

POLICE — VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY SCHEME

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

I refer to the Commissioner of Police's memorandum last month inviting expressions of interest from commissioned officers in a further voluntary redundancy scheme.

- (1) What role did the minister have in authorising the offer?
- (2) How many commissioned officers applied?
- (3) How many commissioned officers have now been offered the so-called voluntary redundancy?

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

- (1)–(3) I thank the member for Midland for the question. As part of Frontline 2020 and the reform program, the Commissioner of Police came to me and said that it had been identified that there was a surplus of commissioned officers within the ranks of WA Police and that there was interest in flattening the structure somewhat. Obviously, every minister who receives information like that from their director general accepts it and embraces it with open arms—a flattening of the structure is generally a very good thing with respect to expenditure of taxpayer funds. The commissioner came to me and said that he had identified 30 commissioned officer positions he believes would be suitable for redundancy in the interests of flattening the structure. They will be funded from within the police's own resources. They have not come to me for additional money for this; they will process these redundancies from within. We are currently in the second stage of offers and we have extended the offer for redundancy to some senior sergeants and some other officers at that level.

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

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland!

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** We have not settled on a final number of redundancies. The applications have gone out and expressions of interest have come back to the police executive. They will all be assessed on their merits and I expect there will be a very good outcome for WA Police and the community of Western Australia.