

POLICE — REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT

639. Hon JIM CHOWN to the minister representing the Minister for Police:

I refer to the current Premier's statement made on 20 December 2016, which states —

“WA's road toll is devastating. Every life lost on our roads, is one too many.

...

“With 62 per cent of road deaths occurring in regional WA we need to act now.

I also note he stated —

“The new Regional Enforcement Unit will travel around the State to target areas where the regional road toll is disproportionately high.

To this end, it states —

An additional \$3.7million will be provided for WA Police ...

- (1) When will the regional enforcement unit be operational?
- (2) How many police will be allocated to the unit?
- (3) Will the regional enforcement unit staff be part of a dedicated team committed solely to the role of the enforcement unit, as defined by the Premier?
- (4) Can the minister explain the shortfall of \$1.2 million from the election promise made by the Premier of \$3.7 million that was to be allocated to the police budget?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The regional enforcement unit will commence operations in 2017–18.
- (2) There will be 25 police allocated to the unit.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) There is no shortfall of funding. The government has allocated \$18.54 million for the regional enforcement unit across the forward estimates, starting with \$2.5 million in its establishment year in 2017–18.