

Ms Rita Saffioti; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Mark McGowan; Speaker; Mr John Day; Acting Speaker; Ms Alannah MacTiernan; Dr Kim Hames; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr David Templeman; Mr Michael Sutherland; Mr John McGrath

BALLAJURA POLICE STATION

Grievance

MS R. SAFFIOTI (West Swan) [9.38 am]: My grievance is to the Premier and it is about the Ballajura Police Station. My grievance is directed to the Premier for three main reasons. First, the closure of the Ballajura Police Station is a major issue that will affect not only Ballajura, but also the entire north-east corridor. Should the Ballajura Police Station close, it would impact significantly on the Ballajura community and communities in the surrounding suburbs. Secondly, as some members may be aware, I have grieved on this issue previously in this place, and the Minister for Police stood and provided no answers. He failed to even get any notes on that issue for that day, and spent seven minutes not being very parliamentary; that is what I would like to say. On that day, I believe he insulted not only me, but also the people of Ballajura, because he did not take the issue seriously enough to actually prepare some notes, ask the right questions and come into this place with an appropriate answer to what is a significant issue. Thirdly, the grievance is to the Premier because of some comments that I understand the Premier made about the Ballajura Police Station. That is the key reason why the grievance is to the Premier, and that is why I would have liked him to be here in the chamber today. As members will recall, I raised this issue in Parliament. Subsequent to raising the issue of the Ballajura Police Station in Parliament, there has been a lot of debate and a lot of discussion in the Ballajura community.

As I understand, a function or a meeting was held, which the member for Swan Hills attended. At that function or meeting, the Premier was asked the question: what is the future of the Ballajura Police Station? As I understand, and as many people have reported back to me, the Premier gave some sort of guarantee; or the impression of the people who heard that comment was that some sort of guarantee had been given about the future of the Ballajura Police Station. I think some of the comments that are alleged to have been made are that Ballajura would remain as a fully functioning station, or that there would continue to be a permanent police presence in Ballajura. Therefore, the Premier gave some sort of commitment.

The reason I raise this issue is that a number of people, from leading members of the community to councillors to people involved in a number of areas in the Ballajura community, have approached me to clarify the future of the Ballajura Police Station. That is why I have come into this Parliament today to try to seek some clarification. I have sought to ask questions of the Minister for Police and, as I have said, I have grieved to the Minister for Police. However, we really do not have any clear indication from him. Given that people in my electorate are coming to me, asking me to clarify the situation with the Ballajura Police Station and what the Premier said, I believe that I have a duty, as the member representing the area, to come into this place and seek clarification. Was some sort of guarantee given by the Premier on that day? The member for Swan Hills was there. I saw him discussing this issue with the Minister for Police just now, so maybe he can help us.

Mr R.F. Johnson: I just wanted to check with the member for Swan Hills that it was his electorate; that is all.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members. This is a grievance from the member for West Swan.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The key reason for raising my grievance is to have the Premier clarify those comments. What is the future of the Ballajura Police Station; were the guarantees given by the Premier on that day to certain community leaders; and what is going to happen now?

I will go through the history again. The Ballajura Police Station is currently located in leased premises in the Ballajura shopping centre. It is a vital part of the community. There was a huge battle in the first place to have that police station located there. Everyone comes up to me and says, "We had such a battle to get a police station in Ballajura." People wanted a police station in Ballajura. It is the one issue, as I understand, that got the people of Ballajura passionate about politics. They wanted a police station in Ballajura. The police station provides a significant local police presence. It makes people feel safer. People in the community are much more assured knowing the local police station is there, seeing the police cars being driven down the road and seeing the local police officers in their shopping centres. The local police officers have a deep understanding of the law and order issues in Ballajura. As I said last time, I was impressed by the depth of knowledge of the local police officers of the key law and order issues in the community. The local police are very active, and they are very involved in the community with groups such as the Ballajura youth club.

As I said before, Ballajura is a huge suburb. Malaga is a growing industrial and employment hub, with offices opening every day and businesses moving to Malaga every day. It is a growing area of need. As I said, the removal of Ballajura Police Station will impact on not only Ballajura, but also all the suburbs surrounding

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Ballajura. If that police presence is taken away, there will probably be more pressure, member for Nollamara, on the Mirrabooka Police Station. There will probably be more pressure, member for Swan Hills, on the Ellenbrook Police Station. The member for Midland is not in the chamber, but there will be more pressure on the Kiara Police Station, and, member for Maylands, on the Maylands Police Station. The member for Morley is not in the chamber, but there will also be more pressure on the Morley Police Station. It will impact on the entire north east corridor. Therefore, it is an important issue for everyone.

As I said before, it was a key priority to have a new Ballajura Police Station. That was in the police strategic accommodation plan 2008-2023. As I understand from questions and answers in Parliament, that is no longer a priority. Therefore, there is no plan to build a new police station. The lease on the current premises will expire in September. The police minister has provided no clarification and given no guarantee about the current police station's future. Some comments were reported back to me about what the Premier said on the future of the police station. As I said, the whole issue for me today is to get clarification from the Premier and from the government in its entirety about what priority they place on Ballajura and on keeping a police station in the Ballajura community. That is the whole basis of my grievance today. As I said, I think the people of Ballajura deserve a police station; they deserve to have a permanent police presence in their community.

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys — Minister for Police) [9.45 am]: I have been deputed to respond to the grievance from the member for —

Point of Order

Mr M. McGOWAN: I raise a point of order on the basis that the member for West Swan was quite clear that she was grieving to the Premier about a matter that the Premier had raised in her electorate. The reason she grieved to the Premier was that the issue was about comments that the Premier made, and only he can know what he said. It is impossible for someone else who was not at a particular meeting to be able to answer questions about that subject. I draw the Speaker's attention to standing order 146, which states —

A Minister or a member deputed will have the right to reply to each of the grievances.

