

SUICIDE RATES

220. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the article in *The West Australian* titled “Coroner reveals toll of suicide”, in which the coroner reveals the rate of suicide for 2010 as 290 verdicts.

- (1) What is the rate of suicide for the years 2008 and 2009?
- (2) How many open verdicts have there been for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010?
- (3) How many verdicts of suicide have there been for the first three months of 2011?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

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

- (1) In 2008, there were 247; and in 2009, 214.
- (2) In 2008, there were 70; in 2009, 48; and in 2010, 73.
- (3) In 2011, there were 71.

These figures, particularly those for 2011, are provisional and subject to final determination as suicides by the coroner. The 290 verdicts of suicide referred to, as reported by *The West Australian*, is incorrect. The correct figure quoted by the coroner is, in fact, 260.