

POLICE — TECHNOLOGY

**252. MR S.J. PRICE to the Minister for Police:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's commitment to ensuring that the Western Australia Police Force has the equipment it needs to help keep Western Australians safe. Can the minister outline to the house how this government's investment in new technology for WA police will support frontline operations and allow them to respond rapidly to incidents in the community?

**Mr P. PAPALIA replied:**

I thank the member for Forrestfield for his question, for his wholehearted support of police in his electorate and for his enthusiasm about the impending new police station.

The McGowan government's record with regard to police and technology and empowering our police force is second to none. It is extraordinary to contemplate what has been achieved in the last five years. The first was selecting and appointing the best Commissioner of Police that this state has ever seen. I take the opportunity to acknowledge his impending ascension to the role of Governor of the state. As our first ever police officer for that role, it is a wonderful recognition of not only him, but also the performance of the police force in the last couple of years in particular.

That commissioner and his command team were then empowered to transform the Western Australia Police Force to the point at which it is now recognised worldwide as a leader. We saw the creation of the State Operations Command Centre, which smashes together real-time intelligence with operations to create unparalleled support for operators on the front line. There was an incredible increase in support for and resourcing of police that saw them receiving body-worn cameras that can provide intelligence and support for police officers against spurious and malicious accusations that might result from their operations. Police have been empowered with technology like the OneForce phone. It sounds small but it is a magnificent and huge leap forward in digital technology for all police officers, who now get situational awareness and access to databases that they never had access to before in their hands out there on the front line. Things like the drones have been linked to that technology to ensure that police get greater situational awareness all the time.

Most recently, the Premier, the commissioner, Deputy Commissioner Blanch and I were at the Maylands Police Complex to witness a world first. Apple and Motorola combined for a world-first integration of Apple CarPlay with our police operations system. Apple tested that technology and capability here before anywhere in the world. All around the world police and police agencies and the like have been creating and designing computer systems to be pushed into a vehicle to try to provide police with access to intelligence in a vehicle. Now our police officers with that OneForce phone can get into any of their police vehicles and it will integrate immediately with CarPlay to provide them with hands-free access to data, intelligence, upgrades and advice about the situation they are about to confront. It will increase the speed, efficiency and safety of police in Western Australia, and it leads the world.

It is wonderful to see this great legacy for you, Madam Speaker, from your time as Minister for Police, and a great legacy for the best police commissioner Western Australia has ever seen—probably the country, I would say. It is a fantastic thing to witness and I look forward to that growth in technology being applied to real-time policing for safety, efficiency and speed of policing to continue in the future.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, that concludes question time.