The minister to whom the member for West Swan was grieving was the Premier. Any member deputed is ordinarily a parliamentary secretary, or ordinarily the parliamentary secretary to a minister in the upper house to whom the minister in the upper house can defer. I note that the member for Nedlands has answered a grievance on the basis that he is the parliamentary secretary to a minister in the upper house. In my view, it is not open to the Premier, as the minister being grieved to, to depute a matter to a member who is not a parliamentary secretary, because that is not the past practice and convention of this house. Indeed, I had a preliminary look at this matter. Past practice shows that Premiers often accepted grievances—in fact, always accepted grievances—from members on issues of concern in Western Australia, because Premiers are responsible for every single portfolio and every single issue that arises in this house and should be able to answer questions about them. I submit that it is not open to this minister to answer this grievance, and the Premier should, if he is not too cowardly, come into this chamber and answer the grievance that has been put to him by the member for West Swan.

The SPEAKER: I am certainly familiar with standing order 146, and obviously the member has done his homework on it. However, I draw his attention to the last sentence in standing order 146, which states —

A Minister or a member deputed will have the right to reply to each of the grievances.

I do not have any knowledge of what has happened with respect to this grievance. In this instance, I am going to take the word of the Minister for Police that he has been deputed by the Premier to respond to this grievance, and I ask him to do so.

Debate Resumed

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker, I give an assurance to you and the house that your comments are absolutely right. I have been deputed by the Premier to respond to this grievance. The grievance was about some comments that the Premier is supposed to have made at a meeting, which I understand the member for West Swan did not attend. Obviously, the Premier would want the Minister for Police, who is in the same chamber as he is, to respond to this sort of grievance. That basically answers that particular —

Mr M. McGowan: He is too cowardly to face the member for West Swan.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That is a disgraceful comment by the manager of opposition business. I can quite clearly remember that Hon Geoff Gallop and Hon Alan Carpenter hardly ever responded to a grievance in this house.

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Ms R. Saffioti: Are you sure about that?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Yes—hardly ever.

Opposition members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! There may be some other issues members want to discuss, but I have heard the member for West Swan present a grievance and I am interested to hear the response to that grievance. I do not want to hear other conversations about what other people might have done at other times.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am very happy to respond to the member for West Swan. I acknowledge the member's concern for her constituents regarding the police presence in Ballajura and the surrounding areas. It concerns not just Ballajura; the member's electorate takes in a larger area than that. I accept and acknowledge her commitment to ensure that there is a proper police presence. I inform the member that I was not at the meeting that she referred to and I am not aware of the comments that she said the Premier made about Ballajura Police Station. Since the member first brought the original grievance to me, I have had ongoing meetings with the Commissioner of Police and I have visited Ballajura Police Station. I am sure that the member is aware that I visited the police station because the people she knows there would have told her that I was there, just as they told me that she had been there. The member did not follow the normal protocol and ask through my office to seek my agreement to go to the police station.

Ms R. Saffioti: Are you saying that I have to seek your agreement every time I talk to a police officer?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, but the member would need to do that to go to a police establishment because that is what the former government made us do every time. We had to go cap in hand to Labor Party ministers to ask to go to a police station.

Ms R. Saffioti: That is not true.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: It is absolutely true.

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! This is a grievance; it is not anything else. I do not mind if the member for West Swan interjects on the Minister for Police, but other members who raise issues that are not relevant to this grievance will be called to order. I want to hear the minister's response to the member for West Swan on the issue raised by her in the grievance, not other issues.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker, I am very happy to do that and it certainly is my intention to do that.

As the member is aware, I have been to the police station in Ballajura. She would agree with me that the station is not up to the proper standard that a police station should be. It is well run-down. I do not believe that it is an appropriate building because it is part of a secondary shopping centre. Sometimes the police officers have difficulty carrying out their duties in a way that is appropriate for what they have to do. The member has seen the holding cell, which is part of the open-plan office. That is all they have; they do not have a proper area for a holding cell and they do not have any other cells there either, as the member is aware. The car park is at the back of the station and could be accessed by almost anybody. The police can be blocked in. That is not good for policing in Ballajura. If the member is concerned for the police officers and the way in which they are able to carry out their duties, she should agree with me. I am not happy with either the condition of the police station or the working conditions of the police officers in Ballajura Police Station. It is run-down. That station was opened in 1999 by Hon Kevin Prince when he was the police minister. I am pretty sure about that because I saw a plaque on the wall there. It is now 10 years later. Unfortunately, it is not a purpose-built police station; it is an ad hoc police station that is contained within a shopping centre. I believe that the most important aspect of policing in Ballajura and the surrounds, including Malaga, which is a very important commercial and industrial area now, is to have a proper police presence in that area—absolutely, 100 per cent. I can guarantee that I and the Premier would almost insist that there be a proper policing presence in that area, just like any other important suburb or town in Western Australia. I know that. I was not aware of the comments that the member for West Swan has alluded to today until she raised them today.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Mandurah!

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Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The Premier has decided to depute this to me, as the Minister for Police. I am the appropriate minister to ask.

Mr D.A. Templeman: It is about his comments, not yours.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: His alleged comments.

The SPEAKER: I think that my instructions earlier were pretty clear. I want to hear the minister's comments on the grievance about the Ballajura Police Station that the member for West Swan has raised. There will be other opportunities in this place to raise other issues.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I have spoken with the Premier about Ballajura Police Station and the police presence in that area, and the Premier has told me quite categorically that he wants to ensure that there is an adequate and proper police presence in that area. That is the only conversation that there has been between the Premier and me about Ballajura Police Station. I have not heard anything from the Premier about the other comments that the member has alluded to. That is the truth; I have not. I am answering this grievance and am doing so in good faith and in a way that I hope is not confrontational.

Ms R. Saffioti: Has no-one in Ballajura or Malaga raised with you those comments made by the Premier?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: No, they have not.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: They haven't written to you? Are you sure of that?

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: They have not spoken to me. The member for Armadale was a minister and would have received hundreds, if not thousands, of letters.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: Did you get someone to do a search in preparation for this?

