

**Question on Notice  
No. 662  
Asked on Tuesday 9 May 2006**

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

QUESTION:

- (1) What is the role of Police Liaison Officers (PLOs) in establishing a rapport between the Queensland Police Service and multicultural communities.
- (2) How many PLOs are currently based in the Metropolitan South Police Region?

ANSWER:

- (1) There are currently 140 Police Liaison Officer positions in Queensland. Most are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background however there are a significant number of PLOs from other backgrounds.

PLO's:

- Liaise with indigenous and multicultural communities to foster co-operation and understanding. This assists police to do their job better.
  - Advise police officers on the cultural beliefs, needs and protocols of the community in which they work. This improves the service that police provide.
  - Identify potential crime or disorder problems in the community and advise and assist in prevention strategies. This prevents problems from occurring or getting worse.
  - Establish and maintain communication between the community and police. This helps the police and the community to work together to prevent crime and solve problems.
  - Improve community access to policing services and refer to other services where necessary. Police Liaison Officers assist in communication with police officers and to put people in touch with other organisations.
- (2) There are currently 17 Police Liaison Officer positions in the Metropolitan South Police Region of Samoan, Vietnamese, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, African/ Sudanese, Muslim/ Arabic and Chinese backgrounds.