

FRONTLINE 2020 POLICING MODEL

Statement by Minister for Police

MRS L.M. HARVEY (Scarborough — Minister for Police) [12.28 pm]: I advise the house that as of 1 December 2014, the Frontline 2020 policing model has been rolled out across the Perth metropolitan region. This is a significant achievement for WA Police and the government has proudly supported and assisted in facilitating this reform. The Frontline 2020 policing model was developed to address the increase in demand for policing services, improve frontline policing and build stronger links with local communities by addressing crime at its cause.

The Perth metropolitan area has changed from being divided into seven districts to being divided into four—central metropolitan, north west metropolitan, south metropolitan and south east metropolitan. Unlike the previous model, the four new districts are very closely matched in both police officer numbers and demand. Currently, each district has a minimum of 500 officers with the aim of growing to 550 officers by 2017. The key to the Frontline 2020 policing model is the separation of officers in each district into two large response teams, local policing teams and two detective teams. Under this model, each team will be able to work more effectively and more efficiently and will have better focus on their specific tasks.

Each district has a district control centre that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A district control centre oversees the operation of a district, prioritises and develops local strategies and directs police response. The response teams run on demand-based rosters and their activity is coordinated by the district control centre, reducing demand and improving the response service. The local policing teams focus on local problem solving in dedicated suburbs of responsibility. The local policing teams are able to develop an intimate knowledge of their areas, have greater ownership and responsibility of local issues and improve community engagement. Detectives now work in large investigation teams, providing specialist investigative expertise for serious crime and working closely with the local policing teams to investigate crime incidents. Under the new Frontline 2020 model each district is now able to improve the capacity for proactive investigations as well as maintain a quality response to crime investigation.

It is also important to note that as a part of the Frontline 2020 reform all districts are supported by the regional operations group and traffic enforcement group, both of which have operational responsibilities for the entire metropolitan area. Having delivered a new operating model for the metropolitan region in 2014, the focus will move to regional WA in the coming year.