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That is not what the grievance was about to start with; it was about the Premier and the comments that he made.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: So there has been no research done.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: It is a bit difficult at one o'clock in the morning to do research when I heard only late yesterday what the grievance was about.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Rubbish.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: When I asked the member what the comments were, she refused to tell me what the comments were. If she had told me, I could have done some research.

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham) [9.57 am] — without notice: I move —

That so much of standing orders be suspended as is necessary to debate the following motion —

That this house censures the Premier for his arrogant refusal to answer the grievance of the member for West Swan and his lack of commitment to accountability to the Parliament and people of Western Australia.

The reason I raise this motion in this way on this occasion is right before us. The member for West Swan has raised an important issue to thousands of her constituents about comments that the Premier made guaranteeing a police station in her electorate. The Premier has refused to come into the chamber to answer the questions that she raised. The grievance was quite specific. It related to comments that the Premier made to people in that constituency; not comments any other member in the house has made, but comments that the Premier made to people in the member for West Swan's electorate. The Premier has, in a cowardly fashion, refused to come into the chamber and answer a grievance by a member of this house, who was duly elected by tens of thousands of people in her constituency; he has refused to answer the important questions that her constituents have raised with her.

We have seen the Minister for Police's complete incapacity to answer those questions because he was not there when the Premier made the statements. Of course the member for West Swan grieved to the Premier. The Minister for Police cannot answer the questions because he was not present when the Premier made the statements. That is why she has grieved to the Premier. However, the Premier, despite having been given notice

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of the grievance yesterday afternoon, has refused to come into this house and provide advice and information to the Parliament, the people of Ballajura and the people of Western Australia about what he said on that occasion. This is par for the course. This is a continuation of his approach to these important issues of accountability and responsibility to the Parliament. It is the highest responsibility of a Premier of the state to be accountable to the Parliament and to the people of Western Australia. All members were elected by the people of Western Australia, and the leader of the state's responsibility is to answer the questions that are put to him in this Parliament and to provide advice to the people of Western Australia about the government's policies and the utterances that come from the Premier's mouth when he talks to the citizens of this state. That is the Premier's highest responsibility. He refuses to come into this Parliament and provide that advice to members when they grieve to him.

I heard the commentary from the Leader of the House, the Minister for Police. In response, he said, "Premiers don't do that. Premiers don't answer grievances. That is not what they do. Labor Premiers didn't do it. Why should we do it?" In the short time since we have noted that the Premier has, in his gutless and cowardly fashion, refused to come into this house —

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr J.H.D. DAY: Mr Acting Speaker, the member knows that those words are completely unparliamentary. I ask that you direct him to withdraw.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr P.B. Watson): I ask the member to please withdraw.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I withdraw, Mr Acting Speaker, but I note that the Premier uses those phrases all the time.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member, please withdraw without any comment.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I withdraw.

Debate Resumed

Mr M. McGOWAN: In the short time that we have had since learning of the Premier's refusal to answer the questions of a young female member of Parliament, we looked at the record and took a small snapshot. In 2004, guess who former Premier Hon Geoff Gallop took grievances from on issues that we could absolutely say were not within his specific portfolio areas? He took grievances from the current Leader of the National Party on mental health funding; a former Leader of the Liberal Party, Matt Birney, on electoral reform; a former Leader of the National Party, Max Trenorden, on regional development commissions; and the former member for Nedlands on the issue of child sexual abuse. The icing on the cake is that the member for Cottesloe grieved to the Premier on the extension of Mitchell Freeway northwards. The member for Bunbury, the present Minister for Local Government, grieved to the Premier about storm damage in Bunbury. That is just a small snapshot of one parliamentary year. Year in, year out, both Geoff Gallop and the member for Willagee took their responsibilities to this Parliament seriously and answered these sorts of questions that were posed to them. Yet the Leader of the House, with his sieve-like memory, said that we never accepted grievances. That one small snapshot shows that we were accepting grievances all the time. This Premier does not have the courage to come into this place and answer a grievance from a member of Parliament who obviously outclasses him on the issue he thinks he is the smartest on—economic matters. He is absolutely terrified of her better knowledge on these issues. One could say that he lacks courage, he lacks ticker and he behaves in a fashion resembling a coward.

Point of Order

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Mr Speaker, I suggest that the member is drifting a long way away from the motion to suspend standing orders. He should be making it known why we need to suspend standing orders, which is a very narrow area. He is going into the main substantive motion that he would like to talk to if standing orders are suspended.

Mr M. McGOWAN: My simple question is: will the government agree to —

The ACTING SPEAKER: I think the member for Rockingham is getting off the track a bit. I am sure he will get on track and we can get this matter sorted out very quickly.

Debate Resumed

Mr M. McGOWAN: We absolutely need to suspend standing orders. It is a matter of urgency to the people of this state because it is a matter that has just come before this house. This is the first available opportunity we have had to raise this matter. It follows on from last week's event in this house when the Premier—admittedly, I was not here; I was absent last week, but I have read the *Hansard*—threatened that in future we would not even have grievances. He said that government ministers would provide only written responses to members of the

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house when they grieve to government ministers. That attitude shows unprecedented arrogance and an unprecedented approach to the administration of the house and accountability in this state. It follows on from the Premier's approach to freedom of information laws. In the lead-up to the state election, a document that passed for a Liberal Party policy stated —

Review the manner in which Departments are administering the FOI process to ensure that Government is accountable and open in accordance with the spirit of the FOI Act

In other words, the government would be open and accountable. That is exactly what its policy stated in the lead-up to the election. What have we seen? We saw headlines such as "Barnett threatens to curb FOI laws." One week he is saying, "We're not going to give you grievances any more; you'll get written responses" and the next week he is saying, "We're no longer going to allow you to receive information through freedom of information."

Mr M.W. Sutherland: Using the system.

Mr M. McGOWAN: We all know the depth of knowledge of the member for Mount Lawley of the processes of this house.

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: I call the member for Mandurah to order for the first time.

Mr M. McGOWAN: This is the third and last straw. Refusing to come into this house and answer a grievance —

Mr D.A. Templeman interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: I call the member for Mandurah to order for the second time.

