



22 October 2002

Mrs PENFOLD (Flinders): Can the Attorney-General advise the house whether he is aware of the Rapid Response Program for domestic violence which operates in Port Lincoln and that the program has only sufficient money to run until the end of October because of the cut to the crime prevention funding? One woman reported that if she had not been on the program she would be dead. The program, which provides victims of domestic violence with personal alarms direct to the Port Lincoln police station, has been used by 40 women since being introduced in 1998, with 12 women currently being protected in this way.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON (Attorney-General): As the member knows, I visited Port Lincoln recently to participate in the opening of the Victim Support Service's regional office. The member's question is a serious one, and it deserves a serious answer. I will respond with a considered reply at a later date.