

Question on Notice
No. 1713
Asked on 10 November 2009

Ms Stone asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson) —

QUESTION: How will the CRYPAR program assist young people in Logan City?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and her support of the Coordinated Response to Young People at Risk (CRYPAR) program in Logan City.

CRYPAR is an early intervention and prevention program for young people at risk of entering the Juvenile Justice System.

The Queensland Police Service is the lead agency for CRYPAR.

CRYPAR is a multi-agency initiative designed to help families in crisis find the right help quickly and easily through a referral service. Families may be referred when they come into contact with agencies including Health, Police, Communities, and Child Safety.

CRYPAR has received 71 referrals since it began operating in Logan City on 1 September 2009. The majority of these referrals are males (70%), and over two thirds (67.6%) of the people referred are aged between 13 and 17 years.

There are over 20 local support agencies committed to responding to CRYPAR clients.

This allows young people to access support in a range of areas including counselling, mental health/substance abuse, alternative learning provision, child protection, accommodation and specialist support.

In cases where more than one agency may be required to respond, CRYPAR is able to coordinate a managed, multi-agency approach to support the young person. Where an appropriate service partner is not available to meet these needs, alternatives are sourced in collaboration with the education staff, the young person and the family.

This coordinated referral process for school guidance officers and police officers allows them to refer young people to an agency partner that can provide the best support in each instance. The CRYPAR partnership agencies have committed to contacting the referred person within 48 hours of referral.

The Logan CRYPAR program is a joint initiative between the Department of Education and Training and the Queensland Police Service.

This program acknowledges the close working relationship between educators and police and that these agencies are the two most likely to have regular contact with young people at risk.

CRYPAR reduces barriers to accessing community services and support for young people and students in Logan City.