within the service?
- (2) Of the total number of officers on secondment, how many have been seconded from a police station and/or police beat and will she provide these figures by district and detail the length of time each officer has been on secondment?
- (3) Of the total number of officers on secondment, how many have been seconded to other Government agencies and will she detail the length of time each officer has been on secondment?
- (4) Of the total number of officers on secondment from a police station and/or police beat, how many of their positions have been filled and for what duration?

ANSWER:

After seeking advice from the Commissioner of Police, the following information is provided:

- (1) On 17 August 2004, there were 154 police officers on secondment.

This figure does not include officers undertaking informal locally arranged temporary assignments to other duties for operational reasons.

- (2) There were 36 officers on secondment in districts and regions. About half of these officers were on secondment from general duties policing locations and the remainder from district function locations such as traffic, scenes of crime, and criminal investigations.

The officers are seconded to undertake Scenes of Crime and Prosecutions courses, to perform operational policing duties in another division in the same district or another district within the region, to undertake special projects requiring policing knowledge, to participate in investigative exchange programs, or to perform other policing assignments. Officers undertaking the Scenes of Crime and Prosecution Courses are reassigned to these vital policing functions, in their particular district/region, upon successful completion of the courses.

The district and region locations where officers are on secondment and the approved periods are indicated in Table A below.

TABLE A

Region/District	Scenes of Crime Course (6mths)	Prosecution Course (6mths)	Intra Division, District or Region	Projects, exchange programs and other policing assignments
Cairns				
Townsville	1			
Rockhampton				1 (24mths)
Bundaberg	1			
Redcliffe		1		
Sunshine Coast	1	1		
Toowoomba				1 (4mths)
Gold Coast		3	1 (12mths)	
Logan		1		
Metro North			1 (6mths) 1 (3mths)	
Brisbane Central	2		1 (3mths)	
Brisbane Watchhouse			1 (1mth)	1 (12mths)
Brisbane West	2		1 (3mths)	1 (12mths)
North Brisbane	1		2 (6mths) 1 (3mths)	1 (5mths) 1 (12mths)
Petrie			1 (9mths)	
Metro South				1 (18mths) 1 (3mths)
Oxley				1 (12mths)
South Brisbane			1 (12mths)	
Wynnum	2			

- (3) There were 106 officers on secondment to external agencies such as the Crime and Misconduct Commission, the Australian Crime Commission and other external agencies. Officers are normally seconded to the Crime and Misconduct Commission for a period of three to five years. Officers seconded to the Australian Crime Commission and other external agencies ranges from between 1 to 2 years.
- (4) The duties normally performed by officers on secondment in general duties policing locations, is generally offset by first year constables or managed on a case-by-case basis by district or regional managers.

In the case of officers on secondment to external agencies, these officers are laterally transferred to these types of positions enabling the Service to backfill their vacated positions. The duties to be performed at external agencies usually require specialised policing skills, e.g. surveillance, intelligence and investigative, and as such the majority of positions are filled from areas other than general duties policing locations.