

NON-METROPOLITAN POLICE DISTRICTS, STAFFING LEVELS

**1400. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the minister representing the Minister for Police and Emergency Services:**

Following my recent visit to Esperance, I read in *The Esperance Express* that of the 14 police districts in Western Australia 11 are undermanned.

- (1) Can the minister release the staffing levels and current vacancies at the following non-metropolitan districts -
  - (a) Kimberley;
  - (b) Pilbara;
  - (c) midwest-Gascoyne;
  - (d) the south west;
  - (e) Albany;
  - (f) the great southern;
  - (g) the wheat belt; and
  - (h) Goldfields-Esperance?
- (2) Will the minister commit to fully staffing these districts, and, in particular, fill the two vacant positions in Esperance and one in Northam?

**Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:**

I seek leave to have the answer incorporated into *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The following material was incorporated -

I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

- (1) As the Minister for Police and Emergency Services advised the Legislative Assembly on 24 September 2003 the authorised and actual strength for the following police districts as at 31 August 2003 is:

	Authorised Strength	Actual Strength
(a) Kimberley	142	134
(b) Pilbara	169	159
(c) Midwest-Gascoyne	204	190.5
(d) South West	211	205
(e-f) Great Southern (includes Albany)	170	166.3
(g) Wheatbelt	149	141.8
(h) Goldfields-Esperance	201	191.08
- (2) The Western Australia Police Service advise that as of today (22 October 2003) there are no sworn vacancies at Esperance Police Station. Applicants are currently being interviewed to fill the sworn vacancies at Northam.