

Question on Notice
No. 355
Asked on 27 March 2019

MRS J STUCKEY ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to released sexual offenders on the Gold Coast—

Will the Minister advise (a) how many registered child sex offenders are currently on the Child Protection Offender Register (CPOR) on the Gold Coast and (b) how many designated CPOR officers are stationed on the Gold Coast to monitor all CPOR offenders?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government will always act in the best interests of community safety. This government will always put victims first.

We have delivered the nation's strongest laws when it comes to dealing with child sex offenders. We backed our tough laws with a \$25 million funding boost for police surveillance and enforcement.

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) has advised that serious breaches of reporting carries a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment.

Further, the QPS has advised that providing the number of reportable offenders within a police district may lead to vigilante actions and threaten community safety.

However, I appreciate the Member's request for information. I am advised that there were 3,585 reportable offenders on the Queensland component of the National Child Offenders Register as at 2 April 2019. I am further advised that a number of these offenders were either in custody, subject to a Dangerous Prisoner Sexual Offenders Act order, suspended reporting due to travels overseas, in immigration detention, deported, or shared with other states. The remaining offenders are subject to monitoring under the Act.

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that there are currently 510 Child Protection Investigation Unit (CPIU) officers across the State who work closely with the Child Protection Offender Registry (CPOR) to manage reportable offenders.

In addition, I am advised that 22 CPOR specialist investigators also monitor the reporting conditions of offenders on the register.

These CPIU officers and specialist investigators are in addition to the many other officers located throughout Queensland, including officers from State Crime Command, along with detectives, intelligence specialists and general duties officers across the state. I am advised that all Queensland police officers are dedicated to the monitoring of reportable offenders.

I am informed by the QPS that there are two CPOR specialist investigators and 50 CPIU officers allocated to the Gold Coast Police District.