

WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE — DETECTIVE POSITIONS

783. Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

Having had time to reflect on the minister's criticism of the Western Australian Police Union of Workers this morning —

- (1) Does the minister now acknowledge that the vice-president, Brandon Shortland, did in fact raise the issue of unfilled detective positions with her when they last met?
- (2) Will the minister correct the record, and apologise to Mr Shortland?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for Midland for the opportunity to correct the record. Mr Speaker, I categorically and emphatically state to the house and the community of Western Australia that no member of the police union has raised the issue of detective shortages with me at any time, until I contacted them yesterday after hearing the media release from the member for Midland. It has not formed part of any of my WA Police Union of Workers' agenda meetings over the last six months, and it has not been discussed with me privately in any capacity by any member of the police union.

I appreciate the opportunity to correct the record. I stand by what I said on the radio this morning. It has not been raised with me; it has been now, and I will get to work with the executive on addressing the concerns of the union, now that I have been made aware of them.