

**Question on Notice
No. 486**

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

QUESTION:

With respect to the reported reduction in crime statewide—

Will the Minister report on crime levels within the Brisbane South region, and the positive measures police are taking to reduce crime in this region.

ANSWER:

The Metropolitan South Region has a good story to tell in relation to crime statistics.

The 2006/07 Annual Statistical Review showed some pleasing results with the overall crime rate falling by seven percent in this region. Offences against the person fell by 4% and offences against property reduced by 13%.

Detailed information can be found in the police services annual statistical review at www.police.qld.gov.au.

The midyear snapshot for Queensland provided encouraging statistics where Queensland has recorded reductions in all three broad offence categories per 100,000 persons. Offences against the person are down 5% Offences against property are down 13%, and Other Offences are down 1%.

Detailed crime statistics for all police regions and districts for 2007/08 will be available in the annual statistical review which will be released in November this year.

Police are using evidenced-based strategies to detect and prevent crime in these regions.

Reported crime is continually analysed to identify crime trends and patterns to ensure policing responses to crime are intelligence-driven. This allows for effective policing responses including tasking of patrols to key areas of concern.

In matters of significant concern, operations are planned and implemented to target persons and areas of concern, and include the identification of potential offenders and recidivist offenders. These operations provide support for police divisions through the provision of extra input from specialist police resources such as regional Tactical Crime Squads, Criminal Investigation Branches, Child Protection and Investigation Units, Dog Squads, and Traffic Branches.

Crime prevention is also an active part of the police response to ensure personal and property safety.

The Oxley District has developed a number of strategies, both proactive and reactive, to address criminal and anti-social behaviour within the district. As well as local divisional strategies, District operations which are staffed by both general duties and specialist officers, are regularly conducted utilising intelligence to target specific areas and/or known offenders within the District.

For example, police have implemented a district-wide crime prevention operation which includes security audits of residences in crime hot spots, shopping centres displays, proactive high visibility patrols, plain car patrols and static vehicle interceptions on major arterial roads. The Oxley District Crime Prevention Unit has delivered in excess of 800 crime prevention packs to residents.

Further, the “SAFEST” or Self Assessment for Every Shop and Trader initiative uses a self assessment security checklist to examine the security of premises and safety of employees. The checklists assist managers to identify and rectify any security weaknesses, thereby reducing the opportunity for crime.

The Oxley District has continued to focus on developing and strengthening consultative and communication networks within the community and engaging the community to develop and implement measures to address issues affecting community safety and property crime.

Police from the Browns Plains police division are also engaging and working in partnership with the community. The Division also has an active Neighbourhood Watch program, School Based Police Officer and an active Adopt-A-Cop program.

Police from the Logan District, including the Browns Plains Division, have continued implementing innovative policing strategies and operations which have resulted in the reductions listed above. Browns Plains Police have undertaken several operations which have targeted suspects and offenders residing within their district. These operations include Operation Gateway 4 and Operations Dominion One and Two, which were cross border operations involving the Oxley Police District. These operations are intelligence driven with high visibility policing as well as targeting suspects' modes of transportation and the movement of stolen property.

Operations targeting drugs, liquor offences, anti-social behaviour and Crime Stoppers information have also been conducted.