

**BALLAJURA — POLICE PRESENCE**

*Statement by Member for West Swan*

**MS R. SAFFIOTI (West Swan)** [12.51 pm]: I take this opportunity to update the house on law and order issues in the suburb of Ballajura. Last Thursday, police held a community forum in Ballajura to discuss the law and order issues that have arisen in recent years. I believe that the forum was held as a result of significant community pressure. Some of the key things that came out of the forum were that police response times have not been adequate in Ballajura and have been less than the average in other suburbs; crime has increased in recent years; and we need to do more to monitor police presence. I thank the police for responding to community pressure and coming out to Ballajura to talk about law and order issues. It is something that both the community and I will continue to campaign on to ensure that Ballajura gets the police presence it deserves. A petition is currently out there. It has more than 2 000 signatures, and I hope to bring it to Parliament in the next few months. A community forum will be held on 21 September by the Ballajura community group to discuss not only policing, but also wider issues throughout Ballajura such as how to better engage local youth and other issues. I urge all Ballajura community members to attend that forum.

Again, I thank the police for coming to the forum. But they also need to understand that more needs to be done to ensure that the people of Ballajura get the police presence they deserve.