

Perth Woman Questioned After Baby Found Dead

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Police in Western Australia are questioning a woman following the discovery of a newborn baby's body inside a stormwater drain in Perth. Authorities confirmed she is assisting with inquiries, but no charges have been laid.

The development came a day after police made a public appeal for the child's mother to come forward, citing urgent health concerns. The infant was discovered on Monday afternoon by tradesmen working along La Salle Road in Alexander Heights. The workers notified emergency services immediately after the grim find around 1:00 p.m.

Since the discovery, the site has drawn tributes from residents, with flowers, soft toys, and handwritten notes left near the drain. The community response reflects the widespread shock and grief felt across Perth.

Detective Senior Sergeant Stephen Cleal said the baby appeared to have been deliberately placed in the drain within recent days. He described the discovery as "very distressing" for the workers who found the body.

“We want to help that mother,” he said during a press briefing. “We have serious health concerns for her. Our priority is to get her the medical help she needs. If you are that mother, please make yourself known to police.”

Officers canvassed local hospitals and medical clinics earlier in the week, urging staff to be on alert for anyone who may have recently given birth without medical assistance. Investigators also reviewed nearby CCTV footage as they worked to identify the child and mother. Authorities confirmed they are still uncertain about the baby’s nationality or other identifying details.

Western Australia Premier Roger Cook described the discovery as a “horrificing scenario,” emphasizing the emotional toll on those involved.

“The mother of that child must be incredibly distressed,” Cook said. “Those workers who discovered the baby’s body were confronted with the most distressing of circumstances. My heart goes out to everyone affected by this tragic event.”

Police have not disclosed whether the woman currently assisting with the case is the child’s mother. She is receiving medical attention while detectives continue to piece together the timeline leading to the discovery.

The case has sparked broader concern over issues of maternal health and access to crisis support services in Western Australia. Authorities reiterated that their immediate priority is ensuring the welfare of the mother involved, while also determining the circumstances that led to the infant’s death.

Detectives confirmed that forensic examinations are ongoing, and the area where the baby was found remains under investigation. Officers are appealing to anyone who may have been in Alexander Heights in the days prior to the discovery to contact police if they noticed any unusual activity.

“This is a tragedy that touches the entire community,” one local resident said while laying flowers near the drain. “It is heartbreaking to think of what happened here.”

Police are urging anyone with information to call Crime Stoppers on 131 444. The investigation remains active, with updates expected once forensic results and interviews are complete.