Mr M. McGOWAN: This is the third and last straw as far as we are concerned. We have had threats to freedom of information laws, threats not to have grievances at all and now the failure of the Premier to attend Parliament on specific matters to do with him. This is the third disgraceful, arrogant, pompous example from this nasty little man who is our Premier. We have had enough. This Parliament and this opposition will not stand for it any more. We will raise these issues on every single occasion possible to ensure that the Premier is held to account by this Parliament for his failure to be responsible and accountable to the people of Western Australia. I note that during the moving of a censure motion on him in this Parliament, he did not even deign to come into this house and answer questions. He does not have the courage, the ticker or the bravery to come into this house and answer these questions on matters relating to him. That is an indictment of the Premier of this state that he has absolutely no courage to address these matters.

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys — Minister for Police) [10.07 am]: The government will not agree to the suspension of standing orders for the reason —

Mr E.S. Ripper: He's not here.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I can assure the Leader of the Opposition that the Premier is here. He will come into the chamber when he needs to. He is very busy at the moment.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: When he needs to! When he decides to.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We are looking forward to the day the member for Armadale goes to Canberra.

The ACTING SPEAKER: The Leader of the House just raised a point of order that the opposition did not talk to the motion. I hope he will do the same himself.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I certainly will. I have literally had a few seconds in which to speak.

The ACTING SPEAKER: The Leader of the House just went straight off track.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: As I have said, the government will not support the suspension of standing orders as moved by the manager of opposition business for the very good reason that when I informed the member for West Swan yesterday that the Premier would be deputing the grievance to me because it was a specific policing matter —

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Members!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: So that the chamber is aware, when I eventually found out that the member's grievance related to some comments that the Premier was alleged to have made, I suggested to the member for West Swan

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that she tell me what those comments were and I could find out where they were said, who they were said to, the veracity of them and so forth. I also suggested, to put an argument to the claim that the manager for opposition business put about being open and honest in this house, that the member for West Swan ask the Premier that question at question time. He will answer the question. In relation to policing facilities in Ballajura, which is what I was told this grievance was predominantly about, of course the Premier deputed to me to answer.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr P.B. Watson): Order! Three whacks—next time I will call the member for Armadale.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: This is a stunt by the Labor Party. We have seen this sort of thing before. Members opposite know that if they want to ask the Premier a question, which is what I would suggest should have been done, about whether he made certain comments about blah blah blah, they could do that at question time, and they will get a response.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: I want to ask a question.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: I do not want to hear from the member for Armadale any more. I am not taking any interjections from that particular member.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order! Members, I cannot hear what the minister is saying.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The Premier is very happy to answer questions. He will always answer questions.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: But he will not answer grievances.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, you will get to your feet next, but you will have a call to order against your name when you rise.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: That offer was made to the member for West Swan yesterday. She could ask a question and get a direct answer from the Premier without talking about general policing facilities in Ballajura. She has not exactly been open and honest with me as to what it was all about. I asked her what the Premier was alleged to have said.

I have just been informed by my colleague that the Premier did take a grievance on 19 March—in fact, from the member for Rockingham—so the accusations the member is making about the Premier are totally false. The Premier will always be happy to answer any questions that members want to put to him. He has an obligation to answer questions at question time, so that is the time for the member for West Swan to raise this issue. She should not try to carry out this stunt based on a false premise. It is based on an allegation that the Premier made a comment somewhere and sometime. It is like me asking the member a question about something she may have said at a meeting she may have had at some place and at some time. I thought the member had a genuine concern about police presence and facilities in Ballajura.

Ms R. Saffioti: Your heart's not in it.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Obviously the member is more interested in trying to score cheap political points. I will not go on any longer. I am trying to present the reason why the government will not support the suspension of standing orders. This is a totally irrelevant issue; it is a stunt, once again. We have seen it so many times.

I have been informed that on 19 March the Premier took a second grievance from the member for Mindarie. The Premier is more than happy to come into the chamber, when it is possible, to take grievances. The opposition has claimed that in 2004 the then Premier, Dr Geoff Gallop, took a grievance, and the present Premier will also take grievances, but he has the right at any time to depute another member or minister to respond to that grievance. That is what he did today, and that is what he has every right to do. That knocks into a hole the member for Rockingham's argument that the Premier is not prepared to be accountable. He certainly is, and he will answer any questions the opposition puts at question time. This is the reason the government is not prepared to support the suspension of standing orders. We can see this as a complete stunt over an issue in Ballajura. The member for West Swan is doing people in Ballajura a disservice by trying to politicise the serious issue of policing, in this stupid way. I attempted to respond to the grievance in a genuine way, but I was howled down by members opposite, as I so often am. The government will not be agreeing to the suspension of standing orders.

MS A.J.G. MacTIERNAN (Armadale) [10.15 am]: I want to raise a number of issues in support of the motion of the member for Rockingham. It is important to understand that grievances play a very important role in this Parliament. They are an opportunity for members to question the government and bring to the relevant person issues of concern in their electorates or in the community more generally. It is totally appropriate, when a local

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community believes that the Premier of the day made undertakings to it, that the person to whom the grievance should be directed be the person who is understood to have made the commitments that have caused concern in the community. A number of very interesting issues arise from the contribution of the Leader of the House. The Leader of the House is not even interested in engaging in this debate.

Mr R.F. Johnson: I am not talking to you at all, after your disgraceful comments yesterday. They were very hurtful.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: I keep seeing this vision of the Leader of the House rowing down a sewer. He was on the front page of the paper, rowing down a sewer with a big cheesy grin. That image keeps coming back to me, and I made a reference to that wonderful image on the front page of the paper. If that has upset the sensitivities of the Leader of the House, from now on I will only call him a bilby, which I understand is a marsupial rodent. As a naturalised Australian, he will see that as a great tribute to him.

