

**Question on Notice
No. 770
Asked on 24 May, 2005**

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

QUESTION:

Will she provide details of stage one of a review of the Neighbourhood Watch Program recently completed by the Queensland Police Service?

ANSWER:

The evaluation of the Neighbourhood Watch program is being undertaken by the Queensland Police Service in two stages

Stage one of the Neighbourhood Watch evaluation involved interviewing key Service personnel and reviewing the literature in relation to Neighbourhood Watch.

The literature review included an analysis of interstate and international research about the establishment and structure of Neighbourhood Watch groups. It also assessed previous research about the effect of Neighbourhood Watch groups have on crime levels and the perceived benefits of Neighbourhood Watch such as a reduction in fear and an increase in security awareness and satisfaction within the local community.

Stage One concluded that there is broad community and Service support for Neighbourhood Watch in Queensland and the evaluation should proceed by investigating how the program might be improved, to ensure that it remains relevant to contemporary communities.

The Neighbourhood Watch evaluation will continue and involve State-wide consultation with key Neighbourhood Watch personnel in the community and within the Queensland Police Service. It will focus on a number of issues including program lifespan, communication links, perceived benefits and marketing.