

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 927**  
**Asked on 31 August 2004**

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

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the Anti-Graffiti Group operating in the electorate of Mt Ommaney which has done some great work cleaning off unsightly graffiti in my area-

Will she provide details of how the Parliamentary Taskforce on Graffiti's recommendations will assist this group to eliminate graffiti crime in Brisbane?

**ANSWER:**

The Parliamentary Taskforce addressed many areas of concern about both the prevention and prosecution of those who graffiti public and private property. The Taskforce's final report *Law & Water; Partnerships to reduce and prevent graffiti* made a number of recommendations.

The report prepared by the Taskforce has now been considered by Government and work will continue in a number of areas. The Crime Prevention Senior Officers' Group in the Community Engagement Division will monitor these activities and provide advice as part of the Government's commitment to addressing graffiti crime.

The Graffiti Taskforce has considered restrictions on the sale of spray paint, similar to those used for the sale of alcohol and tobacco. This is a complex issue and more work needs to be undertaken to ensure any new policy addresses industry concerns and considers possible unintended consequences such as an increase in etching-related vandalism.

The Graffiti Taskforce has encouraged work in communities to reduce the incidence of graffiti. Initiatives such as the Community Clean-Up Trailers and an accompanying booklet, *Visible Ink*, have been well received by local communities and proved quite successful.

The QPS Document Examination Unit continues to develop more sophisticated methods to investigate graffiti-related crime. Graffiti is on the agenda for the next Document Specialist Advisory Group meeting to be held in 2005.

The feasibility of introducing local laws giving councils limited power to remove graffiti from private property (in the event that no action is requested by the owner of the property) is being considered. The Graffiti Task Force will provide further advice on this and other key issues to the Government in 12 months' time.

