

**Question on Notice  
No. 507  
Asked on Wednesday 20 April 2005**

MR McNAMARA asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR CUMMINS)

QUESTION:

With reference to the State Road Awareness and Accident Prevention program being conducted across Queensland –

Will he advise where training has occurred and how school students have been involved?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his Question and would like to congratulate him on his ongoing strong support for Emergency Services within his electorate.

The Road Awareness and Accident Prevention program (RAAP) is a proactive program by Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) to curb the rate of young people being involved in road crashes and the resulting physical and emotional trauma associated with those incidents.

The QFRS provides this program free of charge to students in their final year of secondary schooling throughout the state. Last year the program was delivered to over 26,000 year 12 students and since it started has been delivered to over 100,000 students. In addition, the Road Awareness and Accident Prevention program has been delivered to other groups and institutions such as students at Agricultural colleges, Youth Detention Centres, TAFE colleges, Indigenous communities, Flexi-Schools and the Australian Military.

Attendees of a RAAP presentation are exposed to realities of road trauma through education and practical demonstration. The program utilises local fire officers to provide a demonstration of QFRS road accident rescue tools sometimes referred to as the "Jaws of Life". The audience is then exposed to a personal message from those officers. These officers are often the first on scene when a motor vehicle crash occurs and are uniquely placed to offer a message from the point of view of firefighters.

The main message conveyed throughout the presentation is for people to "Plan Ahead" when it comes to road safety. The session is usually conducted in a classroom, offers strategies for these young people to use when planning ahead and assists them to create their own strategies that can work for them.

The RAAP program has been running since 1997.