

Question on Notice
No. 1258
Asked on 16 September 2009

MS BATES asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the 1,517 vehicles impounded on the Gold Coast (reported in the Courier Mail on 27 July 2009), will the Minister provide a breakdown of the suburbs these vehicles were impounded in, including the number of vehicles impounded in each suburb?

ANSWER:

This Government does not tolerate the dangerous attitudes of drivers who disobey the law and put the lives of other road users at risk.

In November 2002, the Government introduced new 'anti-hooning' laws which gave police additional powers to combat 'hooning' behaviour on Queensland roads. These laws allow for vehicle confiscation for 'type 1' offences of dangerous driving, careless driving, conducting speed trials, and making unnecessary noise or smoke in circumstances that involve a speed trial, a race between motor vehicles or a burn out.

To strengthen this legislation, in July 2007 the Government introduced further legislation allowing police to impound motor vehicles from drivers who repeatedly ignore the law by driving unregistered and uninsured vehicles, driving whilst unlicensed or disqualified, drink driving whilst over the high alcohol limit, failing to supply a specimen of breath or blood, or driving illegally modified vehicles. These offences are referred to as 'type 2' impoundment offences.

Since the commencement of the anti-hooning legislation, 'type 1' offences have been recorded by Region and District in accordance with the Queensland Police Service's corporate reporting requirements. Therefore, the requested suburb data are not available.

However, I am advised 859 vehicles were confiscated in the Gold Coast Police District from November 2002 to 31 August 2009, and that 692 motor vehicles were impounded for 'type 2' offences in that District from 1 December 2007 to 31 August 2009. This is a total of 1,551 vehicles impounded in the Gold Coast District for 'type 1' and 'type 2' offences.

This Government makes no apology for getting tough on hooning behaviour on our roads and doing what is necessary to ensure the safety of all road users.