

CRIME STATISTICS — AUGUST

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

I ask a supplementary question. Noting that Operation Sweep does not provide for even one single hour of extra police time, has the minister asked the Premier or Treasurer for more money for overtime for police to get on top of her crime problem?

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

The member for Midland really needs to get with the program and understand what has been happening with our local policing teams and our reform project. The way that we are dealing with crime in the community —

*Point of Order*

**Mrs M.H. ROBERTS:** Mr Speaker, you have asked that supplementary questions be direct and to the point. My question is whether the minister has approached either the Treasurer or the Premier for extra money, and it is simply a yes or no answer that I was anticipating.

**The SPEAKER:** The minister.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** We have had the growth program—500 additional police and police auxiliary officers put in place since 2009. We are currently recruiting and training even more police officers and detectives and police auxiliary officers, consistent with our promise to the community in 2013. We have changed the way that we do policing. Now, as an example, Kensington police, under the previous model, had 22 detectives assigned to them —

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

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland!

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** We now have 33 detective positions for Kensington, because we are decentralising that activity.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Butler, I call you to order for the first time; member for Victoria Park, I do not want to hear you. A quick answer, minister.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** Notwithstanding that there are five vacancies at Kensington, we have created 11 new positions. So they are 50 per cent full at this point in time, and we are now recruiting. We have advertised for people to fill those positions.

We are changing the way that we deal with crime in our local community. Operation Sweep is a success. That is to respond to the spike in crime in July. We need to remember that the overall trend since we came to government in 2008 is a significant improvement across nearly every area of reporting for offences in Western Australia. We will keep the pressure on, we will keep resourcing police, we will keep training officers, we will keep training detectives, and we will continue to get the great results that we have achieved so far.