

Chairman; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr David Templeman; Mr Jan Norberger; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Murray Cowper

Division 9: Western Australia Police, \$1 342 209 000 —

Ms J.M. Freeman, Chairman.

Mrs L.M. Harvey, Minister for Police.

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan, Commissioner of Police.

Mr S.A. Brown, Deputy Commissioner, Operations.

Mr G.E. Dreibergs, Deputy Commissioner, Specialist Services.

Mr A. Kannis, Executive Director.

Mr L. Bechelli, Acting Director, Business Strategy and Finance.

Ms S. Cardenia, Acting Chief Finance Officer.

Mr M. Peters, Acting Commander.

[Witnesses introduced.]

The CHAIRMAN: This estimates committee will be reported by Hansard. The daily proof *Hansard* will be available the following day.

It is the intention of the Chair to ensure that as many questions as possible are asked and answered and that both questions and answers are short and to the point. The estimates committee’s consideration of the estimates will be restricted to discussion of those items for which a vote of money is proposed in the consolidated account. Questions must be clearly related to a page number, item program or amount in the current division. It will greatly assist Hansard if members can give these details in preface to their question.

The minister may agree to provide supplementary information to the committee, rather than asking that the question be put on notice for the next sitting week. I ask the minister to clearly indicate what supplementary information she agrees to provide and I will then allocate a reference number. If supplementary information is to be provided, I seek the minister’s cooperation in ensuring that it is delivered to the principal clerk by Friday, 3 June 2016. I caution members that if a minister asks that a matter be put on notice, it is up to the member to lodge the question on notice with the Clerk’s office.

I give the call to the member for Midland.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I refer to the total appropriations line item at the top half of page 121. I note that it was budgeted in 2015–16 to have a total appropriation of \$1 315 281 000, yet that amount of money was not spent. The amount of money the government claimed it would spend on police last year has not actually been spent. The figure is now an estimated actual of \$1 273 083 000. Although there is an increase in the budget listed for 2016–17, will that number be as illusory as the number the Minister for Police brought here last year? Will she be cutting that figure during the year? I note also that on that same topic of total police appropriation the minister said recently that in each year of her government the police budget had increased. I note that in each year for the last 100 years the police budget has increased, but in 2017–18 the minister plans on decreasing it to \$1 335 732 000. Why is that, and what will the minister cut?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: First of all, to address the difference between the 2015 budget actual and the estimate, the variance in that comes from a range of areas. A decrease of \$42.2 million is attributable mainly to the revision of the Government Regional Officers’ Housing costs. There are some asset investment program efficiency measures. There is a revision of our depreciation expense and there has also been some movement in the PathWest forensic biology laboratory funding and the ChemCentre funding. I will ask Mr Kannis to elaborate in more detail on what those actual costings are and the variance between the budget estimate and the estimated actual, where we think we will be landing.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Can I just seek some further clarification. I can actually see the spending changes that are listed for some of those headings there, so I can read those for myself. However, I would be interested in the reduction in Government Regional Officers’ Housing; how much that is and where those cuts have been made.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: They are not cuts per se, member for Midland; they are actually a reduction in costs because the cost of housing for GROH has come down quite significantly. I will let Mr Kannis elaborate.

Mr A. Kannis: If I am specific about the appropriations the member refers to, the reduction in appropriations for Government Regional Officers’ Housing in 2015–16 is \$24.6 million. That is mainly attributed to the fact that in the forward estimates up until this year, until this budget process, the government had assumed that there would be a 12 per cent increase per annum in GROH rental costs in regional WA. That figure has now been revised

down to meet the current market situation, and even with that reduction in appropriation we can meet our GROH requirements.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I think Mr Kannis said that there would be a reduction of \$24.6 million to GROH in 2016–17. Can he explain to me, if I look at the spending changes, \$29 077 000, what the difference is there? The other thing I would like to know is whether the exact number of GROH houses will be changing; whether there will be any reduction at all or whether the number of GROH houses supplied to police officers will remain constant.

Mr A. Kannis: To clarify the difference in the numbers, my reference was to appropriation; \$24.2 million is the reduction in appropriation, so that refers to the line that the member for Midland referred to earlier. The table below is an operating spend, so that is expenditure; they are two difference concepts. Yes, in expense levels, there was a \$29 million reduction in GROH, but in a funding source there is a \$24.2 million reduction.

In answer to the member's second question, we are not reducing housing below requirements; we are actually increasing housing requirements because we are putting more officers in regional WA over the next couple of years.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: What is the total number of GROH houses? There are also some other parts to my earlier question that the minister has not answered yet.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will have to provide the number of GROH houses by way of supplementary information.

[Supplementary Information No B20.]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: My earlier question was about the reduction in the police budget for 2017–18; that has not been addressed.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As the member for Midland mentioned, since the Liberal–National government has been in power, the budget for police has increased by nearly half a billion dollars—55 per cent. As for the out years, as the member and everybody in the state is well aware, there will be an election in March 2017. The government expects to make some election commitments between now and then, so the forward estimate for 2017–18 and beyond will be revised.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I refer to the first dot point on page 122. My question is about the local policing teams. Could the minister provide, perhaps as supplementary information, a full list of all local policing teams; that is, the numbers from each region? How many calls to those policing teams have been logged for each policing team; and, if they are not logged, why are they not logged?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I have just been advised by the commissioner that the individual calls to the local policing teams are not logged. What was the first question the member asked about local policing teams?

[2.10 pm]

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I asked for the numbers. I just find it remarkable that there is no record kept of the number of calls made to local policing teams when it is a major part of the frontline policing initiative. How is it going to be evaluated if we cannot refer to the number of calls made to the mobile phones for each policing team?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will ask the commissioner, Karl O'Callaghan, to answer that one.

