

**Question on Notice  
No. 964  
Asked on 6 June 2006**

Mr PEARCE asked the Minister for Police and Corrective Services (MS SPENCE) -

**QUESTION:**

- (1) Will she outline the role of the newly developed Stock and Rural Crime Investigation Squad?
- (2) How can local community members become involved in assisting the squad?

**ANSWER:**

(1) Traditionally, the Stock Investigation Squads have provided a professional and holistic response to the theft of livestock in Queensland. This task has been achieved through the efforts of the ten individual offices and the assistance provided by the state and area coordinators.

An examination of the Stock Investigation Squads in October 2005, and a subsequent conference held in November 2005, identified the need to increase their profile and expand their traditional role to reflect the impact of rural crime on our communities.

As a result, the Service's Stock Investigation Squads have been re-named *Stock and Rural Crime Investigation Squads*. This name change has further emphasised the contemporary role the units now perform within the organisation.

The Stock and Rural Crime Investigation Squads will provide support to the regions by identifying, targeting and suppressing criminal networks and associated criminal activities relating to livestock and rural crime. This task will be achieved through the provision of investigative resources, intelligence assessments and professional legal, industry and technical advice. The tasks undertaken by the Stock and Rural Crime Investigation Squads will be coordinated by the area and state coordinators to ensure a statewide response to livestock and rural crime is achieved.

(2) Community members can assist the squad by reporting all stock, rural crime and suspicious activity to Crime Stoppers or their local police. They are further encouraged to become involved by making personal contact with their local Stock and Rural Crime Investigation Squad staff and by becoming involved in a local Rural Watch Committee.