I will get back to the issue here. One matter that needs to be corrected is the notion that adequate notice was not given of the nature of the grievance and its relevance to the Premier. This was the point that the Leader of the House made: that it was not understood that the grievance related to remarks made by the Premier. After the Leader of the House had been advised of the grievance at about 4.30 pm yesterday, he made a statement about the concerns to the effect that he would handle it. The member for West Swan then prepared this letter and handed it to the Leader of the House. It states —

At 4:40pm on Wednesday May 13, 2009 you were informed of my request to grieve to the Premier in relation to comments he made in his capacity as Premier about policing resources for the Ballajura community.

My request is specifically directed to the Premier and I now lodge a formal request for the Premier to accept my grievance ...

The grievance was very clearly about undertakings perceived by the community to have been made by the Premier. That is the importance of grieving to the Premier. We are not arguing that the Premier has never taken a grievance, but what we see here now seems to be a new policy—the Premier, unlike former Premiers Geoff Gallop and Alan Carpenter, who would generally take grievances, will now pick and choose.

Mr R.F. Johnson: Same as they did.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: We did not pick and choose. Give us some evidence of that, particularly when the central core of the grievance is about an undertaking that the Premier was perceived to have made as Premier. That is the whole subject matter. How can something like be deputed, particularly when we get the minister here saying, “How do I know what the Premier says?” In effect he is saying, “I’m not capable of answering the central question of the grievance.”

Point of Order

Dr K.D. HAMES: It would seem to me that this is the substance of the debate; not the reason for suspending standing orders.

Mr M. McGowan: Trying to shut down the debate again!

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr P.B. Watson): I was going to make the same point, member for Rockingham. Member for Armadale, get back to the actual suspension of standing orders, not the motion.

Debate Resumed

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: In my view the suspension of standing orders is absolutely necessary because here, for the first time, we see now emerging a new policy, apparently, that the Premier is not going to accept grievances. We need to get a great deal of clarity about this important part of the parliamentary process. We cannot continue to not understand what the government’s attitude and the Premier’s attitude is going to be about grievances. We need to be very clear, here and now, about what the policy is going to be and about what grievances the Premier will accept and why.

I also point out another great fallacy that came up. The minister said—and I think a number of members by interjection—“Why do you not just ask a question?” Last week we saw a new policy emerge. A question was given to the Premier on an issue that involves potentially hundreds of millions of dollars of state expenditure and a commitment by the state to a contract that would see the privatisation of the port of Fremantle—a very big ticket item —

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The ACTING SPEAKER: Member, get back to the motion.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: I am getting back to this because the response from the Leader of the House is that we can ask a question. The Premier has now said, “No. I do not answer those questions.” We gave the Premier notice of this question. He refused to answer it. He said, “You have to direct that question to the Minister for Planning”—who in fact has nothing whatsoever to do with the contract. The Premier is now saying, “I am not going to be answering grievances when I, in my full majesty, determine I do not want to answer them.” He is also saying, “I am not going to answer questions.”

Point of Order

Dr K.D. HAMES: My point of order is the same as last time—she is clearly engaging in debate —

The ACTING SPEAKER: It is not “she”; it is the member for Armadale. This is your last chance, member for Armadale. I have given you two warnings. I will sit you down if you get off it again.

Debate Resumed

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: When I look at the leniency that you gave the Leader of the House here, I again go back to this point: we need to understand where the Premier is going to draw the line. How can we question the Premier? He now says he is not answering grievances and that he will decide when and where he answers grievances. He also said last week he is not answering questions if he does not feel like it. Where do we draw the line?

This is why we have brought on a suspension of standing orders. We need to suspend standing orders because we clearly are facing a situation now in which the very processes of scrutiny that are given to the opposition, that are given to the public—the two mechanisms we have of grievances and questions—the Premier has clearly developed some informal and unstated policy that he is not going to be accountable under those two mechanisms. That is quite disgraceful and that is a matter of very considerable urgency. This is something that we need to get sorted out here and now. We need to get sorted out now whether or not this grievance process is actually going to have any legitimacy under this government. We need to work out whether the process of questions is going to have any legitimacy under this government. Again we say it is an important mechanism of accountability. The past practice has clearly been that Premiers will answer grievances and questions that are directed to them. In both instances that I have spoken of the Premier had adequate notice of what he was being asked. One understands that a Premier has a wide range of responsibilities and it is important to give the Premier adequate notice of a question to be asked. It is a matter of urgency that we have got a Premier who now seems to take the attitude that if it does not suit him he is not going to answer grievances, and, if it does not suit him, he is not going to answer questions. That undermines the very functioning of the Parliament.

Mr P.T. Miles interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Who just said something? Was it the member for Morley? Someone just called out something that they should withdraw. It was someone from the back section; it was about something “rubbish”. I thought it was the member for Wanneroo. Did you utter that? It was the word used in front of “rubbish”.

Mr P.T. Miles: Sorry, I am having trouble hearing you.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Someone from the back section said something about “rubbish”, and there was a swear word in front of it. Was it you?

Mr P.T. Miles: No swear word was used. I just said it was rubbish.

Ms A.J.G. MacTIERNAN: What we have here is a very, very serious issue of accountability and it must be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Mr P. Abetz interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Southern River, when I have made a decision you do not comment on it in a joking way. If you think that is funny, I will call you to order.

MR E.S. RIPPER (Belmont — Leader of the Opposition) [10.26 am]: I do not need to speak at length on this issue because the arguments are relatively simple. In parliamentary politics there are few things more important than the people’s trust in the leader of the government, few things more important than the credibility of the leader of the government and few things more important than the preparedness of the leader of the government to be accountable for those trust and credibility issues. Those are the reasons why it is necessary that we have an immediate debate on this issue. We have an issue where the Premier’s word, to people in an important district, apparently cannot be trusted. When the member representing that district seeks to raise that issue directly with

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the Premier in Parliament, using the procedure specifically designed in our standing orders for electorate grievances, the Premier refuses to take that grievance.

It is not the only occasion on which the Premier has behaved like this. That is why it is necessary that we have this immediate debate. This is only the latest occasion on which the Premier has refused to be accountable and on which there are trust and credibility issues related to the Premier's performance. That is why we need the debate now.

