

POLICE — ASSAULTS AGAINST — KIMBERLEY

108. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the minister representing the Minister for Police:

I note that the publicly available data from the Western Australia Police Force's own website, under the Time Series menu, shows that a record number of 164 police officers were assaulted in the Kimberley in 2022.

- (1) How many people were charged with the crime of assaulting a police officer in 2022?
- (2) How many of the people identified in the answer to (1) have had their cases heard?
- (3) How many of the people identified in the answer to (1) have been imprisoned?
- (4) How many of the people identified in the answer to (1) are juveniles?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Police. The Western Australia Police Force advises the following.

- (1) The number of people charged was 96, noting that assaulting a police officer includes an application of any force ranging from spitting, slapping and kicking to punching and more physical acts.
- (2)–(3) The Western Australia Police Force cannot provide an answer to the outcome of prosecutions. This question should be directed to the Attorney General.
- (4) Of those, 32 are juveniles.

There is a range of notes. They are —

1. Statistics are provisional and subject to revision.
2. Statistics are a distinct count of offenders who were processed for the offence 'Assault Police Officer' that occurred in the Kimberley District and reported between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022.
3. Statistics for 'Assault Police Officer' offences include all offences categorised as 'Assault' in standard crime statistics reporting ...

The rest of the notes are quite long and I seek leave to have the rest of the response incorporated into *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

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4. Processing an offender for an offence does not necessarily mean the person was subsequently formally charged or convicted of the offence. Processed offender outcomes include, but are not limited to, arrest, summonsed, juvenile caution, and various types of infringements.
 5. Counting Rules have been applied which exclude facilitation and duplication offences in specific circumstances. These rules are applied to certain reporting categories (typically those known to have been prone to over-recording of offences historically) in order to provide a more accurate picture of crime volumes and trends. The counting rules will exclude those offenders who have only facilitation or duplication offences.
 6. As a person's recorded date of birth may be updated over time, a person's age is based on the most recent information recorded against that person's primary identifier in Incident Management System (IMS) and may be different to information recorded for the person at the time of they are processed.
 7. Young offenders are offenders between the ages of 10 and 17 (inclusive) at the time the offence occurred.
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