

ROAD SAFETY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT — DATA COLLECTION

836. Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Minister for Police; Road Safety:

Mr Speaker —

Mr N.W. Morton interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Forrestfield, I call you to order for the first time.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I refer to the recently tabled inaugural Road Safety Commission annual report.

- (1) When was the minister first advised of the failures with respect to the collection of crash data as outlined on page 24 of the report under the heading “Significant issues”?
- (2) I note that the report states that data collections have lost the availability of causal and contributory factors in road safety data. What has been the practical implication of this and can the minister advise the house whether this issue has been fully remedied?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(2) I think last year’s Road Safety Council section 13 report alluded to the issue that we had in data collection. There was an inconsistency in data collection around road safety statistics across different agencies. We flagged that as an issue last year, and it is certainly an issue this year. I was made aware of it some time ago.

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

The SPEAKER: That is enough.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: To rectify that, we have now funded the Road Safety Commission to be a central data collection source so that we can get consistent data collection with respect to road safety statistics and road safety reporting. That will also allow us to be comparable with other jurisdictions across Australia so that we can get that consistency in reporting. It is more around the serious injury statistics when there are different definitions of serious injury. There are certainly some discrepancies between the way health and police report those serious injury statistics. This new data collection component of the Road Safety Commission will go to address that.