

## Question on Notice

No. 1767

Asked on 13 November 2008

**MR RICKUSS ASKED THE TREASURER (MR FRASER)—**

For the last three years, will he detail (a) how many Liquor Licensing Inspectors were allocated to and working on the Gold Coast and (b) will he confirm that these inspectors are having to cover the Toowoomba area as part of their duties and explain why this is so?

**ANSWER:**

During the 2006, 2007 and 2008 financial years, there have been a total of four liquor compliance officers allocated to the Gold Coast:

- 1 x Principal Liquor Compliance Officer;
- 1 x Senior Liquor Compliance Officer; and
- 2 x Liquor Compliance Officers.

During this time the Brisbane based Flying Squad carried out regular compliance operations at the Gold Coast to assist the Gold Coast staff. Compliance officers from Brisbane provided, and continue to provide, assistance to the Gold Coast during major events such as Schoolies Festivals.

As you are aware, the Liquor Licensing Division, the Queensland Office of Gaming Regulation and the Office of Racing were amalgamated in July 2008 to form the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing (OLGR).

As part of the integration and restructure of OLGR, my Under Treasurer has formed four Regions to assist in the enforcement of the legislation the office administers. These regions are:

- Northern Region – consisting of the Cape area, Cairns and down to Cardwell. Officers are currently in Cairns, and a further officer will be located in Mt Isa later this month;
- Central Region – consisting of Ingham and south to Rockhampton, with officers located in Townsville, Mackay and Rockhampton;
- Brisbane Region – consisting of Bundaberg south to Beenleigh and out to, but not including Toowoomba, with officers located in Hervey Bay, Sunshine Coast and Brisbane; and
- Southern Region – consisting of the Gold Coast area to, but not including, Beenleigh and west to Toowoomba. Officers are located in Gold Coast and Toowoomba.

Each of these regions will fall under the responsibility of a Regional Operations Manager and officers within those regions will continue to operate within their local areas.

To assist the restructure of the OLGR, together with the implementation of the recent amendments to the *Liquor Act 1992*, the Government has provided funding for seven new compliance officers throughout the State, including an additional officer on the Gold Coast and in Toowoomba. This will bring the number of staff in the Gold Coast to five, with a total of seven for the Southern Region including the two staff in Toowoomba.