Dr K.J. O'Callaghan: Clearly, some of the calls will be logged. Calls requiring some sort of response or an investigation will become part of an investigation and will be logged and there will be a way of tracking those things and a way of tracking what the local policing teams have done about it. When local policing teams were set up, a lot of the work they did was just contact with the community. The community would contact them and there would be discussions. Some of those would be informal discussions and they would not all need to be logged. It might just be a simple piece of advice. If it is more than a simple piece of advice, there would be some track record and a way of tracking those things down. The member may be aware that in February we made slight changes to the model to focus the local policing teams on volume-crime offences. One of the ways in which we are evaluating the local policing teams now is that we will have a log or information about the work they have done around property offences in particular, so there will be allocations of investigation files and allocations of specific jobs to do, and those can be logged and tracked.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: The commissioner mentioned that some have been logged. Is the minister in a position to provide me with the number of calls that have been logged by the department for each of the mobile numbers for each of the local policing teams?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Not easily, member for Mandurah. If the member wants that information, he would need to put that question on notice.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Could I have that as supplementary information?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We cannot provide that in the time frame for supplementary information; the member would need to place a question on notice.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I find it strange that for a major part of the frontline policing program, which is the rollout of policing teams which have been in place for nearly two years or at least 18 months, there is no recording of the number of calls by the community to those mobile numbers. How is WA Police going to evaluate the effectiveness or otherwise of those local policing teams if it is not able to provide updated information on the number of contacts the public makes to those numbers? We do it with the 131 444 number and the 000 number. I know that the 131 444 number has more than one million calls per year. I find it astounding that there is no record of these local policing team contacts with the public.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We can elaborate, and I think the commissioner did elaborate in some ways, on how the assessment of the local policing team model will be conducted. Obviously the calls to the phones are a proportion of the work that the local policing teams do. As I have said previously, if the member wants the number of calls to each of those phones attached to the local policing teams, it would be a significant workload for police to procure that information and he would need to put the question on notice. Does the commissioner have anything further to add on the local policing team evaluation?

Dr K.J. O'Callaghan: There would be a lot of different ways of evaluating local policing team work. For argument's sake, we are interested in the number of arrests that they make, the number of charges they prefer, the number of investigations they deal with and write off and the number of visits to family violence-type issues. All those things are tracked, but I am not going to ask every local police officer in the state to go somewhere and write down in a book or put into a computer every single phone call they get, because that is not what I am trying to evaluate.

Mr J. NORBERGER: On this point, we are talking about the local policing teams and, more broadly, what we expect them to do. They are obviously an important part of the Frontline 2020 model—an integral part of that. I would be interested to know what the alternative would be, given that there has been some talk about Frontline 2020 and especially the local policing teams, if we were to revert to the old system of policing prior to Frontline 2020. Can the minister advise what impact that would have on frontline police numbers or otherwise?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The commissioner has indicated that Mr Brown has some work on that. Mr Brown?

Mr S.A. Brown: In answer to that question, a reversion to the former way of working in the Perth metropolitan area would see us take away a minimum number of police officers across the course of any given week; it would be a reduction of 11 per cent. So we would take 11 per cent of the advantage that we have gained by moving to the model across the course of the week. That ranges from six per cent on a Monday to 18 per cent on a Friday, 22 per cent fewer officers on the road on a Saturday and about 14 per cent on a Sunday. That would just be the start of it. There would be less police availability. In addition, we certainly have seen over the past 12 months a steady increase in grade of service for both priority 2 and 3 calls for assistance to the 131 response line at the police assistance centre. The mid-2015 early review of the first six months of operations saw a raft of positive outcomes. They are all benefits to the Western Australian community which are backed up in the facts and data on police systems around response times, prosecution increases and general availability across the spectrum of the week.

Mr J. NORBERGER: Just to be clear, the 11 per cent reduction that Mr Brown is referring to is the transfer of frontline police to back-of-office duties.

Mr S.A. Brown: That is correct, because that is where a lot of them came from before. Eleven per cent of officers across the week were taken from back of office and middle office jobs, under the prior way of working, and asked to work out on the road.

Ms L. METTAM: I refer to the spending changes table on page 121 of the budget papers and specifically to the Armadale courthouse and police complex. What does this funding address and what is the expected outcome?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I thank the member for the question. There has been \$1.8 million allocated over two years to develop a design and accommodation brief for a new Armadale courthouse and police complex. What do we expect as an outcome of that funding allocation? In 2016–17, \$700 000 is available for the development of a project definition plan, so that will require us to engage an architect, a quantity surveyor and engineers—electrical, mechanical and structural—to put together a plan for that development. Obviously, there would need to be consultation with the Department of Finance's Building Management and Works in the development of

that project. What we are looking for specifically with that is a review of our project objectives, a scope for the project, an understanding of the functional requirements for that project, a time plan that we can deliver it in, accommodation schedules, site certification, risk assessment and an updated cost plan, so that we know what allocation we would need to put to a project of that significance. We have also put \$1.1 million in the budget for 2017–18 for the development of an accommodation brief and schematic and design briefs for the complex. We would be looking to appoint a lead consultant architect and design team at that point. It is an exciting project.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I refer to the significant issues impacting the agency on page 122 and to the top bullet point about addressing the challenges of providing quality policing services. I note that as part of the change to the new model, quite a few forums have been held to talk to people about the quality policing services and the new model. How many forums have been held, what were the locations of those forums and how were those sites selected?

[2.20 pm]

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: A range of community forums have been held. I am advised by Mr Kannis that we do not have a comprehensive list of those forums. I endeavoured to provide that list by way of supplementary information last year but it was quite extensive. If the member would like that information this year, I request that she put the question on notice because it took some considerable effort to detail the range of forums that had been held across the state with respect to the new model.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: What is the method for selecting the sites? More particularly, I note that the commissioner was critical of opposition members not attending forums when they are held in their areas. Are members of the opposition invited to forums on every occasion?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I have attended a large number of the forums. Generally an advertisement is put in the local newspaper. Often if a local member has requested that a forum be held, they will do a mail-out advertising the same. The police will often advertise the forum through the local government. Generally, quite good numbers attend the forums. The way that we are marketing them appears to be appropriate given the attendances. A specific invitation to these forums is not put out to members of Parliament. Sometimes members of Parliament chase up both the commissioner and my office requesting that one be held in their area.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I specifically referred to the forum that was advertised showing the picture of the minister and the commissioner. It invites people to meet Frank Alban, MLA, and share their views with Minister Liza Harvey and Karl O’Callaghan. That was held on Thursday, 5 May. Who instigated that forum and was the local member invited?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I believe that that forum was initiated by Mr Alban.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Is it the minister’s practice to hold political candidates’ forums in the electorates of other members and not invite them?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Which line in the budget is the member for Midland referring to?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Is this a bit uncomfortable for the minister? I referred to the line item at the start of my questioning and she took the question. What is she hiding? Why was Rita Saffioti not invited to this forum? Does the minister have the commissioner engaged in doing Liberal political work? Is this what the forums are about?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Absolutely not. The member’s question is offensive.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Why is the minister holding forums advertised by her in Labor members’ electorates and not inviting the Labor members? Are these forums being used for political purposes?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am advised that everyone was invited to that forum. That is the advice I received. The commissioner is invited to attend these forums on the condition that the invitation is advertised.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I refer to page 122 of the *Budget Statements* to start with. On about the eighth line down, under “Road Trauma Trust Account” is the line item “Adjustments”. Under that is “Enhanced Automated Traffic Enforcement Strategy”, for which the estimated actual for 2015–16 is \$2.58 million. This year the budget estimate is \$4.031 million. That is a very flash or spin way of saying that is what the government is going to take out of the road trauma trust account for sending out infringement notices for the police to cover their costs, which is in addition to the normal one they get. Is that correct?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The \$4.031 million is linked to the expansion of the speed camera fleet.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I want to clarify that. There are different terms in different years for the extra money that is collected from the infringements to cover the extra cost of the extra infringements over the years. That is certainly what happened at one time. Is that not the case this year? Further down is the line item “Speed Camera

