

SYNTHETIC CANNABIS — LEGISLATION

**445. Mr M. McGOWAN to the Minister for Police:**

I have a supplementary question. I realise the minister is being coached, but let me ask a supplementary.

**Mr C.J. Barnett:** That is patronising.

**The SPEAKER:** Let us just try and answer the questions. Ask the questions, answer the questions and move on. We have done two questions from the opposition and one from the government in 20 minutes.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** If the minister believes that she has such a strong record, why is her Liberal Party colleague, Hon Phil Edman, claiming it is still such a significant issue in the suburbs two years after I first brought this to her attention?

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

It is a significant issue. As the member for South Metropolitan Region, Hon Phil Edman is very proactive in his local community. He is bringing these issues to the fore and he raises them with me. As he gets this information he brings it to the attention of the authorities as he is required and supposed to do. We have a strong record in this government. Who was it that decriminalised marijuana? Which government banned smoking implements? Who has the record here on fighting the scourge of illegal drugs in the community?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I call the member for Midland to order for the second time.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** We have worked on strengthening the legislation and the laws around illicit drugs—laws that were weakened by the previous administration when it was in government and led to anarchy in our suburbs.

**Mr P. Papalia** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I call the member for Warnbro to order for the second time.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** This government has been at the forefront in the synthetic cannabinoids and psychoactive space; we will bring cutting-edge legislation forward and I expect full support from those opposite, unlike what we had when we brought in legislation to toughen up the penalties for people dealing in illicit drugs.