

Question on Notice

No. 931

Asked on Friday 26 May 2006

Mr McARDLE asked the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General (Mrs Lavarch) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the magistrates courts throughout Queensland and each reported separately, for 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 to the date of answer hereof—

- (1) How many people have pleaded guilty or been found guilty of (a) offences against the Criminal Code, and in regard to each person, the section thereof (b) offences against the Drugs Misuse Act, and in regard to each person, the section thereof (c) offences for either being under the influence of alcohol or a drug and either driving or being in charge of a motor vehicle and (d) offences for driving a motor vehicle whilst being disqualified to do so?
- (2) In regard to each, how many were sentenced to terms of imprisonment for (a) less than seven days (b) less than fourteen days (c) less than one month (d) between one month and six months (e) in excess of six months and (f) how many had their sentences wholly suspended?

ANSWER:

Significant resources would have to be diverted to collate the requisite information in answering this question, and considerable expense would be incurred to taxpayers as a result.

There are 130 locations throughout Queensland that a Magistrates Court can be convened.

A comprehensive answer to a question of this nature would consist of hundreds of spreadsheets (a minimum of one for each financial year for each court) and would detail hundreds of thousands of charges.

Information on the number of defendants and charges lodged in Magistrates Courts throughout the State is available each year for individual courts in the Queensland Magistrates Courts Annual Reports. These reports are freely available online at <http://www.courts.qld.gov.au>.