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B — Tuesday, 24 May 2016]

p149b-163a

Chairman; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr David Templeman; Mr Jan Norberger; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Murray Cowper

Replacement Program”, which is projected to cost \$1.204 million. The government cannot have it both ways. What is the one before that—the “Enhanced Automated Traffic Enforcement Strategy”? It really is a spin way of saying, “We are taking more money out of the road trauma trust account to cover the cost of sending out infringements.” Is that not the case?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As part of the 2016–17 budget process, we have committed funding from the road trauma trust account of \$6.8 million—\$2.1 million for capital activities and \$4 million for recurrent expenditure. From 2016–17 through to 2019–20 a total of \$9.9 million will be expended to expand our fleet of fixed red-light cameras.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That is not the question I put to the minister.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I have not finished.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I do not think the minister understands the question. That is the problem.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I do understand the question. That is obviously part of our Towards Zero strategy. The Browne review recommended that the processing and administration costs of the speed camera fleet be borne from the road trauma trust account. In keeping with that recommendation, the processing of the infringements is being borne by the account. The recurrent expenditure of \$4 million is for the processing of the infringements. Then we have the additional funding in the capital area for the expansion of the fleet.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I want to get this answer correct because I think the minister is very, very confused. The amount of \$4 million is not what is normally taken out of the road trauma trust account for paying for the infringement notices to be sent out. The minister’s advisers know this. This is what is called “enhanced” money; that is, additional money that is taken out of the road trauma trust account for the additional number of infringements being sent out. That is a fact.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: That is incorrect. To give the member more confidence, I will ask Mr Kannis to respond to the question.

Mr A. Kannis: I will explain this line item.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Yes, the \$4 million.

Mr A. Kannis: The \$4 million is related to the installation of eight extra fixed speed cameras in 2016–17.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: What is the \$1.2 million for?

Mr A. Kannis: The \$1.2 million is for the replacement of existing cameras.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: In relation to overall traffic infringements and traffic enforcement, how many officers make up the strategic traffic enforcement group and how many motor vehicles are there—in other words, cars and motorcycles? How many officers are part of that group now?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am just checking to see whether we have the numbers. Just to be clear, is the member after the number of officers in the traffic enforcement group and the number of vehicles and the number of motorcycles?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Yes, and the number of vehicles that are used. Some spare motorcycles and cars may be contained in that particular group that are not used very much. How many police officers are out on the roads making up the traffic enforcement group on motor vehicles or other vehicles? That is what I want to know.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am advised that that specific information is not available but we will provide it by way of supplementary information. I will clarify that. I will provide the number of officers in the traffic enforcement group, the number of vehicles assigned to those officers and the number of motorcycles assigned to those officers.

[*Supplementary Information No B21.*]

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Can the minister add to that supplementary information that she is providing how many of those cars and motorbikes are allocated and are working in regional WA at any one time? If we did a snapshot today, how many cars and motorbikes would be in regional WA?

[2.30 pm]

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: My understanding is that vehicles in regional WA are not allocated as part of the traffic enforcement group, but I can clarify that.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: So “none” is the answer, basically?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: There is a separate allocation of fleet to regional WA, so generally speaking we would not allocate vehicles held by the traffic enforcement group to regional areas, even though the TEG will do work in regional areas.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Picking up on what the minister has said, that basically the traffic enforcement unit does not have any officers or material allocated to country roads in regional WA, is that serviced by regional expenditure?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: What I could —

Mr F.M. LOGAN: It is serviced by regional and remote policing. If that is the case, as the minister has just pointed out to Parliament, can she confirm what I am saying? Is traffic enforcement for the purposes of speeding and all the issues that are listed in the fourth dot point on page 122, under “Significant Issues Impacting the Agency”, in regional WA, where there is a significantly high level of crashes, deaths and whatever else, all being serviced by regional and remote policing services? If that is the case, how many officers, cars and motorbikes from that part of the organisation are allocated to traffic enforcement?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The commissioner says he will answer this question.

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: There are really two strategies. Many stations in regional Western Australia have their own traffic response. For argument’s sake, when travelling to Albany, Williams, Kojonup and Albany have traffic capabilities. They have dedicated cars for that purpose; they have radars and all the equipment needed to do traffic work. A lot of the traffic work and hours in regional Western Australia are provided by local stations and local units. That is also supplemented by the TEG going out and doing regional traffic patrols, within a radius of Perth, obviously. In more remote areas, TEG would not be out there doing that sort of work, but on the major highways radiating out from Perth—Great Eastern Highway, Albany Highway, Forrest Highway, Great Southern Highway, Brand Highway and Great Northern Highway—there is a TEG capacity and they do patrols out there on a regular basis to supplement what the local stations are providing.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: From what the commissioner has just said, exactly how much time is allocated to the roads that radiate out from Perth in officers and material and how much time is allocated by regional WA in the officers that are serviced from various regional towns on traffic enforcement?

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: If we were to start collecting the hours for regional patrols, the member would have to give us a finite limit—over what period of time and in which locations in regional Western Australia? We would then have to work out the actual work required to drag that together.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: On that basis, could I have figures for just the wheatbelt, because, as members know, that is where the majority of crashes and deaths have occurred? Could we do it over the last two years?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We can provide that by way of supplementary information, Chair. We will provide the traffic enforcement hours conducted by wheatbelt patrols or other supplementary patrols for the last two financial years.

