

**METHAMPHETAMINE**

*Statement*

**HON MARTIN PRITCHARD (North Metropolitan)** [6.19 pm]: I will be brief, as I understand that members want to go home. The week before last, I moved a motion calling on the government to work collaboratively with stakeholders to try to combat the effects that the use of methamphetamine, mainly in the form of ice, is having on our communities. I would like to congratulate all the agencies, both state and federal, that were involved in this historic bust that was reported in *The West Australian* of 11 September. My understanding is that about 320 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine was stopped from reaching our streets. This bust has stopped more than three million individual hits from occurring—over three million episodes of destruction and violence.

As I mentioned in my motion, I believe that there are three pillars or areas that need to be addressed: prevention to reduce the demand for methamphetamine, protection to reduce the harm caused by methamphetamine, and prosecution to reduce the supply of methamphetamine. I congratulate the government for its role in tackling the supply of this foul drug. Unfortunately, unless we tackle the other areas as well, we will find it difficult to have any sustained success. With the amount of money involved, as explained by Hon Helen Morton during her contribution, there will always be those—I was going to say “scum” but I am not sure whether that is unparliamentary—who are prepared to take the risk of importing this stuff in anticipation of the big pay-off. I hope to hear soon some similar news on work on the other areas that I mentioned so that we can have an ongoing, effective and balanced response to this scourge.

*House adjourned at 6.22 pm*

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