

POLICE — ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

5193. Mr K.M. O'Donnell to the Minister for Police; Road Safety:

I refer to the 2019–20 State Budget, Division 25; Western Australia Police Force, page 355, Significant Issues Impacting the Agency, point 5. The agency has established an Aboriginal Affairs Division and will continue to engage with Aboriginal communities to build better relationships and work together to achieve these outcomes, and ask:

- (a) With the establishment of the Aboriginal Affairs Division, how many of these officers will be identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
- (b) How many officers (sworn and unsworn) will be assigned to this unit, and will you provide an organisation breakdown chart showing position and title;
- (c) Where within WA Police Force will these FTEs be drawn from to fill these positions; and
- (d) How will this impact front-line servicing as forward estimates state the number of officers will continue to stay at 6350?

**Mrs M.H. Roberts replied:**

The Western Australian Police Force advise:

- (a)–(b) The Aboriginal Affairs Division currently has 10 staff, including police officers and public service staff, with 5 identifying as Aboriginal. Three (3) positions within the Aboriginal Affairs Division (AAD), have been designated as positions where an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background is a genuine occupational qualification under section 50(d) of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*. These positions include 1 x Superintendent and 2 x Inspector. The WA Police Force advises it does not publicly release operationally sensitive information, including organisational charts showing individual positions and job titles.
- (c) The Aboriginal Affairs Division was created by the Commissioner of Police from the realignment of existing positions and roles within the WA Police Force.
- (d) The creation of AAD will have a positive effect on frontline servicing by improving relationships between police and Aboriginal members of the community. The number of police officers will increase as the officers who participated in the VTSS are replaced and the ten additional officers for the Family and Domestic Violence monitoring unit are recruited.