1. The Queensland Police Service (QPS) currently operates a number of different databases to store its policing information. These databases are progressively being amalgamated into a single database known as QPRIME.
2. QPRIME is due to be fully operational before the end of 2008 at which time the majority of other databases will be decommissioned or no longer updated. There are a number of organisations which currently access QPS database information for law enforcement reasons. These organisations will continue to need that level of access to properly perform their functions.
3. CrimTrac is an information processing agency established by the Commonwealth in conjunction with State and Territory governments to collect and collate policing information to be shared among law enforcement agencies. Participation in national initiatives through CrimTrac requires Police Services to provide policing information held on their databases to central and secure databases operated by CrimTrac.
4. The information accessible to law enforcement agencies from CrimTrac is vetted and limited to 26 points of information. Any extension to the points of information must be agreed by all police jurisdictions. The critical enabler for CrimTrac is that all Australian jurisdictions must contribute otherwise the effectiveness of the national initiatives will be diminished.
5. The Bill contains a provision which allows for the transfer of police information to an information processing agency, such as CrimTrac, regardless of the nature of the information. CrimTrac then provides person of interest information to other police jurisdictions and law enforcement agencies prescribed under regulation, but limits the information to 26 points of data. These points of data are prescribed through regulation.
6. Until CrimTrac is approved to provide such information, provisions have been included in the Bill to allow the Commissioner to provide the same 26 points of information to limited law enforcement agencies, for example Australian Customs Service or the Crime and Misconduct Commission.
7. Cabinet approved that the Police Service Administration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
8. Cabinet noted that any amendments to the regulations prescribing an ‘approved agency’, ‘approved information’ or a ‘law enforcement agency’ would be progressed as significant subordinate legislation.
9. *Attachments*
* [Police Service Administration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008](attachments/Police%20Service%20Administration.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](attachments/Police%20Service%20Administration%20and%20OLA%20Bill%20EXPNOTES.pdf)