

COMMUNITY PROTECTION (OFFENDER REPORTING) ACT —
REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER COMPLIANCE

412. Hon CHARLES SMITH to the minister representing the Minister for Police:

I refer to the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004.

- (1) How many people are currently registered as sex offenders in WA?
- (2) How many registered sex offenders as of today are wanted for either —
 - (a) failure to comply with their reporting obligations;
 - (b) providing false or misleading information to police;
 - (c) location or whereabouts is not known to police; or
 - (d) breaching the terms of their release orders?
- (3) How many inquiries have been submitted to the Community Protection Western Australia access registered sex offender information website in the last 12 months?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided by the Minister for Police:

- (1)–(3) The Western Australia Police Force advises that currently 3 491 reportable offenders are registered in Western Australia in accordance with the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004. Of these, the number of registered reportable offenders who have either failed to comply with their reporting obligations or provided false or misleading information and their current whereabouts are unknown to police is 19. The Western Australia Police Force routinely posts the details of those sex offenders who do not comply with their conditions and deems their whereabouts as unknown. The number of missing offenders on the Community Protection offender website varies from time to time. It has been greater than 25 in the past two years. The reasons for that also vary and can include the timing of police visits, proactive police operations aimed at verifying personal information provided by offenders, and movements of offenders in remote and regional areas. Police have a dedicated team of officers who continually make efforts to locate and charge offenders who have been listed as missing or who breach their reporting obligations. In addition, there have been 6 091 inquiries submitted to the Community Protection Western Australia access registered sex offender information website in the last 12 months.