QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE
MEDIA RELEASE

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Annual Statistical Review 2015/16 - Mackay District

Mackay District Police Crime Report

Mackay District Officer Superintendent Bruce McNab today welcomed the release of the Queensland Police Service's Statistical Review which demonstrated a reduction in fraud, liquor and drug 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 Mackay District from 2014/15 to 2015/16 increased by nine percent to 17,608 offences.

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

"When adjusted for population growth, the overall crime rate of offences against the person over the past 10 years has decreased by 7.3 percent, while offences against property has increased by 3.6 percent," Superintendent McNab said.

In 2015/16 unlawful use of motor vehicles increased by 41.1 percent, unlawful entry into houses increased by 27.3 percent and unlawful entry into shops increased by 34.1 percent.

Superintendent McNab urges the community to be vigilant with the security to their houses, vehicles and other property items, with 7,201 offences against property reported in the last year.

"A lot of break-ins and property thefts are opportunistic and are preventable," Superintendent McNab 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 Mackay myPolice blog 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 42, with a decreased rate of 25.4 percent.

“It is positive to see offences involving liquor decline in the district, however 124 in the past year is still too high and police will continue to provide a large presence in those areas,” Superintendent McNab said.

The rate of drug offences also fell in the past year with a decreased rate of 7.5 percent.

“The decline in drug offences can be attributed to the large operations performed in the Mackay District over 2015/16 which stopped a great deal of illegal substances hitting the streets,” Superintendent McNab said.

In the Mackay District, the number of Domestic and Family Violence Applications increased from 924 in 2014/15 to 1,152 in 2015/16, or 24 percent in the rate of applications per 100,000 person.

“In 2015/16, approximately 84 percent of applications were police initiated,” Superintendent McNab 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 687 in 2014/15 to 1,143 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 McNab 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.