Last week we had the circumstance, during this very same procedure in the Parliament, where the Premier said that he did not like the pressure being put on him by the opposition and, in future, there might be a circumstance where only written answers would be provided. That is why we need to have a debate right now. It follows on from an earlier intemperate outburst from the Premier in which he said the opposition was abusing freedom of information laws and that the laws might need to be amended to tighten up on freedom of information—that is after an election promise to be open and accountable and honest; to actually be better than the previous government. He said, "The new government will be better than the previous government on FOI." Now he is talking about tightening up FOI laws to limit access to freedom of information legislation.

I regularly gave out details of my diary in response to freedom of information requests. We find government ministers in this new government regularly refuse to give that information, contrary to the provisions of freedom of information legislation. There is an issue of personal arrogance and personal lack of accountability, but, as we all know, the fish rots from the head—the Premier's arrogance and the Premier's lack of accountability is starting to seep in and affect the entire government. This is the third strike, which is why it is necessary to have a debate. We have had the threat on freedom of information, the threat not to give verbal answers to grievances and now the refusal to answer a grievance.

Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan: There was a refusal to answer a question last week.

Mr E.S. RIPPER: Indeed. What we have are at least three strikes against the Premier. We have a case in which it would appear that the Premier's assurances to the people of Western Australia cannot be taken at their face value. What situation is Parliament and the government in if the Premier, when he addresses a community group, can make a statement and that statement cannot be believed or trusted? Where are we as a Parliament and where is the government if its own leader's statements in community forums cannot be trusted? That is why we need an immediate and urgent debate. We have a Premier who cannot be trusted and who is arrogantly unaccountable for that lack of credibility. There are two very important issues: they are trust and arrogance, which require an urgent debate. That is why standing orders should be suspended now.

MR A.J. CARPENTER (Willagee) [10.31 am]: I would like to speak on this motion very briefly. I have had the privilege of holding the position of Premier. I want to point out to the member for Hillarys that I never refused to take a grievance as Premier. I do not recall any Premier of the state refusing —

Mr R.F. Johnson: I never said you had.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: The Leader of the House did. I have no recollection of any Premier of the state refusing to take a grievance. For the member making the grievance to be lectured by the government about why she should not be grieving on the subject is remarkable. Only one week ago we saw something that I thought was quite unprecedented in Parliament when the same member, seeking to make a grievance to the Premier, was castigated, and close to being abused, by the Premier for having the audacity to do it. He became so frustrated that he threatened during that debate not to take any more grievances. He said something to the effect that if that was the way it was going to be, the member would get only written responses. He has now gone a step further and refused to take the grievance at all and refused to come into this place even for a suspension of standing orders motion that is directly relevant to him. I have never seen anything like it before. For members opposite to be saying that the member for West Swan should be asking a question of the Premier rather than making a grievance is quite unbelievable.

Members of Parliament are entitled to make a grievance. It is an essential part of the accountability process and framework. Who recalls, other than me, when members on this side of the house were in government and the member for Cottesloe said that it was the most unaccountable, secretive government in the state's history? He said it was refusing to release information and answer questions and that it was refusing to be open and accountable to the public. Look at the situation we have now. First, some pretty basic requests for information under FOI applications were refused and those making the requests told that the information would not be provided because it involved too much work. That was essentially the gripe. There was then the threat against grievances. In the space of a week, from brushing the matter off as a bit of intemperance on behalf of the Premier, it has become a reality and he has refused. I think he would be the first Premier in the state's history to

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refuse to take a grievance. If that does not come under the category of arrogance, I hesitate to think what might. What else can someone do other than completely refuse to enter the chamber?

On occasions, when Geoff Gallop and I were Premier, we were unable to take a grievance because we had other commitments outside the Parliament. However, my understanding from the member for Hillarys' words is that the Premier is sitting around in his office. I believe that he is trying to make a point to the opposition and particularly to the member for West Swan about who is the boss. Parliament is not about that. A Premier or a minister has a primary duty to be responsible in the Parliament. It can be inconvenient.

Mr R.F. Johnson interjected.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: It might make some people's day difficult, but their primary responsibility is to be in the chamber when required to live up to their responsibilities. To answer the member for Hillarys' interjection, which may or may not have been picked up, I found when I was in that position that Parliament itself was a most enjoyable experience. I cannot ever recall, quite honestly, being put under any sort of pressure by the then opposition—none. It used to be quite an enjoyable experience dealing with the issues raised by the opposition, because opposition members were so inept in their approach. I cannot remember any opposition pressure being put on me. There were occasions when remarks were made, including those made by the member for Hillarys, when I was personally distressed, but that is a different matter altogether.

The fundamental question is this: why is the Premier not here to undertake his responsibilities in the Parliament as the leader of the government? He should be here; and there is no excuse not to be. It should be a matter of grave concern in the general public debate about politics in the state of Western Australia that the FOI laws are found to be inconvenient and we have threats to change them because the government does not want to do the work. I remember Graham Kierath adopting the same attitude and simply replying that requests would involve too much work and that the opposition would not be getting the information. That is the first thing.

The second thing is the threat made last week to reduce responses to grievances to written responses only. One week later we have seen the Premier take it to the next step and not even come into the chamber to hear the grievance. He should and he must; it is his job. He should be in the chamber and not sitting in his room watching the proceedings on a television. The original grievance from which this suspension motion springs relates directly to remarks made by the Premier, of which the Minister for Police seems to have no knowledge whatsoever and of which, when he was on his feet, he was unable to inform the Parliament.

Point of Order

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The member for Willagee is not speaking to the motion whatsoever. He spent about 30 seconds on it. The rest of his speech has been on the main substance of the motion.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr P.B. Watson): I have not found that, and I disregard that.

