

Question on Notice
No. 1787
Asked on 12 October 2016

MR MCEACHAN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON W BYRNE MP)—

QUESTION:

With reference to drug diversion programs—

Will the Minister detail for 2014-15 and 2015-16 (reported separately) (a) how many offenders were referred to a police-offered drug diversion program (broken down by QPS region), (b) how many offenders failed to attend a police-offered drug diversion program (broken down by QPS region) and (c) how many offenders referred to a police-offered drug diversion program were re-arrested on drug offences?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

- (a) I am advised the total number of offenders referred to a police-offered drug diversion program by police region are detailed in the following table.

Police Region	2014/15	2015/16
Brisbane	2,924	2,872
Central	2,986	2,899
Northern	1,663	1,755
South Eastern	3,064	2,641
Southern	2,522	2,847
Queensland	13,159	13,014

Notes:

1. This data are preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. These figures do not represent a unique offender count. Thus, a person charged with multiple offences will be counted multiple times in any demographic breakdown.
3. A person aged under 10 years of age is considered too young to be criminally responsible. Thus, a person aged under 10 years cannot be an offender and as such, all such persons are excluded from offender counts.
4. Only offenders whose age is identified have been included.

I am advised that the information required to answer parts (b) and (c) of the question is not recorded in an easily accessible format. Obtaining this information would be an unjustifiable use of police resources.

Queensland Health has the lead role in administering the drug diversion program, and as such the Minister for Health may be able to assist the Member with these inquiries.