

Question on Notice
No 968
Asked on 1 September 2004

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

QUESTION

With reference to the Maryborough Tactical Crime Squad which commenced operations in June 2004 –

Will she provide (a) details of the geographical area covered by the squad, (b) details on the type of work to be undertaken by the squad and (c) results from the work performed by the squad so far?

ANSWER

(A) The Wide Bay Tactical Crime Squad which operates from Maryborough provides investigative and operational support to the Maryborough, Bundaberg and Gympie Police Districts of the North Coast Region. Geographically, these three Police Districts encompass an area from Monto, Gin Gin and South Kolan in the north to Eidsvold Mundubbera and Proston in the west, Nanango and Imbil in the south, and Fraser Island and Tin Can Bay in the east.

(B) The principal objectives of the Wide Bay Tactical Crime Squad are:

- supporting Bundaberg, Maryborough and Gympie police in the investigation of crime, particularly property and drug related crime;
- conducting covert static surveillance/observation;
- conducting district-based special operations;
- supplementing criminal investigation, traffic and general duties policing at a district and station level; and
- providing immediate response to significant incidents at a district and station level.

(C) The Wide Bay Tactical Crime Squad commenced operations on 12 June 2004. Since its inception, the Wide Bay Tactical Crime Squad has been involved in the following:

- 20 operations in the Gympie, Maryborough and Bundaberg Districts including operations at Tin Can Bay, Gympie, Kilkivan, Nanango, Blackbutt, Munduberra, Biggenden, Tiaro, Hervey Bay, Howard, Maryborough, Childers, Gin Gin, and Bundaberg;
- 158 arrests including 20 for street offences; 22 for criminal offences; 9 for drink driving offences and 107 for drug offences;
- 269 random breath tests;
- 209 activity reports;
- 31 liquor infringement notices;
- 42 traffic infringement notices;
- recovered stolen property valued in excess of \$30,000; and
- assisting other police in seizure of property valued in excess of \$40,000 under the *Criminal Proceeds Confiscation Act 2002*.