[*Supplementary Information No B22.*]

Mr M.J. COWPER: I am encouraged by the last dot point on page 122, which states —

... evolving and increasingly complex crime environment has demanded a greater level of community engagement and inter-agency collaboration to better identify and address the root causes of offending. Western Australia Police seeks to expand and consolidate its leadership role in developing partnerships ...

I want to talk about the phenomenon that has exploded as a tragedy in the community in recent years—that is, the number of suicides that have been occurring. Although the matter is not solely a police responsibility, inevitably they are the first people to respond. The issue cuts across a number of government departments and that is why I am pleased the budget papers mention that those partnerships are being formed. Since Christmas there have been nine suicides in my electorate and 19 in other parts of remote Western Australia. About 34 suicides occur annually, but, as I said, there have been 19-odd already. I am wondering whether the department is tracking this and what dialogue is occurring between various agencies. What initiatives are being conducted in hotspots like the Kimberley to address this very difficult issue for the whole of society?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Commissioner, would you like to respond?

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: I think the problem probably transcends regional Western Australia and is an issue that concerns the whole state. The member rightly points out that the key role of police in suicide cases is investigation and the preparation of material for the coroner. The member would probably be aware that in the metropolitan area we are currently trialling a mental health co-response model. We brought that initiative forward to ensure that police attending situations in which someone is exhibiting mental health stress are able to

Chairman; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr David Templeman; Mr Jan Norberger; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Murray Cowper

adequately deal with them and that if people are suicidal, it is properly identified and the right sort of help is brought to those situations. We are only a few months into that trial. If that trial is successful, we expect to employ more mental health clinicians to work with us. The member might also be aware that there is now a mental health nurse at the Perth watch house who provides assessments when people come in there. A lot of work is being done in the Kimberley, particularly by Superintendent Michael Sutherland, because there has been an epidemic of suicides, particularly of young people, in regional and remote communities. We are talking mostly about Aboriginal people now. A number of agencies are working together in the Kimberley because this is a specific problem that is probably not so evident in other parts of regional Western Australia but is a Kimberley-specific problem brought about by quite a degree of dysfunction in those particular communities. There are a number of partnerships in the Kimberley, which I do not have all the detail of now but which we could provide quite easily by way of supplementary information.

The CHAIRMAN: Could the minister clarify what will be provided, please?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We can provide a listing of the partnerships that police have with other government agencies and not-for-profit organisations in the Kimberley on mental health issues and suicide.

[Supplementary Information No B23.]

Mr M.J. COWPER: While the good work the commissioner mentioned by Superintendent Sutherland may not be complete, it is about the best snapshot we have so far. Has any work been done to perhaps perpetuate or refine it or somehow give us a bit of a handle on a lead agency? What I am looking for here is being able to draw in those other departments to do their functions. As was rightly pointed out, the department is to provide an initial response and to prepare reports, but this is an issue for all of society and other government departments. I am wondering whether there are any plans to perpetuate the good work being done to see if we can address this issue.

[2.40 pm]

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: There is certainly a lot of work being done, probably better than ever before. The interagency cooperation has been quite profound in this area. With the Mental Health Commission as a standalone organisation, we are getting more effective responses with respect to requests from other agencies such as police for assistance in developing the mental health plans. I think the commissioner has some more information that he would like to provide.

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: I do not know whether the member is aware of the “Safer Families, Safer Communities Kimberley Family Violence Regional Plan 2015–2020” but that has a range of strategies in it. One of them is to establish four family safety teams across the Kimberley, located in Broome, Derby, Kununurra and Halls Creek. WA Police has a role to play there, as well as the Department for Child Protection and Family Support, the Department of Corrective Services, Anglicare and the Department of the Attorney General. The superintendent who was instrumental—we have mentioned Michael Sutherland already—in putting this plan together with the other government and non-government agencies is now running the south west district, so he is working in an area that the member partly covers in his role. He will be keen to replicate some of these strategies in that particular area, because although the problem of youth suicide, in particular, is different outside the Kimberley, there are usually trends that can be identified. When we can link those trends up, we can provide a cohesive response to the problem.

Mr M.J. COWPER: Thank you for that.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I would like to ask the minister a question with respect to page 122. In the top grid there is a reference to “Westralia Square Accommodation” and an amount for the 2016–17 budget of \$7.5 million. It then goes up yearly to \$9 million, \$9.5 million then \$6.710 by 2019–20. Can the minister outline what police will be getting for that money, how much accommodation, how many floors, how many square metres, what units will go there and how many people will be working there?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: This is part of the government accommodation strategy. In September 2015 police approved the design layout and scope of refurbishment works and we have tender documentation in train, I believe, in the final stages. I will let Mr Kannis answer in more detail which areas of WA Police will move into Westralia Square.

Mr A. Kannis: Thank you, minister. The divisions occupying the space in Westralia Square are those that are occupying premises outside police headquarters. There are cases such as our human resources division, our records management systems and other areas such as that that are moving out of the leased premises into the commitment that the government has to occupy Westralia Square. This is space that is leased by the government until 2020; therefore, we are terminating our leases in those other premises and moving to Westralia Square.

Chairman; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr David Templeman; Mr Jan Norberger; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Murray Cowper

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: How many floors and how many square metres?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We can get that easily by way of supplementary, so I will provide that by way of supplementary information. I do not have it to hand. The supplementary information is the number of floors and square metreage that WA Police will be occupying in Westralia Square.

[*Supplementary Information No B24.*]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: My next question also relates to police accommodation, with respect to the site in East Perth where police headquarters is. Are police vacating any part of that site; and, if so, what part of the site are they vacating? What are the circumstances in which they are doing it and how many square metres are involved?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We have moved part of our operations out of there, but I will let Mr Kannis elaborate further.

Mr A. Kannis: We have made it known to central government that we no longer require the old police station and the buildings along Hay Street. We have advised that part of that site could be subdivided and sold. Part of the compound could be sold, but at this stage, we can remain in the curved building on the site.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: To be clear, what Mr Kannis is talking about includes the old police watch house and a considerable land area. Would the minister be able to advise as to approximately what that land area is?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Mr Kannis.