Debate Resumed

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: I think it goes pretty directly to the point. There is no need to labour the point. The point is that the proceedings of the Parliament are there for good reason; that is, to hold the government of the day accountable. It is a bit inconvenient when in government to have to answer questions. It can be a bit inconvenient when in government to have to respond to grievances, but that is the job. Refusal to do it is unprecedented in this state's history, as far as I am aware. Why is this not an issue? Why was last week's performance not an issue, when there was not only the threat to refuse to answer grievances, but also one of the very few occasions when I have seen a minister, who was in this case the Premier, try to interrupt the member making the grievance, with a stream of criticism close to abuse? I have never seen it before. The member for Wagin gave an example today of how it should be done when you, Mr Acting Speaker, made a grievance to him. You made some very strong criticisms of him, Mr Acting Speaker. He sat in silence listening to it and then tried to respond. That is the way it should be. Criticisms are very often difficult to deal with.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Will the member get back to the motion?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: I will do, Mr Acting Speaker. The Parliament is here for the government to be held accountable. The Premier should be in the Parliament now answering the questions that the grievance put to him. I do not think that ever in the history of Western Australia has a Premier refused point blank to take a grievance. I believe it is a mark of the style of government and of his leadership that we are seeing. It is a bad mark and a black mark.

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [10.39 am]: I note that I have had two warnings, and I want to hear the budget this afternoon so I will be very careful. This is a very serious example of the government's continued arrogance and treatment of this Parliament. Clearly, what we have seen this morning and last evening in the

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request by the member for West Swan is total disregard for the accountability of this place. In talking to the motion before us for the suspension of standing orders I want to very quickly highlight to the house what happened yesterday afternoon. In my capacity as Whip, as is the convention, I gave notice to the Leader of the House, through his officer, the grievances that the opposition wished to present to the government this morning. They were very clear. The first grievance was for the member for Albany to the Minister for Racing and Gaming. Interestingly enough, I learnt this morning that the Minister for Racing and Gaming was not aware of his grievance, which I think is a blight on the Leader of the House. I understand he was not informed, which again gives us an indication of the operation of this house by the current Leader of the House. That is one example. The second grievance we gave notice of at approximately 4.30 yesterday afternoon, was a clear grievance from the member for West Swan to the Premier of Western Australia, specifically referring to comments the Premier had made publicly when a number of key stakeholders in the community of Ballajura were present. The member for West Swan was seeking very clearly to question the Premier and to grieve to him about his comments. On receiving that notification from me, the Leader of the House informed us on this side of the house that the Premier would not be accepting the grievance. We then, via a letter to the Leader of the House delivered to the government Whip at approximately 5.10 yesterday afternoon, again spelt out very clearly the reason for the grievance, particularly why the grievance was in fact referred to the Premier and not to the Minister for Police. I will quote from the letter again. It is addressed to the Leader of the House, headed "Grievance Request" and states —

At 4.40 pm on Wednesday May 13, 2009 you were informed of my request to grieve to the Premier in relation to comments he made in his capacity as Premier about policing resources for the Ballajura community.

My request is specifically directed to the Premier and I now lodge a formal request for the Premier to accept my grievance tomorrow morning.

Later in the afternoon, the Leader of the House again came across and said that the Premier would not be receiving that grievance and that he, the Leader of the House, would receive it. He was told again that that was not what the opposition had requested.

In his earlier comments about this motion to suspend standing orders, the Leader of the House said that he had not been given much notice; that is, that he had received the notification late in the evening. That is absolute rubbish. He was clearly given notice, not once but twice, and one of those times was in writing. I would have thought that the Premier of this state would, therefore, understand and look closely once again at the issue. I now have suspicions about whether the Premier himself may have been informed about this letter, but he is not in the chamber to tell us. He does not have the decency to even come into this place during a suspension of standing orders motion to respond to these queries. It is interesting that, apart from the Leader of the House, no member from the government side has defended the allegations we are now presenting very clearly and squarely to the Premier of the state. None has seen fit to respond. Why? It is because they know that, in terms of convention and fairness, this is a clear grievance that should have been received and responded to by the Premier this morning. Members opposite have demonstrated again the arrogance of not only this Premier, but also this government. That arrogance is now permeating across the whole of the seats opposite. Every single government member is responsible for that.

I was angry this morning when the Leader of the House declared that he had not been informed until late in the evening. I made sure this letter was delivered in a timely fashion. I get angry, given that members opposite make requests to me for pairs and we do the right thing for a number of members to ensure that they can go to important functions of a specific nature. Earlier this week, I allowed the member for Southern River —

Dr E. Constable: You allowed?

Mr D.A. Templeman: Yes, we did. The opposition allowed the member for Southern River to attend a function in his capacity as leader of the synod; I think that is the correct term. Some would argue that such matters are not in relation to their electorate business and that, indeed, these sorts of attendances should not be sanctioned because they are not related directly to parliamentary business. But in fairness to the —

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr P.B. Watson): Order, member! I ask that the member get back to the motion please.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Absolutely! In fairness to the member for Southern River, we agreed to that. The member for Mount Lawley bellowed out earlier during this debate, yet he has made a request for pairs so that he can go to his bowling club. Why would we approve something like that?

Mr M.W. Sutherland: Are you a blackmailer now?

Ms Rita Saffioti; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Mark McGowan; Speaker; Mr John Day; Acting Speaker; Ms Alannah MacTiernan; Dr Kim Hames; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr David Templeman; Mr Michael Sutherland; Mr John McGrath

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Under standing orders, the opposition has a very clear role in this place to make sure —

Mr M.W. Sutherland interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order, member for Mount Lawley!

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: The member for Mount Lawley quite clearly referred to the Whip as a blackmailer, which is an outrageous term to apply in the Parliament and he should be ordered to withdraw it.

The ACTING SPEAKER: He will withdraw.

Mr M.W. Sutherland interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: I beg your pardon? I call the member for Mount Lawley to order for the first time, and ask him to withdraw that remark.

Mr M.W. SUTHERLAND: I withdraw the remark.

Debate Resumed

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Quite clearly, this is a demonstration of the unaccountability of this government, the unaccountability of the ministers of this government and the unaccountability of the Premier of the state.

