

POLICE, DNA SAMPLES, PROCESSING TIME

3064. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

I refer the Minister to the answers questions on notice Nos 2343 and 2720 and ask -

- (a) what is the average time taken to process DNA samples taken following an assault, from time of collection to time of processing and identification;
- (b) what is the average time taken to process DNA samples taken following a serious assault, from time of collection to time of processing and identification;
- (c) what is the average time taken to process DNA samples taken following a murder, from time of collection to time of processing and identification; and
- (d) what is the average time taken to process DNA samples taken following a discovery of drugs, from time of collection to time of processing and identification?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS replied:

- (a)-(d) The Police Service advise that Question 2343 related to DNA samples collected from a defined group of persons and this information could be readily extracted. Crime scene exhibits such as those from assault offences are recorded on the Frontline Incident Management System (IMS) or Property Tracing System. The functionality to extract the type of data sought in the question is being incorporated into the next major enhancement to Frontline (IMS) which is scheduled to be rolled out early next year. Importantly, since the inception of the DNA database in July 2002 there have been 31 DNA database matches to assault offences and 40 DNA database matches to sexual offences.