

ROAD SAFETY COMMISSIONER — KIM PAPALIA

**245. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question. How can the Premier have confidence in his minister when he knew and apparently the acting director general of the Public Sector Commission knew that the Road Safety Commissioner, Mr Papalia, wanted to leave his job but his minister did not; how can the Premier have confidence in a minister who has no idea about the thinking of her director general?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I only found out about his decision to leave yesterday.

**Mrs L.M. Harvey:** He found out before she did. He's meant to be reporting to her!

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Deputy Leader of the Opposition, member for Scarborough, what is apparent is that there is a range of moving parts in this issue. There are issues surrounding the Western Force sponsorship. There are issues surrounding the amalgamation of the Road Safety Commission and WA Police. There are issues around when Mr Papalia decided he was going to leave. There are issues around when he made these unusual decisions to contemplate an injunction on government policy. The member cannot process it all. That is the truth. The member is having difficulty processing all of these issues and arguments. The thing about opposition is you have to work hard and get yourself across arguments and issues. The member for Cottesloe would understand this. He has been there. He is the one on the member's side who understands it. You should not just always look for the easy option. On Sunday, you were defending Quokka kickers. You were out there on Sunday, attacking our decision to build the bridge in Western Australia. You are always out there looking for the easy media.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, you asked a question. You are getting the answer. You might not like it, but that is the answer you are getting.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Members opposite are always out there looking for the easy media grab. Let me tell the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the opposition leader: they need to understand the arguments and issues. At this point in time, they are a one out of 10.