

POLICE — SWORN OFFICERS

**543. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Minister for Police:**

I have a supplementary question. If the minister does not meet his commitment of 950 additional officers above attrition by 2024, will he resign?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please!

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**The SPEAKER:** Member for Swan Hills! Sorry! That is totally unacceptable. Member for Swan Hills, you have interjected loudly about three times, trying to be louder than the other people who are interjecting. It is a supplementary question; it is required to be heard in silence and it requires a brief answer from the minister to whom the question was directed, who is more than capable of answering the question and requires no assistance from any of the rest of you.

**Mr P. PAPALIA replied:**

I concede that we have set ourselves a very high bar in funding the police force to grow; 950 officers in four years would be the greatest growth in the police force in the history of the state. We are going to have a real crack at it. We will make every effort. There is a greater plan to achieve recruiting beyond what is being done now. That aside, it draws to my attention the low bar that the member set for himself at the recent by-election. As I understand it, the Liberal Party achieved the incredible total of eight per cent of the vote at the last general election in the seat of North West Central. The member set his party the incredibly challenging objective of achieving three times that amount, and he has trumpeted the success of the Liberal Party in the seat of North West Central because it cracked 20 per cent! I have a question in response. Is the member really sure he achieved enough to not resign himself right now?