

SURF LIFE SAVING SEASON

Statement by Member for Cottesloe

DR D.J. HONEY (Cottesloe) [12.58 pm]: Saturday, 7 October saw the opening of the 2023 surf life saving season in Western Australia. I was lucky enough to spend this occasion completing the first shift of my sixteenth season as a volunteer lifesaver at the Cottesloe Surf Life Saving Club. I have six of the state's 31 surf clubs in my electorate: Fremantle, Cottesloe, North Cottesloe, Swanbourne, City of Perth and Floreat. The surf life saving season is more than just an annual event; it is a tradition that symbolises our shared responsibility to protect those who seek the pleasures of our stunning coastline. Every season, many hundreds of remarkable individuals dedicate countless hours to ensure our safety. They train rigorously, mastering the art of rescue, and they stand watchful and ready to respond at a moment's notice.

The volunteers who don the iconic red and yellow uniforms are more than just lifeguards; they are the embodiment of community spirit. They are the reassuring presence that keeps our families safe while they bask in the sun and ride the waves. They are the reassuring voices that guide lost swimmers to safety and offer comfort in times of distress. So on behalf of all Western Australians, I extend my warmest thanks to our incredible surf life saving volunteers, including the member for Scarborough. May this season be filled with successful rescues, strong camaraderie and the satisfaction of knowing that your efforts make our shores safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm