

POLICE — PERTH DISTRICT

**303. Hon CHARLES SMITH to the minister representing the Minister for Police:**

I refer to the recent media article entitled “You Can’t Beat It”, a hilarious pun, published 21 April.

- (1) Can the minister advise the house whether 90 police officers are being transferred to the new Perth police district?
- (2) If yes to (1), can the minister confirm that the policing districts where these officers have come from will not be operationally compromised?
- (3) With the minister conceding that violent crime continues to increase, will she now recruit another 500 frontline police officers the state so desperately needs?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I note that in the question I have here, it does not mention anything about a pun, so I presume it is the correct answer. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Police.

- (1) Under the metropolitan operational restructure, local policing teams and response teams will be amalgamated into one stream as patrol/inquiry officers. Officers in charge of police stations will decide how their patrol/inquiry officers are deployed and respond to local issues in the local community. The bulk of the officers to be tasked by a local OIC will be transferred from within the district.
- (2) Yes; the Commissioner of Police and senior officers are determining the required district strength for the eight new districts.
- (3) The Commissioner of Police has confidence that the Western Australia Police Force is managing current demand pressures. The McGowan government is delivering its commitment to extra police officers for the meth border force, regional enforcement unit and additional 24-hour police stations.