

POLICE — DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

2240. Dr A.D. Buti to the Minister for Police:

I refer to the Minister's answer to my Question on Notice (No. 1910) in which you confirmed that there has been changes in the last 12 months with the police procedures for collating Domestic Violence statistics, and ask:

- (a) (a) what are the details of each of these changes;
- (b) (b) what dates were each of the changes implemented; and
- (c) (c) for each of the changes, do these changes apply State-wide or are they restricted to certain areas/regions, and if the latter, can the Minister please provide details of these areas/regions?

Mrs L.M. Harvey replied:

(a)–(c)

From 16 December 2013, state-wide reporting requirements for incidents involving persons in a family and domestic relationship were amended to ensure domestic violence statistics provide a more contemporary reflection of the issue.

Previously, reported domestic violence incidents included matters that are not considered at the core of family and domestic violence (FDV), such as assaults between adult siblings, distant cousins and other relatives. Within these broader relationships, there are not usually control and power imbalances that are central to FDV between intimate partners and immediate family members.

The amended Western Australia Police Domestic Violence Policy states that an incident report must be submitted where an act of FDV, as per section 6 of the *Restraining Orders Act 1997* (WA) (the Act), has occurred between intimate partners and immediate family members.

All matters reported as FDV are still subject to investigation and action as required by sections 62A and 62C of the Act and the change has only impacted the subsequent reporting in the Western Australia Police Incident Management System.