Mr A. Kannis: The situation at the moment is in the hands of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority and the Department of Finance. It depends on what parts of the site they would subdivide. I have not got the exact area in square metres for the member at this point in time, because that still has not been determined. My expectation is that a border will be put around the curved building and about 100 car bays will be available for us to continue to use, but I do not have the exact area for the member.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Will the income from the sale of that site be available to WA Police or will it be going into a consolidated revenue fund?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Those decisions have not been made by government yet.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: The issue of Cockburn Police Station. That project was going along well. Even though it is four years late, it is proceeding really well.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Which line item?

Mr F.M. LOGAN: It is on page 128.

The CHAIRMAN: It is a continuation of the one that we have already had.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: It is a continuation of the previous question, but it is part of the minister's "Works in Progress" anyway. Cockburn Police Station, remember that one? That project is proceeding forthwith and going very well indeed, even though as I said, it is four years late. Can I just get an assurance through the minister from the commissioner that on the completion of Cockburn Police Station and the opening of the police station the current police stations of Murdoch and Spearwood will remain opened and staffed?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will ask the commissioner to respond, because those are operational questions. At this point though, we are expending a considerable amount of money—\$7.925 million—on the Cockburn police complex. The expectation is that that will be quite a significant building and will house a number of police officers. As to whether those other stations will be required, at this point in time we have no plans to close any stations, but I will let the commissioner respond as to whether with the local policing team model that he has a view either way.

Dr K.J. O'Callaghan: Spearwood police station is probably currently known as Cockburn Police Station, which is the one down on Rockingham Road. There are no plans to keep that open in the long term. As Commissioner of Police, I have advised government that I will not run a policing service out of a building that is not suitable to run a policing service out of. We have to look at the age of that building and the actual cost and complexity of upgrading it. The reason we are building a new place at Cockburn Central is that some of our infrastructure in that part of the world is not fit for policing. I am certainly not supportive of keeping that open.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Through the minister to the commissioner, confusion has spread, not deliberately, over the direction of policing in that area, particularly between myself and the local members and the local council, because under the hubbing strategy, both those police stations that I referred to, Murdoch and Cockburn—Spearwood—police stations were going to close and be incorporated into the new police station. When we moved into the Frontline 2020 strategy, everyone was given assurance that those police stations would remain

Chairman; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr David Templeman; Mr Jan Norberger; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Murray Cowper

open. That is the reason I asked the question, again, through the minister, about the future of that police station. If Spearwood police station is to close, I would like an idea and an estimate of how long it will remain open. When will it close?

[2.50 pm]

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Generally, if we are building a brand-new Cockburn Police Station we would not keep the old Cockburn Police Station open. I know the member is calling it Spearwood, but in all of the correspondence I have had, the reference has been to the old Cockburn Police Station. We are building a new one.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: It is a significant area, minister. There are a lot of people who are very upset about it being closed.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: There are no plans to close Murdoch Police Station at this point in time. I will let the Commissioner of Police elaborate. We do not have a hub model anymore either, member for Cockburn.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I know; that is why I am trying to get to the bottom of it.

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: I go back to my original point that in my mind there is no point in building a new police station and continuing to occupy the old one. The whole reason for building a new police station is to ensure that it is fit for purpose, and that police have a proper building with proper equipment and a proper location to work out of. I certainly do not have any intention of recommending to government that we keep that police station open. I have said before in the media, when I have been asked, that we do not intend to keep that open. That has been my position all along.

Ms L. METTAM: I refer to “Financial Statements” on page 128 of the *Budget Statements*. It is stated under the headings “Income Statement”, “Expenses” that the increase in total cost of services is mainly attributed to the additional employee program. What progress has been made to date in recruiting these additional officers?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The recruitment program is well on track to deliver the government’s commitment—550 additional officers. That commitment was to the end of 2016–17. As the member is aware, it is 400 police officers, 150 police auxiliary officers and additional training for 200 detectives. To the end of March 2016, 300 police officers and 83 police auxiliary officers have been recruited as part of that program by WA Police. A further 100 police officers and 67 police auxiliary officers will be recruited by 30 June 2017. The funding increase allocated to the growth programs for the 2016–17 financial year, excluding accommodation, is \$32.2 million. The sum of \$26 million goes towards salaries and superannuation, and \$6.2 million goes towards operational costs. The accommodation program is held under the asset investment program with some boosts to police resources under the accommodation infrastructure. That is listed in a separate part of that budget.

Ms L. METTAM: What instruments has WA Police employed to attract and recruit these officers?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We have had a number of recruitment campaigns. There has also been specific effort put into some culturally and linguistically diverse communities to try to recruit people from other ethnic backgrounds. I might let the commissioner expand on that because we have spent quite some time trying to improve the diversity of police as part of that growth program.

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: One of the things we have been doing is spending more time developing programs with culturally and linguistically diverse communities. The member may be aware that we were actually out at Mirrabooka last week talking to a range of people. Most times when I am talking to people who are influential in those areas I encourage them to get their people to come forward and join the police. It is easy for me to say, but we also have to change some of our recruiting strategies and some of the way we assess and evaluate people. A lot of work has been done around that in recent times. It is a challenge, and it will always be a challenge with CALD communities, but we are starting to slowly increase the diversity of WA Police.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I am sure the commissioner will be able to answer this: are we recruiting from the UK, Ireland and other European countries; and, if so, how many?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We are. Commissioner, is that program still running?

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: The program ebbs and flows a bit, depending on what is available locally. As the member might be aware, some years ago—going back five years—when the economy here was more buoyant and the minerals and resources sector was more buoyant, it was more difficult to get people to apply for jobs in the public sector generally; that is not just about policing. We started looking overseas and brought in police officers from a variety of countries. That particular strategy has slowed down but we still get applicants from overseas and we still take them occasionally.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: How many annually?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Just to be clear, member for Hillarys, we are not sending recruitment teams over to the UK and Ireland, and do not plan to do that in the near future, as we were five or so years ago. At the moment, on a somewhat ad hoc basis, we might get requests from police officers from other jurisdictions, from the UK and Ireland, to transfer to Western Australia and they are each considered on their merits. From time to time we will have a transition recruitment program and those officers will then be able to come into the transition program and join WAPOL. We are not keeping a specific count of those because it is not a targeted recruitment strategy; it really is more of an ad hoc consideration of those transfers as they come through to WAPOL.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: When was the last time officers went over there to recruit officers from the UK, Ireland and other countries? The minister said five years; I think it has been done since then. I would like to know when the last time was.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The commissioner said that we started that program about five years ago, but I can —

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No; it was way before that.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I can provide that by way of supplementary information, Chair.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: It started over eight years ago.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I can provide, by way of supplementary information, Chair, the last time we sent a recruitment team over to either the UK or Ireland to specifically target officers to transfer to Western Australia.

