

POLICE — OFFICER NUMBERS; ABORIGINALITY

911. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Police:

- (1) As at 1 October 2011, how many fully sworn police officers are there in WA Police and how many are Aboriginal?
- (2) As at 1 October 2011, how many auxiliary police officers are there in WA police and how many are Aboriginal?
- (3) As at 1 October 2011, how many Aboriginal police liaison officers are there?
- (4) How many Aboriginal police liaison officers were there as at 1 October 2005 and as at 1 October 2008?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

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

- (1) There are 5 629 fully sworn police officers—recruit to commander—and 109 of these officers are voluntarily identified as Indigenous Australians.
- (2) There are 131 auxiliary police officers. One of these officers has voluntarily identified as an Indigenous Australian.
- (3) There are 16 Aboriginal police liaison officers.
- (4) At 1 October 2005, there were 126 Aboriginal police liaison officers. At 1 October 2008, there were 30 Aboriginal police liaison officers. The reduction in the number of Aboriginal liaison officers was due to a program of transition that progressively moved these officers to fully sworn police officer roles.