

POLICE — DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

2542. Dr A.D. Buti to the Minister for Police:

I refer to the Minister's answer to my Question on Notice (No. 2240) where you confirmed that from 16 December 2013, state-wide reporting requirements for incidents involving persons in a family and domestic relationship were amended. Can the Minister please provide the following:

- (a) monthly figures from January 2013 to December 2013 for each Metropolitan and Regional Police District for the following:
 - (i) domestic violence incidents as recorded during that period;
 - (ii) domestic violence incidents minus the incidents that from 16 December 2013 are no longer included in the reporting of domestic violence incidents; and
 - (iii) each of the incident categories or types that, from 16 December 2013, are no longer included in the reporting of domestic violence incidents; and
- (b) monthly figures from January 2014 to year-to-date for each Metropolitan and Regional Police District for the following:
 - (i) domestic violence incidents as recorded during that period;
 - (ii) all incidents that from 16 December 2013 are no longer included in the reporting of domestic violence incidents; and
 - (iii) each of the incident categories or types that from 16 December 2013 are no longer included in the reporting of domestic violence incidents?

Mrs L.M. Harvey replied:

- (a) (i) [See tabled paper no 1799.]
- (ii)–(iii) Prior to 16 December 2013, both incidents considered not at the core of family and domestic violence (FDV), such as assaults between adult siblings, and incidents occurring between intimate partners or between immediate family members were flagged as a “Family and Domestic Relationship” incident in the Western Australia Police Incident Management System (IMS).

From 16 December 2013, only incidents occurring between intimate partners or between immediate family members are flagged as a “Family and Domestic Relationship” incident in IMS. Family and Domestic Violence incidents are reported as including incidents where the Family and Domestic Relationship is flagged, and there is an offence Against the Person.

Accordingly, from the 16 December 2013 onwards, the only incidents excluded from FDV statistics are incidents not considered at the core of FDV (e.g. assaults between adult siblings). There is no provision in IMS to distinguish between Family and Domestic Relationship flagged incidents involving adult siblings from incidents involving intimate partners, therefore the number of incidents that, from 16 December 2013, are no longer included in FDV statistics cannot be reported.

Where an incident has occurred in a police defined family relationship, which does not constitute an ‘act of family and domestic violence’ and where no safety concerns, risks or behavioural factors have been identified, a general Incident Report or a Domestic Violence Incident Report (DVIR) is not necessary, however, information must be recorded on CAD as a ‘General Family Relationship Incident’.

Notes:

1. ‘Intimate partner’ means two persons who are or have been in a relationship with each other which has some degree of stability and continuity. It must reasonably be supposed to have, or have had a sexual aspect to the relationship. The partners do not have to be living together on a full time continuing basis and need not ever have done so.

2. ‘Immediate family member’ means two persons who are related whether directly, in-laws or step family:

Parent;

Grandparent;

One of the persons involved is a child who ordinarily resides, resided or regularly stays with the other person;

Guardian of an involved child.

3. Offences Against the Person includes Homicide, Historical Sexual Assault, Recent Sexual Assault, Domestic Assault, Deprivation of Liberty, Robbery (Business), Robbery (Non-Business), and Threatening Behaviour.

- (b) (i) [See tabled paper no 1799.]
- (ii)–(iii) See (a)(iii).