[*Supplementary Information No B25.*]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The minister advised in her response that part of the election commitment for 2016–17 was the training of 200 detectives. Can the minister advise how many of those 200 detectives have been trained to date?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We do not have the specific number of detectives who have been trained, but we have additional FTEs for detectives —

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I am really interested only in the answer to the question that I have asked. If the minister could provide that by way of supplementary information, that would be good.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I would be pleased to, member for Midland.

The CHAIRMAN: Will the minister say what that is?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will provide, by way of supplementary information, the number of additional detectives who have been trained and recruited as part of the 2013 election commitment.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Can I just clarify: I asked for those who have been trained to date, not how many have been recruited.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: That is what I thought I said.

The CHAIRMAN: For clarification, it will be the total number trained.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Yes.

[*Supplementary Information No B26.*]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I refer to “Spending Changes” on page 121. I notice that some spending changes for “Hoon and No Motor Vehicle Drivers Licence Impoundments” will commence in 2017–18. Can the minister explain what has gone on here, please?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I can. That is additional funding for the hoon and MDL impoundments program. We have increased the expense limit to \$3.56 million in 2017–18. That is to cover impoundment costs. In June 2004, as the member is well aware, Parliament passed the Road Traffic Amendment (Impounding and Confiscation of Vehicles) Bill. There have been successive amendments to that, broadening the range of vehicles that could be impounded. The period of mandatory impoundment for the first offence was increased from 48 hours to 28 days. About 28 per cent of impounded vehicles remain uncollected 28 days from the end of the impounding period. This is additional funding to deal with the management of those impoundments and uncollected vehicles, and the disposal costs.

[3.00 pm]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Why do those costs commence in 2017–18, not 2016–17?

Mr A. Kannis: Our budget situation for 2016 had the capacity to absorb those costs. It was from 2017–18 only that we did not have the capacity to absorb those costs.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The same table under “Spending Changes” on page 121 has a reference to money for 2017–18 for overtime for police officers redeployed to the front line. Again, what will that overtime cover? Is it the same answer for 2016–17—that WA Police is absorbing the costs of extra overtime—or is it simply not required in the 2016–17 financial year?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As a result of the Frontline 2020 model, around 100 full-time equivalent police officer positions have transitioned back to frontline positions from non-operational roles. I understand that these additional operational expenses have come from the inclusion of shift and overtime allowances that form part of an operational policing model. For the additional costs of officers who were previously in desk jobs or non-operational roles, we needed additional funding to cover their shift and overtime allowances as they moved to the front line. WA Police requested that government fund those additional shift and overtime allowances, and government has responded by providing that funding in this budget.

[Mr I.C. Blayney took the chair.]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I have a question about the ChemCentre changes: what brought those about?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The ChemCentre performs some very important works for WA Police. The laboratory services activity provided by the ChemCentre for Police has increased significantly since 2007. Since 2007 the ChemCentre has become a statutory authority and has started charging commercial fees to its clients. Legislative changes have increased the demand for services, resulting in escalating operational costs and higher charges to Police. As part of the 2016–17 budget process, we have agreed to additional funding to Police to cover the additional costs from the increased activity the ChemCentre is currently undertaking for us, and also for some of the increased costs as a result of its shift to a more commercialised costing framework.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I have a further question on the same table, which I note continues over to page 122. Reference is made to south west leavers wristband sales as being a significant change, with an estimated figure of \$740 000 for 2016–17. I wonder whether the minister could explain that.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Yes, certainly. In 2011, WA Police became responsible for the collection of revenue generated through the sale of wristbands for leavers in the south west. Management of the funds generated from leavers events in previous years was the responsibility of the Shire of Busselton. In 2010 I believe we had police and community youth centre involvement in that program. There were some concerns about the fiscal management of Leavers WA events prior to 2011. WAPOL has a very strong involvement in the management of the leavers program and does it extremely well. Government is funding WA Police, as the member can see from the budget papers, for the wristband project and for Leavers WA to ensure that it runs as smoothly as it has done since Police took full control of it.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I have a further question on that. I notice this is listed under “Spending Changes”. Am I correct in assuming that in 2014–15 Police did not contribute money for that purpose? My other question is: are there costs that Police absorb for wristbands elsewhere, or is it solely for the area around Dunsborough?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I understand that this is for the south west leavers program; however, I need to clarify when Police became responsible. I understand it was 2011, but I cannot give the member a date. I became minister in 2012, so I am unsure whether it was funded prior to now. I can find that as supplementary information for the member for Midland.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Yes, and can the minister tell me how much it was last year and where it was funded from?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: All I will provide is when Police took responsibility for the program and where the funding was allocated to Police for that program. As for what happened prior to that, I will not have access to that information. I will not be seeking that out. If the member wants that information, I suggest she puts that —

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I am happy to have the supplementary information the minister offered to provide.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will provide, by way of supplementary information, when Police took charge of the WA Leavers wristband sales and when the funding for that started.

[*Supplementary Information No B27.*]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I have one further question on that table on page 122 about the revision of CBD staff parking fees. What has brought that about, and which staff working at which locations incur these fees? For example, is it the new police station in Northbridge or does it relate to other staff working from other locations or will it relate to staff who will be deployed to Westralia Square? Can I have the detail of that, please?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I understand that this is linked to fringe benefits tax increases by the federal government and the Perth city car parking levy. However, for further detail I will ask Mr Kannis to elaborate.

Mr A. Kannis: This car parking mainly relates to police headquarters. We have car bays that are free of charge to the agency; however, the act of allocating them and providing a benefit to our employees means we have to charge them the fringe benefits tax and parking levy cost. We receive that revenue, and this is the payment of that money out to the Australian Taxation Office and the City of Perth.

The CHAIRMAN: Can I get an indication of how much longer the member for Midland wants to spend on this division?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Until about 3.30 pm.

The CHAIRMAN: I have two other members seeking to ask questions. I will give the call to the member for Joondalup.

