

POLICE OFFICERS — MENTAL HEALTH

Statement

HON CHARLES SMITH (East Metropolitan) [9.51 pm]: I rise to make a few brief remarks concerning the death of a serving police officer at Cockburn Police Station. I am incredibly angry that we—that is, my fellow brothers and sisters in blue—have lost yet another police officer to what appears to be a suicide. I have gone on and on in this place about the police, about their numbers and about their mental health. Ever since the start of this fortieth Parliament, I have gone on and on about the mental health of police officers. I have told the McGowan government time and again how police are struggling, how overwhelmed they are in their job and how they cannot cope. The government is failing to listen to me as it failed to listen to the police union. When is the McGowan government going to wake up to this crisis within the Western Australia Police Force? I extend my condolences to the family of First Class Constable Igglesden. May he rest in peace.