

POLICE — STAFFING — ELECTION COMMITMENTS

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

I have a supplementary question. Minister, it is here in black and white in the “Report on Government Services”. The minister has failed in recruiting 700 extra police staff: why does she continue to mislead this house and why will she not just fess up and apologise?

Opposition members: Hear, hear!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

The member is being deliberately mischievous in the way she is presenting this information. She is talking collectively about police officers and police public servants. Police, as I have said previously, is engaged in a reform program. We are reviewing every aspect of policing, and we are determining whether —

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

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

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We are determining the level of service that police are going to be providing to the community. We are looking at what every public servant does in WA Police and ensuring that their work is relevant to supporting frontline service delivery, responding to calls for assistance from the community and delivering a topnotch, first-class police service in Western Australia. That is what we are committed to doing, and we will continue to do it in the context of growing our police numbers. What the member for Midland does not tell people in this place is that the opposition’s commitment was for 500 police auxiliary officers. We said 550, and we are achieving it.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Is the minister prepared to accept a copy of the Liberal Party policy and examine it, because she said she is not aware of it?

Several members interjected.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Why does the minister not have a look at it?

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, you know that is not a point of order, and if you make these spurious points of order, I will call you.