

CONSTABLE MATT BUTCHER — EX GRATIA PAYMENT

Hon SUE ELLERY to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the Western Australian Police Union's submission for an ex gratia payment for Constable Matthew Butcher.

- (1) When will the Attorney General make a decision about this matter and when will that decision be made public?
- (2) Does the Attorney General agree that Constable Butcher should be fully compensated?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Attorney General received an application for an ex gratia payment from Constable Matthew Butcher's lawyers on 6 September 2010. The Attorney General has sought and will await the advice of State Counsel on the merits of the application before forming a view about an ex gratia payment. Ultimately any decision to award an ex gratia payment to Constable Butcher will be made collectively by cabinet. The decision will not be made public before Constable Butcher's lawyers have been informed of the outcome of their client's application.
- (2) Constable Butcher should be compensated to the appropriate extent allowable by the law and by the precedents and practice surrounding the awarding of ex gratia payments.