

POLICE — CHILD PROTECTION

1299. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Education:

I refer to an article on WAtoday titled “‘Incredibly distressing’: Police, education department failed to stop man offending in schools”, which questions how a contractor who had pleaded guilty to a string of offences that included taking indecent photos of children in 36 primary and secondary schools across Perth was allowed to continue offending despite a complaint being made and police involvement.

- (1) On what date did the Department of Education first learn of police investigations into this man?
- (2) On what date did the department inform the working with children screening unit?
- (3) On what date was the man removed from schools?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) It was 14 November 2019.
- (2) The Department of Education did not inform the working with children screening unit. As the honourable member was previously advised, as the responsible agency, the Western Australia Police Force notified the working with children unit on 15 April 2020.
- (3) The individual was removed from schools in November 2019 when the department became aware of the police investigation.