

METHAMPHETAMINE ENFORCEMENT ACTION PLAN

698. Mr P. ABETZ to the Minister for Police:

Before I ask my question, I acknowledge the student leaders and Mr Sherlock from Wattle Grove Primary School in the member for Forrestfield's electorate, who I understand are in the gallery.

In August, the minister informed this house how the state government and WA Police were tackling the supply of methamphetamine under the methamphetamine enforcement action plan. Could the minister advise the house whether those actions are achieving results?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

I thank the member for Southern River for the question. Before I furnish the house with my answer, I will firstly acknowledge, on behalf of the member for Ocean Reef, the student councillors from Mindarie Primary School in the gallery.

We have been really pleased with the methamphetamine enforcement action plan. I talked to the house earlier this year about the actions that WA Police is undertaking to ensure that we can target the distribution and transportation of methamphetamine throughout our community.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The methamphetamine enforcement plan involves the development of methamphetamine transport teams to target supply routes, dedicated methamphetamine teams within the organised crime squad to target the dealers in metropolitan Perth and in regional Western Australia, the methamphetamine desk within WA Police to gather intelligence to support these meth teams and, importantly, greater cooperation, member for Girrawheen, between the WA Police organised crime division and our —

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen, you are not obliged to make comment on everything all the time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As I was saying, this involves greater collaboration—in fact, the best collaborative effort that we have seen in many years—between WA Police and our federal law enforcement agencies: the Australian Crime Commission, the Australian Federal Police, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre. The opposition says we have done nothing, but within the first four months of the establishment of our joint organised crime task force, we had taken 20 kilograms of methamphetamine off the streets.

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

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

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: In the first four months, we took 20 kilograms of methamphetamine off the streets. I am very, very pleased to inform the house that as a result of the work —

Mr M.P. Murray interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Collie–Preston, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr M.P. Murray interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Collie–Preston, I call you to order for the second time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I thought that members in the house might be interested to know that WA Police, in conjunction with the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Federal Police, seized 320 kilograms of methamphetamine this week—320 kilograms.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, I call you to order for the first time, and member for Albany for the first time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: What absolutely appalling behaviour by the opposition. There were 320 kilograms of methamphetamine and the opposition does not even have the courtesy to acknowledge the effort of our law enforcement agencies.

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

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

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am really proud of the efforts of our law enforcement people. I am here in the Parliament speaking with great pride and congratulating them on the effort they have put in to take 320 kilograms of methamphetamine out of circulation.

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: That is 3.2 million hits that methamphetamine users will no longer have in the community of Western Australia. There was \$1.5 million in cash seized.

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Albany!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Four people have been remanded in custody, pending charges, for the sale and supply of methamphetamine. The investigation is ongoing. There is a collaborative effort between WA law enforcement, our federal law enforcement officers and, indeed, our international partners in trying to crack organised crime and the international crime rings that peddle methamphetamine to the desperate people in our community and allow them to wreak havoc on the law and order and the community amenity of metropolitan Perth. I am really proud of the effort that has gone into this joint organised task force. I am very, very pleased with the result. I am extremely proud of the work of our law enforcement officers in taking 320 kilograms of methamphetamine off our streets. Members on the other side of the house can talk as much as they want; we have taken action and we are delivering the goods. We will bring order back into the methamphetamine community in Western Australia and ensure that we start to break the back of its grip on desperate people in our community.