We are moving a motion to suspend standing orders to debate the issue and to censure the Premier —

The ACTING SPEAKER: The member will get to the point.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I am speaking directly to that right at this point, Mr Acting Speaker. We have moved the motion to suspend standing orders specifically to censure the Premier of the state for his failure to show accountability. The government has already reduced the number of sitting weeks in this place that we as an opposition are allowed —

The ACTING SPEAKER: Will the member get to the point please?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: When we come into this place we have various means by which we can make points, one is by seeking to move a censure motion, which is what we are seeking to do in relation to the behaviour of the Premier this morning and his lack of attendance in this place. It is demonstrated by this government's lack of accountability. The house will sit for fewer sitting weeks than it usually does, so there are fewer opportunities now for the opposition, on behalf of the people of Western Australia, to actually hold this government to account. Quite clearly, it is demonstrating an absolute arrogance towards the people of Western Australia on a very important day in the state's parliamentary operations, when the budget is about to be brought down. We are all interested in that very important event this afternoon. The Premier, in his absence, is not paired—no pair has been requested for the Premier to be absent from the Parliament today. I have not been informed by the government Whip that the Premier has requested a pair for this morning. I assume that he is in this building. However, in his arrogance, he has decided that he will not respond to an appropriate grievance of which he was given due notice through the Leader of the House yesterday afternoon. Therefore, the opposition thought very carefully about the decision to move this motion to suspend standing orders because, quite simply, if we are not going to get the opportunities to question, to interrogate and, indeed, to grieve to the Premier of the day on matters that are of deep importance, particularly to the people living in the community of Ballajura, when will we have that opportunity? It seems that every time we now seek to raise those matters, in this case through the suspension of standing orders, we are unable to do so because of this arrogant and disgraceful government. There are members on the other side who have come into this place and made comments about the need to do the moral thing, so maybe I can appeal to those members on the other side who talk about morals and about ensuring that we are moral in this place. I heard these members during their inaugural speeches talk about the need to be accountable, to be moral and to ensure that the things that members do and say in this place are moral and truthful. I appeal to a number of them—they know who they are—that they might cross the floor and support this motion because if they do not, their words in the inaugural speeches that they presented to this place late last year are hollow —

Mr T.G. Stephens: What about the member for Churchlands?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Of course, I like the member for Churchlands, but I am concerned about her behaviour now. Those members' words will otherwise be hollow, so I urge those members who have come into this place with a particular frame of mind that they might now decide that they understand why we are so upset and angry about this decision and that they might support us. When we divide on this motion, I will watch

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closely where those members go. I will watch closely to see where those members decide to place their faith and their views because I suspect that their words might prove to be hollow. I urge every member of this place to support this motion to suspend standing orders. Let us have a debate about why the Premier could not turn up in this place this morning and why he could not answer a simple grievance by the member for West Swan. I will take my seat because I need a drink.

Question to be Put

MR J.E. McGRATH (South Perth) [10.52 am]: I move —

That the question be now put.

Question put and a division taken with the following result —

Ayes (28)

Mr P. Abetz	Dr E. Constable	Mr A.P. Jacob	Dr M.D. Nahan
Mr F.A. Alban	Mr M.J. Cowper	Dr G.G. Jacobs	Mr C.C. Porter
Mr C.J. Barnett	Mr J.H.D. Day	Mr R.F. Johnson	Mr D.T. Redman
Mr I.C. Blayney	Mr J.M. Francis	Mr A. Krsticevic	Mr M.W. Sutherland
Mr J.J.M. Bowler	Mr B.J. Grylls	Mr W.R. Marmion	Mr T.K. Waldron
Mr I.M. Britza	Dr K.D. Hames	Mr P.T. Miles	Dr J.M. Woollard
Mr G.M. Castrilli	Mrs L.M. Harvey	Ms A.R. Mitchell	Mr J.E. McGrath (<i>Teller</i>)

Noes (25)

Ms L.L. Baker	Mr J.C. Kobelke	Mr J.R. Quigley	Mr P.B. Watson
Mr A.J. Carpenter	Mr F.M. Logan	Ms M.M. Quirk	Mr M.P. Whitely
Mr V.A. Catania	Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan	Mr E.S. Ripper	Mr B.S. Wyatt
Mr R.H. Cook	Mr M. McGowan	Ms R. Saffioti	Mr D.A. Templeman (<i>Teller</i>)
Ms J.M. Freeman	Mr M.P. Murray	Mr T.G. Stephens	
Mr J.N. Hyde	Mr A.P. O’Gorman	Mr C.J. Tallentire	
Mr W.J. Johnston	Mr P. Papalia	Mr A.J. Waddell	

Pair

Mr T.R. Buswell

Mrs C.A. Martin

Question thus passed.

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion Resumed

The SPEAKER: Members, as this is a motion to suspend standing orders, I will need to satisfy myself that there is an absolute majority present. If I hear a dissentient voice, I will be required to divide the Assembly.

Question put and a division taken with the following result —

Ayes (25)

Ms L.L. Baker	Mr J.C. Kobelke	Mr J.R. Quigley	Mr P.B. Watson
Mr A.J. Carpenter	Mr F.M. Logan	Ms M.M. Quirk	Mr M.P. Whitely
Mr V.A. Catania	Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan	Mr E.S. Ripper	Mr B.S. Wyatt
Mr R.H. Cook	Mr M. McGowan	Ms R. Saffioti	Mr D.A. Templeman (<i>Teller</i>)
Ms J.M. Freeman	Mr M.P. Murray	Mr T.G. Stephens	
Mr J.N. Hyde	Mr A.P. O’Gorman	Mr C.J. Tallentire	
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Mr I.C. Blayney	Mr J.M. Francis	Mr A. Krsticevic	Mr M.W. Sutherland
Mr J.J.M. Bowler	Mr B.J. Grylls	Mr W.R. Marmion	Mr T.K. Waldron
Mr I.M. Britza	Dr K.D. Hames	Mr P.T. Miles	Dr J.M. Woollard
Mr G.M. Castrilli	Mrs L.M. Harvey	Ms A.R. Mitchell	Mr J.E. McGrath (<i>Teller</i>)

Pair

Mrs C.A. Martin

Mr T.R. Buswell

Question thus negatived.