Question on Notice
No. 574
Asked on 17 April 2008

MS VAN LITSENBURG asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Sport (MS SPENCE)—

QUESTION:

(1) Will she report on crime statistics in the Redcliffe area?

(2) Has there been any decrease in any statistics?

ANSWER:

Detailed information about crime rates can be found in the Police Services annual statistical review at www.police.qld.gov.au.

For the 2006/07 period key statistics for the Redcliffe period include:

Offences against the person:

- The rate of assault offences decreased by 17 percent.
- The rate of robbery offences decreased by 41 percent with 42 less offences reported than in 2005/06. Armed robbery offences also decreased by 30 percent.

Offences against property:

- The rate of unlawful entry to shop and unlawful entry to other premises offences dropped by 30 percent and five percent respectively.
- There was a three percent decrease in arson offences when accounting for population growth.
- Other property damage recorded an eight per cent decrease in the rate.
- The rate of unlawful use of motor vehicle offences dropped by 22 percent with 132 less reports to police.
- Other theft decreased 20 percent when taking into account population growth with 929 fewer offences reported during this period.
- The overall rate of fraud offences dropped by 34 percent.
- The rate of fraud by computer decreased 93 percent while fraud by cheque decreased by eight per cent and other fraud decreased by 33 percent.

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.

The following policing strategies may have contributed to these decreases in reported offences:

- *Intelligence-driven policing* - Reported crime is continually analysed to identify crime trends and patterns. This allows for effective policing responses including tasking of patrols to identified areas of concern. Police are strongly encouraged to gather intelligence which identifies recidivist and potential offenders.

- *Targeted operations* - Special operations are planned and implemented to target persons and areas of concern, including recidivist and potential offenders. These operations provide support for police divisions through the involvement of specialist police resources such as regional Tactical Crime Squads, Criminal Investigation Branches, Child Protection and Investigation Units, Dog Squads and Traffic Branches. Police resources such as the State Traffic Support Branch and units within State Crime Operations Command also continue to support Redcliffe, Caboolture and Sunshine Coast Police.

- *Crime prevention* - Crime prevention is an important aspect of the policing response by Redcliffe, Caboolture and Sunshine Coast Police in ensuring personal and property safety. Specific programs are planned and implemented to target areas of high-density tourist accommodation during holiday periods. Police liaise closely with local businesses and community groups to develop cooperative partnerships aimed at addressing law and orders issues.