

STATE BUDGET 2013–14 — POLICE DETECTIVES

**369. Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:**

- (1) Did the minister approve of the budget that now denies on-call detectives the right to drive a work vehicle home?
- (2) If an on-call detective is called out now, is it correct that they must catch public transport or a taxi to collect their vehicle before they can attend a crime scene?
- (3) Does this cut apply to detectives working in the areas of major crime, sexual assault and child abuse?
- (4) If yes to (3), does this budget cut not affect the frontline response to victims of crime?

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:**

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(4) As members in this house are no doubt aware, the state budget will be handed down on Thursday. All of the budgetary decisions made around that budget will obviously be made public at that point in time.

**Mrs M.H. Roberts:** But this is already happening. It's happening now. Did you approve of it or not? It's happening now.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland!

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** I would like to address the remainder of the member's questions.

**Mrs M.H. Roberts:** This is about what's happening here and now, not what's happening on Thursday.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland! Minister, if you could just answer the question; there are four parts to the question.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Mr Speaker, thank you very much for your protection; indeed, I would like to answer the question.

Operational decisions about how police officers use their motor vehicles, who gets assigned a motor vehicle, how those operational —

**Mrs M.H. Roberts:** Are you saying you weren't advised of this? Were you advised of it, or not? That's what you were asked!

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland, I call you to order for the first time.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The decisions on which police officers use motor vehicles, how those motor vehicles are used, how they are allocated and whether they are used for travel to and from work or indeed in the course of a police officer's duty are made by the Commissioner of Police and the executive team, and quite often filter down to decision-making processes at a district level. I am not involved in the decision-making process on which officer receives a vehicle and how the vehicles are used.

**Mrs M.H. Roberts** interjected.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** I put my faith in the commissioner and his team to make those decisions to ensure that front-line services and service delivery to the community are at the levels at which I expect them to be.