

IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTRES — STATELESS DETAINEES — RELEASE

**1420. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Police:**

I refer to the High Court’s decision that indefinite detention of asylum seekers is unlawful and the consequential release of more than eighty persons, some with serious criminal convictions, and remarks by the commonwealth Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Andrew Giles, MP, to the effect that the Australian Federal Police and state police had been “working closely” in anticipation of this decision and that a joint operation had been established to manage it.

- (1) When did the commonwealth government, be it through the AFP or otherwise, first contact Western Australian agencies including WAPOL in relation to this matter?
- (2) What support, if any, has been provided by the commonwealth to assist WAPOL to manage this situation?
- (3) How many asylum seekers have been released from Western Australian detention centres and how many have been convicted of serious violent offences?
- (4) Are the whereabouts of this cohort known to WAPOL?
- (5) How will the state government manage community safety in light of this situation?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Police. The Western Australia Police Force advises the following.

- (1)–(5) Notification was provided on 8 November 2023. The Australian Federal Police and Australian Border Force are working collaboratively with Western Australia Police Force. As of 13 November 2023, 33 individuals have been released from detention centres based in Western Australia, with seven reportable offenders subject to interview prior to release. The reportable offenders are subject to ongoing conditions and monitoring.