

COUNTRY POLICE STATIONS — REOPENING

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

I refer to the government's pre-election promise of an additional \$6 million this year to reopen the six country police stations that were closed in 2007.

- (1) Have any of those police stations been reopened?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) Does the Premier's recent decision to use Treasury officials to help facilitate the response by Western Australia Police to the three per cent cuts now formally remove any operational role the police commissioner has in determining the statewide allocation of resources?
- (4) Will Treasury officials now be involved in determining the capacity for small rural communities to maintain their police stations?

**Hon PETER COLLIER replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Police I provide the following response —

- (1) No.
- (2) Wickiepin, Dumbleyung and Cranbrook Police Stations had been identified to reopen. Western Australia Police is currently working to re-establish the police stations together with other aspects of operating a country police station, including housing. It is anticipated that the police stations will be reopened this year.
- (3)-(4) No.