

**Question on Notice
No. 840
Asked on 5 June 2007**

MRS ATTWOOD asked the Minister for Police and Corrective Services (MS SPENCE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to a number of my local Neighbourhood Watch groups who contributed to a submission on the review of Neighbourhood Watch in Queensland—

Will she advise of the proposed consultation process for the Neighbourhood Watch Review Taskforce?

ANSWER:

In August 2006 I announced that the Neighbourhood Watch program was to be reviewed. I have formed a review committee of 26 State MPs to work with Neighbourhood Watch groups to identify new opportunities and ideas to ensure the program continues to meet the needs of local communities.

Paul Hoolihan MP, Member for Keppel (representing electorates from Gladstone to the Far North of Queensland) and Barbara Stone MP, Member for Springwood (representing electorates south of Gladstone) have agreed to act as co-chairs of the review committee. They have determined the scope, terms of reference and timeframe of the review. All members of the review committee have been asked to write to their local Neighbourhood Watch groups to organise meetings. These meetings will assist in reviewing the aims of the Neighbourhood Watch program and identifying ways to enhance its operations and effectiveness.

Local Neighbourhood Watch groups will be asked to prepare submissions to help shape the future of the program to ensure it remains an effective community-policing partnership. The review is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

The recommendations from the review will then be considered together with the recommendations from the Queensland Police Service's recent evaluation of the program.

The current review provides the opportunity for members of the community and local Neighbourhood Watch groups to have their say in relation to the future direction of this important program.