

POLICING MODEL — 2020 TRIAL

443. Mr P. ABETZ to the Minister for Police:

My electorate was part of the Frontline 2020 policing model trial, which was warmly received, but is now — Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Minister for Health, I will call you to order for the first time. Member for Kwinana, I have called you to order twice already in five minutes.

Mr P. ABETZ: My electorate was part of the Frontline 2020 policing model trial, which has now concluded. Could the minister please update the house on Western Australia's police resourcing levels for the south east metropolitan region given that that trial has now come to a conclusion?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

I thank the member for Southern River for the question and for his interest and ongoing dialogue with me regarding the south east metropolitan district trial. I also take this opportunity to thank those members in the chamber who availed themselves of the opportunity for a briefing on Tuesday with the Commissioner of Police and the reform team.

As members in the house are aware, we ran a six-month trial in the south east metropolitan district on a new policing model, which was very successful in delivering significant outcomes for the communities in that district. The trial has allowed us to deliver a new local policing model to that district, which is the district of highest demand in the metropolitan area and extends from Kensington all the way out to Armadale. In addition to providing that new local policing model, we have also been able to effectively respond to and meet all the demand in the south east metropolitan district. The results have been significant; compared to last year's results, the south east metropolitan district has moved from the sixth-ranked performing district to the second-best performing district in the metropolitan area. Our objective to reduce demand has also been achieved with a nine per cent reduction in the computer aided despatch tasks coming through the centre, a diversion of 2 465 CAD tasks to our local policing teams and a further reduction in verified crime by six per cent. All in all, we are so happy with the success of that model that we are now looking at rolling it out to all districts starting with the Peel metropolitan district and the south metropolitan district and progressing out to the rest of the metropolitan districts. Out of that trial we have put in place an additional 48 police officers into the south east metropolitan district, the large majority of whom were put in place to task our 24-hour, seven days a week district control centre, which is a new critical feature of this new model of policing. The total number of 488 police officers has been so successful that they are now permanently located in the south east metropolitan district. No police officers have been removed from the south east metropolitan district. Indeed, with the aggressive recruiting campaign of this government and the growth program it has committed to, we expect to grow the figures in the south east metropolitan district to around 550 officers. Police are making a concerted effort under this government with its support through the legislative framework it has provided for police, its support of the growth program, and its support for that reform 2020 and the new policing model. With that support the police can address social and law and order issues with great gusto. They are making a concerted effort to improve the outcomes for people in the community.

I hope members will write to me or put questions on notice, and I direct this at the member for Armadale in particular. I have been answering media requests about some scaremongering that has occurred in the Armadale area where it has been put to that community that we are removing police officers and that the only reason this model was successful was because we flooded the area with police officers.

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I call you to order for the first time! Can the minister wrap this up, please?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I make it clear that we have grown the numbers of police officers in the south east metropolitan district to 488 and we have not removed officers.

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I call you to order for the second time!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Mr Speaker, I am winding it up. The people living in the south east metropolitan district should be aware that the local policing model is the model for the future. We are not removing officers; we intend to expand the number of police officers in that area. We have got good outcomes for community safety in the south east metropolitan district and we are very proud of it. I am proud of the work done by police officers in

that area and I invite members, if they have any question or queries about that, to contact my office. I am happy to continue to provide briefings and update members on the success of this new trial as we roll it out.