QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
MEDIA RELEASE

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Annual Statistical Review 2015/16 - Capricornia District

Capricornia District Police Crime Report

Capricornia District Officer Superintendent Ron Van Saane today welcomed the release of the Queensland Police Service's Statistical Review which demonstrated a reduction in armed robberies, break-ins to shops and liquor offences across the district.

The Statistical Review represents a comprehensive insight into the level and nature of crime reported for each police district throughout Queensland.

The overall crime rate across the Capricornia District from 2014/15 to 2015/16 increased by four percent to 25,447 offences.

Over the 10 year period from 2006/07 to 2015/16, Capricornia District recorded a decrease in the rate of offences against the person and offences against property.

"When adjusted for population growth, the overall crime rate of offences against the person over the past 10 years has decreased by 20.9 percent and offences against property has decreased by 20.2 percent," Superintendent Van Saane said.

The rate of robberies across the district increased by 1.5 percent in the past year, with a decreased rate of 39 percent over the past 10 years. Armed robbery offences fell by 50.5 percent in 2015/16.

"There were 43 reported robberies in 2015/16, compared to 60 in 2006/07," Superintendent Van Saane said.

Unlawful use of motor vehicles increased by 1.6 percent and unlawful entry into houses increased by 4.6 percent, while unlawful entry into shops decreased by 9.7 percent.

Superintendent Van Saane urges the community to be vigilant with the security to their houses, vehicles and other property items, with 8,741 offences against property reported in the past year.

"A lot of break-ins and property thefts are opportunistic and are preventable," Superintendent Van Saane said.

“We urge the community to use all available security options on their property to prevent opportunistic thefts as a result of unlocked or unsecured property.

“In addition to proactive and intelligence-led patrols, police will continue with proactive policing and community programs, such as the local myPolice blogs and Neighbourhood Watch groups, to remind the community to be actively participating in crime prevention methods.”

The number of liquor offences across the district fell by 126, with a decreased rate of 23.3 percent.

“It is positive to see offences involving liquor decline in the district, however 431 in the past year is still too high and police will continue to provide a large presence in those areas,” Superintendent Van Saane said.

In the Capricornia District, the number of Domestic and Family Violence Applications increased from 1,719 in 2014/15 to 2,032 in 2015/16, or 17 percent in the rate of applications per 100,000 person.

“In 2015/16, approximately 77 percent of applications were police initiated,” Superintendent Van Saane said.

“Domestic and Family Violence Orders are civil orders and not a criminal matter, however if the respondent breaks conditions in the order they are committing a criminal offences”.

The number of breaches to Domestic and Family Violence Protection Orders increased from 1,357 in 2014/15 to 1,637 in 2015/16.

“The increase of reports of domestic and family violence can be attributed to the proactive work being done by police in the district and from the community gaining more confidence in reporting incidents to police,” Superintendent Van Saane said.

“The QPS is committed to working in partnership with the people of Queensland to provide professional policing services that will, over time, prevent and reduce the incidents of domestic violence in Queensland.”

The Annual Statistical Review 2015-16 is available on the QPS website.

Note: All percentages used in this release relate to the number of reported offences per 100,000 people. Media seeking regional and district crime statistics from the Queensland Police Service 2015/16 Annual Statistical Review can locate details on the QPS website at www.police.qld.gov.au.