Mr J. NORBERGER: I refer the minister to the table under “Spending Changes” on page 121. The table includes a line item called “Mental Health Court Diversion Program” with a funding allocation in 2016–17, 2017–18 and 2018–19. It would seem to me that is a new spend or a new program. Can the minister advise the benefit we are expecting out of that program, and whether it is likely to continue being funded into the future? Is it a three-year trial, and what are we hoping to get out of that funding for the three years?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The mental health court diversion program involves specialist mental health clinicians who are situated at Perth Magistrates Court and the Children’s Court. They connect with eligible participants to provide treatment and support services. As part of the 2016–17 budget process we have allocated funding over the next three years towards that program. It will deliver dedicated mental health and judicial support for people with mental health problems who come before Perth Magistrates Court and the Specialist Treatment and Referral Team Court, which commenced operations in March 2013. This multiagency team approach appears to be the way forward for people with special and complex needs who might come into the justice system. From March 2013 to March 2014, 381 people were referred to the START court. Of those, 57 successfully completed the program. Between April 2014 and March 2015, there were 274 referrals, with 47 participants completing the program, and from April 2015 to March 2016, we had an increase to 298 referrals, 33 have completed the program and 27 are currently participating. This is obviously a more emphatic approach to people with mental health issues who come before the judicial system. It is funded through to 2018–19. Obviously, we expect a review, but the evidence to date indicates that it is a worthwhile program to continue with. At this point in time, we are looking at the budget sample for the next few years, and it is funded through to 2018–19.

[3.10 pm]

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I refer the minister to the asset investment program and works in progress on page 126. The second line item under works in progress is “CCTV Cameras for Hoons”. How many cameras currently exist, and how many cameras will exist as a result of that expenditure, because this is works in progress? How many currently exist, and how many will exist at the end of the expenditure on that line item? Who actually operates the cameras? Is it subcontracted out—if so, to whom—or are they operated by the police themselves?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: This was a 2013 government election commitment to provide \$170 000 over four years to fund 24 covert remote CCTV cameras to assist police in tracking down hoons and obtaining evidence. In October 2014, police identified that the MOBOTIX camera was most suitable. We started a trial of four cameras as a standalone system in March 2015. That trial concluded in September 2015. After the trial, we wanted to make sure that we were getting the right camera, and we also needed to understand the scope of information that the cameras would obtain for us. An assessment was undertaken recommending the purchase of an additional eight camera units. In February 2016 a further eight units were purchased. At present, on the 2013 election commitment of 24 cameras, we are at the point at which I believe, with staged purchases, we will have a total of 12 by the end of this financial year, with police giving a commitment to implement the additional fleet to a total of 24. Does Mr Kannis have anything further to add?

Mr A. Kannis: No, that is correct; we are actually going to purchase those by the end of 2016–17.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: As I asked, minister, who operates them?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I understand that they are operated by the traffic group, but I will refer to Mr Dreiberger, who is responsible for that area.

Mr G.E. Dreiberger: The cameras are operated by our state traffic enforcement group. Since 22 May 2015, there have been 78 impoundments from the cameras and 95 charges have been recorded. The primary focus of collection is related to no authority to drive, excessive noise and reckless driving.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Further to that question, why is the deployment and operation of those cameras not devolved down to local government, given that most of the offences occur on roads that belong to local government, thereby alleviating the cost and effort that needs to be put in by WA Police?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Police, not local government, are responsible for policing of the Road Traffic Act and the Road Traffic Code. Police are the appropriate authority for prosecuting offences on any gazetted road in the state. Although local government has a responsibility for parks and reserves and for the maintenance of local roads, for any offences committed on local roads or gazetted roads, it is up to the police to prosecute.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I am not suggesting that they were not. The offences could be followed up by the police, but the recording of them could be done by the local government.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will ask the commissioner to further add to that, but there are certain requirements and court precedents for the collection of evidence, and I think that complicates these matters. That is why it is appropriate that police are responsible for the programs.

Dr K.J. O’Callaghan: The minister is correct; it is always an added complication in the chain of evidence if a third party is included in the process. We would want to, in the first instance, make sure that the cameras are placed to get the evidence that we require. Some of that requires significant training of police officers to make sure we get the right evidence and that the cameras are in the right place. There are also continuity of evidence issues. Police place the cameras, certify that they have placed the cameras, and then certify that the vision they are presenting to the court is vision that has been taken by the cameras. When a third party is added to that, it adds a layer of complexity. It is not impossible, but bear in mind that this is a fairly new strategy, and we are quite keen at this stage to make sure that it works. We have seen some very good early results from this—the deputy commissioner mentioned 78 impoundments—and we would like to keep it that way. There is no reason why this could not be considered in the future, but at this stage we are keen to maintain the continuity and the control over that.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Can the minister tell us how many hours per camera per week, for the past three months, those covert cameras have been operating?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: No, we cannot drill down to that level of detail.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The minister cannot?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We do not have that information to hand. If the member wants that information, he can place that question on notice. That is a significant level of detail to drill down to figures for each camera per hour, per week —

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, I want to know how many hours each of those cameras is used each week. There are not many cameras out there, to be honest. How many hours has each of those cameras been in operation for the past three months? Surely that is not too hard to ask.

Mr G.E. Dreibergs: They are deployed based on intelligence received at a point in time, so we do not go out and say that this week we are going to have four cameras deployed at four different locations for a particular period. They are more or less deployed on an operational needs basis, so if we have intelligence and information that requires the targeting of a particular location or if we have a particular repeat offender who we wish to target, the cameras get deployed accordingly. They are not deployed in the same way that a mobile camera would be in the back of a vehicle parked on a main road. The cameras are deployed on an as-needed basis, based on intelligence.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I appreciate that, but the minister must have some record of how many hours each of those cameras is operating, even if it is an estimate. It would be nice to know whether each camera is working 10 hours a week in specific locations to catch the hoons and people driving without licences. There must be some records about whether those cameras are taken from the department out to locations, as there are with speed cameras.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: They are very different from speed cameras. Speed cameras get deployed, and we count the hours that they are deployed in particular locations, and that has been standard practice. However, I am not sure that we actually keep that data for the hoon cameras, because it is not really relevant for the purposes of the hoon cameras. The purpose of the hoon cameras is not to count the number of hoon offences; it is to target a specific area and try to catch specific offenders. I am not sure whether it would be relevant for police to be holding that information. I will check with Mr Dreibergs whether we count the number of hours that the hoon cameras are actually in position in relation to that evidence, but I would be surprised if we keep that information, because it is not really the point of the hoon cameras. However, I will ask Mr Dreibergs to respond.

