

POLICE OFFICERS - RECRUITMENT FROM OVERSEAS

830. Ms K. Hodson-Thomas to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

I refer to concerns raised with me by constituents about Government's plans to recruit police officers from overseas. Can the Minister please advise -

- (1) How many police officers does the Government plan to recruit from overseas?
- (2) What, if any, costs will the Government undertake to re-locate these individuals and their families to Western Australia?
- (3) What will be the cost of training or re-training these individuals?
- (4) What commitment will the individuals be required to make to the State in terms of an employment contract?
- (5) What penalties will apply if this contract is broken?
- (6) After the contract period is up, will the State regain any of re-location or training costs from these individuals should they choose to return to their country of origin or leave the police force?
- (7) Will these recruits be required to undertake a period of service in regional Western Australia within their contract period?
 - (a) If not, why not?
- (8) What effect will the employment of these overseas police have on the promotional prospects for current members of the police force?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO replied:

The Western Australia Police advise as follows:

- 1) A maximum of 210 by October 2007.
- 2) None
- 3) Officers recruited from other jurisdictions enter into a 12 week training program which varies in content depending on the experience and qualification they already possess. A recruit normally receives a 27 week training program. These officers cost significantly less to train although the specific cost will vary.
- 4) The overseas recruits enter into the same terms and conditions as any other recruit.
- 5) Any recruit may leave the Western Australia Police upon provision of advice giving notice of intention to depart after 28 days.
- 6) No. This is the case for all recruits.
- 7) There is a requirement for all recruits to undertake country service at some time in their career.
 - a) Not applicable.
- 8) None.