

CHILDCARE CENTRE— ABUSE

816. Ms L. METTAM to the Minister for Police:

I have a supplementary question. What action will the minister take to ensure the concerns of these families are properly addressed?

Mr P. PAPALIA replied:

Member, it is —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Mr P. PAPALIA: It is an operational matter and the nature of it means it is very sensitive regarding claims or concerns around small children. The Commissioner of Police and his team are fully aware of their obligations and responsibilities around ensuring safety for the Western Australian community, particularly in this type of situation.

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

Mr P. PAPALIA: The police commissioner and his team are responsible for operational matters and they are conducting an operation.

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

Mr P. PAPALIA: It is not right or expected normally for me to be involved —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please. Member for Vasse, you have had the opportunity for a supplementary question. Incessant interjections are not welcome.

Mr P. PAPALIA: I am not sure what the member is getting at. It is an operational matter. It would not be right for me to be directly involving myself in an operational matter. The police will notify my office, as is the normal practice. In response to us having forwarded that letter to the commissioner's office, the police will keep us informed and notify us of an outcome. It is currently an operational matter. It would not be appropriate for me to insert myself into that matter.