

POLICE STATIONS - CLOSURE

2676. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

- (1) Is the responsibility for deploying police solely that of the Police Commissioner?
- (2) Can the Minister explain the decision to close six stations recently, given that the Commissioner gave an undertaking in 2005 that there would be no closures of police stations?
- (3) Does the Government, the Minister or the Police Commissioner have any plans for the closure of any further police stations in Western Australia?
- (4) Is the Minister aware of Recommendation 62 of the 2003 Government Function Review Taskforce, relating to the closure of 22 nominated police stations, and the intention of the Police Commissioner to follow through on that recommendation?
- (5) Does the Government's endorsement of the Functional Review Taskforce recommendations constitute a direction to the Police Commissioner to close a number of Western Australian Police Stations?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

- (1) The Commissioner of Police is responsible for the allocation of police services state-wide and allocates resources accordingly.
- (2) Six country stations were closed and a seventh relocated after an extensive review of police resource allocation in regional WA. WA Police undertake continual monitoring to determine the ongoing demand for policing services in each Police district and to ensure responsive policing service is provided to the areas of greatest need. Individual police stations are also subject to workload reviews on a regular basis to ensure available resources have been appropriately allocated.
- (3) Neither the Government or the Minister have any plans to close police stations. The Police Commissioner has informed the Minister he has no plans to close police stations.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) No. The Commissioner of Police is responsible for the allocation of police services state-wide and allocates resources accordingly.