

LAW AND ORDER AGENDA — LIBERAL–NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

1031. MR N.W. MORTON to the Minister for Police:

I note that the Misuse of Drugs Amendment (Psychoactive Substances) Act 2015 came into effect last week, banning the sale, supply and manufacture of psychoactive substances. Can the minister please advise what impact these new laws have had to date and also inform the house what other initiatives the Liberal–National government has implemented during 2015 to protect the community and counter crime and antisocial behaviour?

Mr J.R. Quigley: How about the crime wave? You didn't ask about the crime wave.

The SPEAKER: Member for Butler, put your name down if you want to ask about the crime rate. I call you to order for the first time.

Mr J.R. Quigley: Sorry, Mr Speaker; it was crime wave, not crime rate.

The SPEAKER: Thank you for that correction!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

Now that we have been entertained as usual by the member for Butler, I would like to thank the member for Forrestfield for his important question on a very serious matter in this community. In fact, psychoactive substances were touted by the opposition to be the single biggest issue facing the state at one point. I believe the Leader of the Opposition had something to say about it. The legislation came into effect in Western Australia on 18 November. Once again opposition members do not want to hear about the good work of our police officers. All they want to do is interject and hear their own voices. I want to inform the house of the successes of our police officers over the weekend. Over the weekend, police seized about 600 packages of substances that they believed to be psychoactive substances, member for Forrestfield.

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As a result, we expect that some people will be brought before the courts under our new legislation, and they will face penalties of up to \$48 000 or up to four years in prison. Police will continue to keep the pressure on these retail premises in our communities that we are all opposed to by using the Misuse of Drugs Amendment (Psychoactive Substances) Act 2015 to get psychoactive substances off our streets and out of the hands of vulnerable people and children in our community. I am very proud of our police officers' efforts over the weekend and I am very pleased to see them taking such a proactive stance.

This tops a large number of this government's election commitments achieved since the 2013 election. We have passed the home burglary legislation—three strikes and people are in now. If people in this state break into three homes, they will go to jail. The violent home invader laws, with mandatory penalties for violent invaders, have been achieved. On the graffiti election commitment, \$5 million worth of grants have been announced.

Mr J.R. Quigley interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Butler, you have now shouted this out about half a dozen times. I want you to come back to the psychoactive substances, minister.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The member for Forrestfield asked about other achievements of the government in the law and order space. The graffiti grants program has been announced.

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

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

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Legislation is currently before the Legislative Council, bringing all our graffiti legislation into one instrument. Graffiti offences are down from 16 025 in 2008 to 1 933 in 2014–15. We have extended the terrorism legislation so that police officers can act appropriately in the event of an incidence of terrorism in this state. We have a methamphetamine enforcement plan in place. We have allocated \$116 million to infrastructure commitments. The Cockburn Central Police Station is under construction, and we are in the process of awarding the contracts for the Ballajura and Mundijong police stations.

Mr J.R. Quigley interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Butler, I call you to order for the second time. Right, minister, wind it up please.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: This week I opened the refurbished Mirrabooka Police Station, which tops off —

Ms M.M. Quirk: Thanks for the invite!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The member for Midland was there. The opening of this police station tops off the north west metropolitan upgrade program, which included upgrades to Warwick, Scarborough and Morley Police Stations. The government has been in action, and has achieved nearly all its 2013 election commitments. As a result of the actions of this government, we are now seeing psychoactive substances being taken off our streets and out of the hands of vulnerable people. I am proud of our achievements, and I am pleased to have the support of the member for Forrestfield and other fine members in this matter.

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I call you to order for the second time.