

POLICE — CRIME RATES — INCREASE

585. Mr R.F. JOHNSON to the Minister for Police:

Last weekend we saw the tragic stabbing of a 75-year-old grandfather in the Sorrento marina carpark, followed by an innocent tradesperson being viciously attacked outside his Sorrento home and having his head stamped on. On Tuesday, there was the attempted abduction of three young boys by a predator in Hillarys. With recent figures showing crime spiralling out of control in the suburbs, including an unacceptable increase of 37 per cent in the suburb of Kallaroo alone, why has the government neglected the electorate of Hillarys; and will the minister ensure there are adequate police officers to deal with this increase in crime and the safety of visitors to such a vital tourist facility?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

I think the member is working for our side. This sounds like a dorothy dixer to me.

The member for Hillarys has raised some very serious issues with respect to a number of incidents that appear to be linked, but those matters are currently before the court. Some of them are still being investigated by police so I will not go into specific issues. We have a very interesting story to tell about crime because I have recently to hand the 10-year trends for crime statistics, including the 2015–16 crime statistics corrected for population. Obviously, as the population increases, certain areas of crime increase, but the proportionate —

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

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

Point of Order

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: My question was very specific. It was about crime spiralling out of control in my electorate, and in particular the 37 per cent increase in Kallaroo. I would like the minister to address that and not to talk a lot of baloney about the last 10 years.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: When we look at some of the crime figures over the last 10 years, we see that in 2005–06 there were 103 dwelling burglary offences per 100 000 of population. Last year, 1 094 offences were committed. Home burglary offences across the state are down by 16 per cent over 10 years.

Several members interjected.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I know that members opposite do not like it. They do not want to hear about it, but we have been in government for eight of the last 10 years and we have seen a 16 per cent decrease—when we correct for population—in home-dwelling burglaries.

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro! I have some good news and some bad news for you. The good news is that I said you were on three calls; you are only on two. Now you are on three. If you shout out again, you are having a rest.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: A non-dwelling burglary is a break-in of a place other than where people reside. That figure is down 40 per cent on the 10-year average. Property damage offences are down by 27 per cent.

Point of Order

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker, the minister is not taking any direction from you. The question was specifically about the increase by 37 per cent of crime in Kallaroo and the electorate of Hillarys. It has nothing to do with the hyperbole she is coming out with now.

The SPEAKER: Minister, you are talking about general crime trends. If you cannot address this Kallaroo question, you might want to take it on notice, but I do not know how else you can address it.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I was coming to that. I am actually quite flattered that the member for Hillarys would think I know precisely the increases in every aspect of crime, every area of reported verifiable crime, for every suburb in the state. That is a great compliment to me from the member for Hillarys, but if he wants to know the specifics about Kallaroo, can he please put the question on notice and I will provide him with the information.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: In that answer the minister just gave, she said she had some interesting figures to hand and she held an official document in her hand and quoted from it. I call upon her to table that document.

Mrs L.M. Harvey: That is my document. Is that official?

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Swan! I call you now to order for the fourth time! If you want to have a rest —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: That is the only document, the minister's handwritten notes. That is not an official document. Member for West Swan, please relax.