

PARABURDOO POLICE STATION — STAFFING

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

I have a supplementary question. Why is it more important for the minister's government to spend money on propaganda than it is to provide a relief officer at Paraburdoo?

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, you may be seeking a personal opinion, in which case I could rule the question out of order; if the Minister for Police chooses to answer that question, that is her prerogative.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

As the member for Midland will well know, being a former police minister, operational matters regarding staffing and resourcing at individual police stations is a matter for the commissioner and the district superintendents to manage. My responsibility as minister is to make sure that police are appropriately resourced. For the benefit of members in this house, I will put it on record that the government has increased resourcing to police by \$340 million from what was the case when the Labor Party was in government. In addition, we have a targeted program to increase the number of police officers by 350 sworn officers and 150 ancillary officers, and we are well on track to meeting that election commitment.