

DISABILITY SERVICES, FUNDING, NORTH WEST

1061. Mr L. Graham to the Minister for Disability Services

I refer to the recent announcement that the Gallop Government's recent increases in funding to disability services in country areas will benefit more than 35 people with disabilities and their families in the Upper Great Southern region, and I ask -

- (a) what is the total amount of the increase in funding to disability services in country areas;
- (b) how much of the proposed increase is to be spent on programs in the North West of the State;
- (c) in which towns and communities will the funds be spent;
- (d) who will be responsible for administering the funds; and
- (e) when will the programs commence operation in each town referred to above?

Ms S.M. McHALE replied:

- (a) A total of \$2,368,285 increased funding has been directed to programs in country areas. The \$2,368,285 is made up as follows.
  - \$498,113 was allocated for respite, for service enhancements and to create and strengthen links to assist family carers to support each other.
  - \$203,263 was allocated for therapy and professional services.
  - \$1,666,909 was allocated for accommodation support, alternatives to employment and intensive family support.
- (b) \$300,005 was allocated to the North West.
- (c) Three communities on the Ngaanyatjarra lands, the Western Desert communities, Albany, Broome, Bunbury, Busselton, Collie, Harvey, Esperance, Exmouth, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Karratha, Katanning, Kununurra, Lake Grace, Margaret River, Merredin, Moora, Narrogin, Northam, Port Hedland.
- (d) The funds are administered by non-government organisations providing services or by families who are directly funded to purchase their own services.
- (e) All funding has been allocated for services to commence during the 2002/2003 financial year.