[3.20 pm]

Mr G.E. Dreibergs: We can always go back and look at deployment of the cameras over time. However, having said that, the intent is to measure the output, and what we intended to do, and what we achieved in prosecutions and vehicles seized. The intent is not to say that the success rate for a hoon camera is that it did 30 hours in a week; the success rate is the number of seizures or repeat offenders or no authority to drives that we may hit. The success of the cameras is based on the outputs. I do not know how long it would take to go back, because it

Chairman; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr David Templeman; Mr Jan Norberger; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Murray Cowper

would not be written down specifically. Also, the intelligence work that is done prior to that is also part of the process; it is not just the deployment. We can follow up on that for the member.

The CHAIRMAN: Can we clarify the information that will be supplied?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am advised that police may not keep that specific information and it will require a more detailed effort to obtain it. If the member for Hillarys wants that information, I request that he put that question on notice.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I think I put a similar question on notice and I got a similar response from the minister, which was a non-response.

Mr M.J. COWPER: Briefly, how many of these cameras are available in regional parts or are they domiciled in Perth and just sent out as required?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Does the member have hoons in regional areas?

Mr M.J. COWPER: We certainly do have them. If I had a complaint in Harvey, for instance, and the officer in charge needed a covert camera, what would be the process?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: My understanding is that the cameras are available to regional areas on request. I think Mr Peters might have more information on how often that has occurred.

Mr M. Peters: Obviously, we have them in the metropolitan area currently. We are starting to trial their use in regional WA. Because of the methodology that we undertake, there may be problems in regional WA. We are basically trialling them in various country towns at the moment and have had some success.

Mr M.J. COWPER: I think I asked a similar question last year in relation to emerging video evidence provided by members of the public. I now have an onboard camera. I wonder whether the police are seeing an increase in contributions from the public in relation to some offences.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: That is operational. Mr Peters.

Mr M. Peters: Obviously, there are more people with dash cams and the like and that information certainly makes its way to us and we react to those particular bits of evidence that come to us. I would say that there is definitely an increase currently.

Mr M.J. COWPER: Are the police able to cope with the amount of information coming through? I want to know whether it is becoming a snowball situation or whether the police are managing to cope with the current resources.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Mr Peters.

Mr M. Peters: Currently, we are dealing with the amount that is coming through quite adequately, yes.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I refer specifically to the services and key efficiency indicators outlined on pages 124 and 125 of the *Budget Statements*, particularly metropolitan policing services, regional and remote policing services and specialist policing services. Under each of those services, there are the estimated actuals for employees, or full-time equivalents, for each of those categories for 2015–16. I am seeking a breakdown of the full-time employees estimated to be in place on 30 June 2016 under the following categories: senior police; police officers—that is, from recruit to commander—police auxiliary officers; Aboriginal liaison officers; police staff; wages staff; and crossing guards.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I have that information. If the member will give me a moment, we will come to it. As at 30 June 2016, the number of estimated actual police officers will be 6 145; police liaison officers—formerly Aboriginal police liaison officers—nine; police auxiliary officers, 267; police staff, 1 722; wages staff, individual contracts and cleaners, 28; and crossing guards and traffic wardens, 133. That is a total of 8 304 full-time equivalents.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The minister has given a figure of 6 145 police officers. Does that include senior police such as the Commissioner of Police, assistant commissioners and the executive director?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: That includes all police officers, including those in the commissioned ranks.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: How many are now in the category of senior police—that is, assistant commissioner, deputy commissioner and executive director?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I do not have that breakdown with me but I can provide it by way of supplementary information. I will provide a breakdown of the commissioned ranks of police officers as part of our police officer cohort of 6 145 FTEs.

[*Supplementary Information No B28.*]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The minister said that, under the staff category, she is anticipating that there will be 1 722 as at 30 June 2016. Last year I believe there were 1 802. That means that there are about 80 fewer unsworn staff. Where have those jobs been cut from, why are there 80 fewer staff and what are the positions?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: According to the figures that I have been provided, we had 1 649 police staff as at 30 June 2015, and the estimated actual as at 30 June 2016 is 1 722 police staff.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Perhaps the minister could advise why she advised me in supplementary information provided in estimates last year that she had 1 802 police staff.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am advised that wages staff, individual contracts, cleaners and crossing guards may have been included in that total.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: If I can clarify this, in supplementary information B12, the minister advised that there were 1 802 police staff, 30 wages staff and 130 crossing guards. They were not included in the 1 802 when she provided that answer last year.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I do not have in front of me the answer to that question or, indeed, the question that was asked. I would need to provide the breakdown of the 1 802—was it?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: There were 1 802 police staff last year.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will need to refer to last year's answer and provide by way of supplementary information where that figure of 1 802 FTEs was derived from.

[*Supplementary Information No B29.*]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: What cuts does the minister acknowledge to unsworn staff in the police service in the last year?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I beg your pardon?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: How many FTEs have been cut in terms of unsworn police staff in the last year?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will ask Mr Kannis to elaborate on whether there have been any reductions in unsworn police staff in the last year.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Does the minister not know?

Mr A. Kannis: I am not able to confirm that we have reduced our numbers, and that is why I need to reconcile with the answer we provided last year. According to the data we have, our police staff have grown from about 1 600 to the numbers that have been cited. The numbers I have for police staff is 1 649 as at 30 June 2015 and 1 722 as at 30 June 2016. I cannot confirm that we have reduced our numbers at all, but I would like to check the answer that the member is referring to.

[3.30 pm]

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: If the answer I was given last year is incorrect, hopefully the *Hansard* record will be corrected.

Mr M.J. COWPER: I understand that a number of people take the redundancy or the golden handshake. How many officers have taken advantage of that?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Mr Kannis can give further details about that, but I believe the last significant round of redundancies was in March 2014. Mr Kannis, can you elaborate?

Mr A. Kannis: The latest round of redundancies for police officers, not police staff, was as recent as this financial year. We offered redundancies and accepted 20 redundancies, and those people are leaving as we speak.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: If I can just clarify that, they are voluntary severances, not redundancies. A redundancy implies that the position will not be filled. We are offering severances and some of those positions will certainly be filled.

The appropriation was recommended.