

CHILD PROTECTION — CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE — ROEBOURNE

5. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the revelations during annual report hearings on 14 November 2018 that it was the expectation of the Department of Communities that some of the six known perpetrators identified in Operation Fledermaus were attending the same school as their victims.

- (1) Are any of the perpetrators still attending the same school as their victims?
- (2) Are all of the victims still alive?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The matter referred to during the annual report hearing on 14 November 2018 relates to Department of Education information. As the member was advised last year, in instances when a young person charged or convicted with a sexual offence attends a public school, every case is monitored, assessed and managed between the Department of Education, the WA Police Force and the Department of Communities. These assessments are based on what is best for the school community and the individual young people. This responsibility is not taken lightly.

As previously advised, the number of young people with charges attending school is very small, which significantly increases the risk that providing detailed comment about individual cases could lead to them being identified. The important response is to create a safe environment by developing trust, increasing the networks around the child and protective behaviours education.
- (2) Yes.