

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1589**  
**Asked on 28 October 2009**

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS)—

**QUESTION:**

What action has the Queensland Police Service taken to address the problem of hooning, specifically in the suburbs of Springfield Lakes, Redbank Plains and Collingwood Park?

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for her question and ongoing interest in road safety in the Bundamba electorate.

The Bligh 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 (0.15%), failing to supply a specimen of breath or blood, or driving illegally modified vehicles. These offences are referred to as 'type 2' impoundment 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.

To respond to these complaints and identified traffic trends, Ipswich District Police are set targeted shift patrol taskings. Regular traffic operations are also conducted to target offenders and identified hot spots during peak periods.

Operation Hewson2 was a three-month operation conducted from June to August 2009 by Goodna Police to target traffic and property offenders, particularly in the above suburbs. Over 400 traffic offences were identified and prosecuted during this operation. Operation Hewson3 was commenced at the completion of Operation Hewson2.

DIGICAM is a standard police laser speed detection device which has been adapted to take still photos of detected vehicles in high volume traffic areas. DIGICAM is deployed at least fortnightly within the Goodna Police Division by the Ipswich District Traffic Branch. The most recent deployment, Operation Ipswich Digicam20, was conducted on 22 October 2009. Over 1,000 offences have been identified with DIGICAM in the Goodna Division since 1 June 2009.

The Ipswich District Tactical Crime Squad, in conjunction with other police from across the Ipswich Police District, conducts regular operations targeting traffic offences. Operation KNIGHT23 was conducted on 17 September 2009 and targeted locations at Redbank Plains and Springfield Lakes.

These combined traffic enforcement initiatives have resulted in more than 80 Type 1 and Type 2 offences being prosecuted and the impoundment of 68 vehicles within the Goodna Division since 1 June 2009. During the same period, Goodna Police have issued more than 200 traffic infringement notices within the suburbs of Springfield/Springfield Lakes, Redbank Plains and Collingwood Park.

Local media outlets have been engaged and regular articles relating to traffic matters are included in the Queensland Times, Springfield News and Satellite newspapers.

The Officers in Charge of Goodna Station, the Ipswich District Traffic Branch and the Ipswich Tactical Crime Squad will continue to identify traffic issues and implement Traffic Management Plans and set targeted patrol taskings to address traffic complaints, identify hooning hotspots and target recidivist offenders.

With the opening of the Springfield Police Station in early 2010, it is envisaged further strategies will be implemented to actively target the problem of hooning. This \$5.4 million facility will initially provide 18 staff, with provision to cater for up to 60 officers as the area continues to grow and expand. The new station will provide policing services in the southern half of the current Goodna Division including the suburbs of Springfield and Springfield Lakes and the southern half of Redbank Plains.