

POLICE — ROAD TRAFFIC LEGISLATION

491. Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

I ask a supplementary question. Last year the government committed as a priority to making laws for novice drivers, as I mentioned in my question. That would save the lives of young people aged between 17 and 24 years. Why has the minister not made that a priority?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

With respect to the novice driver laws, I have sent some of those recommendations from the Office of Road Safety back for further consultation because I have not been satisfied —

Mrs M.H. Roberts: After three years! Your government committed to it. They were announced by press release in April.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: With respect, I was sworn in as minister on 29 June. One of the first things I did was send the novice driver policy back to the Office of Road Safety because I wanted to determine that the statistical basis forming those recommendations was sound and that it would stand the scrutiny of Parliament. I will do that with every piece of legislation —

Mrs M.H. Roberts: I think the former police minister would have brought them in this session. He took road safety seriously.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, I formally call you to order for the first time today. Treasurer, I do not expect you to be speaking across the corridor in this place. I think you understand me.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: In closing, I will give a guarantee to this house that any legislation or changed regulation that I bring forward will have gone through a consultation process with stakeholders, it will have a sound basis to it and it will be legislation that will pass the scrutiny of this Parliament.