

Question on Notice
No. 1482
Asked on Wednesday 29 November 2006

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

QUESTION:

With reference to Corrective Services which I understand is working with Griffith University on a three year research project analysing child sex offender recidivism—
What does this project involve and how will it help reduce the incidence of child sexual abuse?

ANSWER:

- In early 2006, Queensland Corrective Services and Griffith University entered into an agreement to collaborate on ground-breaking research that will significantly enhance the assessment, supervision and treatment of sexual offenders.
- The agreement led to the award of a prestigious Australian Research Council Linkage Grant of nearly \$175 000 over three years from 2006, one of only four awarded to Griffith University last year.
- The project, which is of international importance, builds on work conducted in 1999-2000 by Griffith University in collaboration with the then Queensland Crime Commission. The research will obtain recidivism outcome data for the more than 350 offenders who participated in that earlier research, and will examine the relationships between re-offending behaviours and a wide range of individual, situational and environmental factors.
- It provides a unique opportunity to develop risk prediction and risk management practices and tools specifically for the Agency's needs. Better prediction of re-offending risk for sexual offenders against children, and a better understanding of re-offending behaviours mean these offenders can be more effectively treated in custody and more safely managed in the community.