

Question on Notice
No. 1363
Asked on 1 November 2006

MS MALE, Member for Glasshouse, asked MR PURCELL the Minister for Emergency Services -

QUESTION: Will he detail initiatives that his department is implementing which are designed to strengthen community safety and prevention capability?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The Department of Emergency Services has a wide range of programs designed to strengthen community safety and prevention capability:-

The Community Safety Project aims to broaden the crime prevention focus of Neighbourhood Watch to include community safety, particularly in the home. Community safety initiatives delivered through this initiative include **CPR for Life, Senior First Aid** and the **Safehome** program which has a fire safety focus.

The **Prevent Heat Related Illness Initiative** provides preventive information specifically to seniors, parents of babies and children, people working in hot environments and people engaging in physical activities. These are the people most at risk of suffering from the effects of a heat wave.

The **Child Injury Prevention Project** is a partnership between our department and Queensland Health. It is currently operating in Mt Isa and Mackay and is focused on preventing injury to children zero to four years old.

The Queensland Ambulance Service Baby Capsule Hire Service and the free Privately Owned Child Restraint Checking Service have fully trained staff available across Queensland to fit capsules and child restraints. For the financial year 2005-06, the Queensland Ambulance Service fitted in excess of 11,000 capsules.

The **PrimeSafe** program teaches Prep Year to Year Three students how to prevent, identify and respond to a medical emergency. The program promotes the importance of seeking the assistance of an adult and always ringing triple zero as its fundamental messages.

Fire Ed is a program for Year One students in which they learn the basics of fire safety and escape from fire situations.

Fight Fire Fascination is provided by specifically trained fire officers for children who have had a history of fire setting.

The ***Child Protection Information Kit*** has been developed to teach our staff how to respond if they are concerned about the welfare of a child or young person.

I launched the general resource booklet ***Keeping Children Safe*** on November 8 of this year. This booklet has been developed to assist those caring for children to reduce the risk of injury and respond to emergencies.

The ***Emergency Services Cadet Program*** supports 49 cadet groups across the State with a membership of 714 young people between the ages of 13 and 16 years as at 31 March 2006. The program encourages the development of young participants' self esteem and protective behaviours.

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Services ***Road Awareness and Accident Prevention Program*** is designed to provide strategies for safe driving behaviour and was delivered to approximately 32,500 Year 12 students during the 2005 calendar year.

The ***CPR for Life Program*** is delivered to Year 12 students. It provides cardio pulmonary resuscitation training, an awareness of the signs and symptoms of heart attack and instructions on how to dial triple zero.

The injury prevention booklet ***Safety for Piccaninny-Our Little Ones*** continues to be distributed within Indigenous communities.

Disaster Risk Management Guidelines have been implemented in collaboration with each Indigenous community to ensure they are prepared in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Through the ***Indigenous Service Delivery Enhancement Package*** (budget \$0.75 million in 2006-07) the Department of Emergency Services delivers such initiatives as the ***Junior Indigenous Community Safety Program*** and the recruitment of operational staff and training officers.

I launched the resource booklet ***Senior and Safer: Practical tips for a safer home*** on November 8 of this year. This booklet offers practical advice to protect and assist our senior citizens by reducing the potential for dangers and emergencies at home.