

DIGNITARY PROTECTION UNIT — SCARBOROUGH BEACH — PROTESTER

215. Hon JIM CHOWN to the Leader of the House representing the Premier:

I refer to the answer given by Hon Sue Ellery to my previous parliamentary question without notice 159, asked on Tuesday, 27 March 2018. I quote the answer she gave —

A lone-person protester was observed at the opening. It was the decision of the attending DPU personnel to approach and speak with this person.

The role of dignitary protection unit personnel is to protect dignitaries, not to be utilised for political purposes and, as such, an exercise is not part of WA Police Force operational procedures. I ask again why the Premier's dignitary protection unit was utilised as a political instrument to block a peaceful protester's banner?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

No comment will be provided on operational matters surrounding dignitary protection unit clients. I can advise that DPU procedures remain the same as they were for the previous government.