

PARABURDOO POLICE STATION — STAFFING

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

I refer to a recent situation in which the Paraburdoo Police Station went unstaffed, in one case for a period of up to three weeks.

- (1) Does the minister consider it acceptable for a town that is 80 kilometres from the nearest back-up—at Tom Price—to be left vulnerable for a period of up to three weeks?
- (2) What arrangements will the minister put in place to ensure that police officers are available for regional towns such as Paraburdoo so that locals can be appropriately protected at all times?
- (3) Why should the 1 500 people of Paraburdoo be treated so badly?

**Mr B.J. Grylls** interjected.

**Mrs M.H. Roberts:** I opened them. I reopened two.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister for Regional Development, you have been in this place long enough. I said in this place recently that someone who interrupts a member on their feet asking a question will be formally called to order for the first time. That is what I am going to do, Minister for Regional Development: I formally call you to order for the first time today.

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

- (1)–(3) With respect to the police station that the member for Midland refers to, from time to time some stations may be closed, but I bring up with the Commissioner of Police situations of staffing and the resourcing of police stations. With respect to the situation the member referred to in Paraburdoo, my understanding is that the police who were stationed there were on leave, but that alternative resources were brought in to make sure that the police service delivery in Paraburdoo was up to the standards expected by both the commissioner and me. However, I will raise the specifics of that, if the member would like to put a question on notice about that particular incident. I am happy to give the member more specific details.

**Mrs M.H. Roberts:** Maybe you could just do your job. Why don't you just do your job?

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland!