

WA POLICE DOG “RUMBLE”

Statement by Minister for Police

MRS L.M. HARVEY (Scarborough — Minister for Police) [1.08 pm]: I rise to inform the house of the sad passing of much-loved police dog Rumble. Rumble succumbed to complications caused by meningitis on 2 November 2015. Rumble’s contribution to the community, his achievements in apprehending offenders and service to Western Australia Police is to be commended. Rumble, a German shepherd, joined Western Australia Police in 2008 and quickly established himself as a hardworking and valuable asset. Since 2011, Rumble was involved in 620 arrests, and in more than 200 of those cases he was solely responsible for tracking and apprehending the alleged offender. Despite being eight years old, until the weeks before his untimely passing, he always showed a passion for and dedication to his work. Since July of this year, Rumble had assisted with 74 arrests and was directly responsible for 18 of those.

Fighting crime does not come without consequences. During his stellar career, Rumble sustained a number of injuries, including being bitten and stabbed by offenders. Some might think that this could have dampened his enthusiasm for the job, but he remained committed until the end. Throughout his health battle, there was an enormous outpouring of support for Rumble from the WA community via social media, and this support was very much appreciated by WA Police. I would like to extend my sincere sympathies to Rumble’s handler, Senior Constable Muletta, and I would also like to express my thanks to Murdoch Veterinary Hospital, which provided expert care, and to all the staff who looked after Rumble so well. Rumble will be very sadly missed by WA Police and the community that he worked so hard to protect. Vale Rumble.