

SUSPECTED SUICIDE DEATHS — STATISTICS

668. Hon STEPHEN DAWSON to the Attorney General:

I refer to suspected deaths by suicide in Western Australia.

- (1) How many suspected deaths by suicide occurred in the 2013 calendar year?
- (2) How many of the suspected deaths by suicide were of young people 18 years of age and under?
- (3) How many staff in the Office of the State Coroner were, or are responsible for, investigating suspected deaths by suicide in the periods 2011–12, 2012–13 and 2013–14?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I provide the following answer on behalf of the Attorney General.

- (1) There were 354—263 open cases are awaiting a final determination by the coroner.
- (2) There were 63—42 open cases are awaiting a final determination by the coroner.
- (3) The Office of the State Coroner had a total of 27 FTEs, inclusive of four coroners, from 2011 to 2014. The Coroner's Court does not investigate suspected deaths by suicide. WA Police investigate all deaths reported to the coroner's office, including suspected suicide cases, on behalf of the coroner.