

POLICE — FRONT-LINE SERVICE DEFINITION

754. Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN to the Minister for Police:

As a supplementary question, given that the minister has allowed the Peel motorcycle unit to be cut from five to zero, surely that is a cut to front-line services.

Mr J.R. Quigley: It is a cover up!

Mr R.F. JOHNSON replied:

The member for Mindarie, who does nothing but criticise our police officers and call them corrupt, just said it again. He should be ashamed of himself. The police know where he comes from.

Point of Order

Mr M. McGOWAN: The question from the member for Mandurah was about the Peel motorcycle unit and not about the words of the member for Mindarie. I request that the minister go back to the question.

The SPEAKER: Minister.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Perhaps the manager of opposition business should keep some of his members quiet, particularly those recalcitrant ones who cause nothing but trouble and make derogatory statements about our hard-working police officers. I accept that some of the motorcycle vehicles in Mandurah and Peel have gone.

Several members interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The lights are on in some places but there is nobody home. What do they think those officers are doing?

Mr D.A. Templeman: You have issued them with skateboards.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We have a lot of other officers on those! The officers who were using the motorcycles in the Peel region are now behind the wheel of other vehicles, such as four-wheel drives. There are therefore no cuts to front-line services in the Peel region; in fact, I suggest there will be an enhanced service because we are taking on more police officers than the opposition could ever dream of. We are getting more police officers out in front-line services, catching illegal drivers and criminals. There is no cut to front-line servicing whatsoever. I hope that has got through to the member and that it sinks in.