

FINE DEFAULTERS — INCARCERATION

466. Hon ROBIN SCOTT to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General:

- (1) Is the Attorney General aware of media reports to the effect that a significant percentage of the Aboriginal women incarcerated in Western Australia have been jailed for non-payment of traffic fines?
- (2) Will the Attorney General examine alternatives to imprisonment for traffic fine defaulters?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The government is considering a package of amendments to the Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994, the intent of which is to reduce the number of people imprisoned for fine default.

If the member would like me to arrange a briefing or a discussion with the Attorney General on this matter for him, I would be happy to do so.