

BALLAJURA POLICE STATION

20. Ms R. Saffioti to the Minister for Police:

I refer to Question of Notice No. 8524 answered on 16 October 2012 and the subsequent commitment made by the State Government to build a \$12.5 million police station in Ballajura within three years, and ask:

- (a) what evidence was presented to the Minister that service delivery in Ballajura had been significantly negatively affected by the State Government's decision to close the station in 2009;
- (b) will the Minister table this evidence;
- (c) if not, why not; and
- (d) when did the Minister advise the Police Commissioner of the decision by the State Government to now build a new station in Ballajura?

Mrs L.M. Harvey replied:

- (a) Decisions regarding opening and closure of stations are primarily a matter for the Commissioner of Police. As Minister, I thoroughly examined data pertaining to crime statistics and response times, sought briefings from WA Police regarding the situation in Ballajura and considered representations made by members of the public in the area, before reaching the view that funding for a purpose built station could be justified in the area. Also significant to this view was the need to house additional officers to be recruited over the coming term of government, and the Liberal Party's willingness to commit to fund a purpose built facility fit for police operational purposes.
- (b)-(c) No one single piece of evidence was determinative in this decision. If a specific document is sought I will consider a request for its tabling.
- (d) WA Police were consulted regarding the costs involved, and subsequently advised of the Liberal Party commitment prior to the public announcement. The State Government will honour the commitment made by the Liberal Party prior to the 2013 State Election.