

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE**

*Second Report - Annual Report 2005-2006*

**MR A.P. O'GORMAN (Joondalup)** [10.31 am]: I present for tabling in the thirty-seventh Parliament the second report of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee entitled "Annual Report 2005-2006".

[See paper 1843.]

**Mr A.P. O'GORMAN:** I do not propose to take up too much time of the Parliament. This is the committee's annual report. It gives a detailed synopsis of what the committee has been doing for the past 12 months. I take this opportunity to thank the other committee members, of which the Acting Speaker (Mr M.J. Cowper) is one, for the cooperation they have shown and their excellent work ethic over the past 12 months. The member for Kingsley is one of the committee members, as are the members for Geraldton and Carine. For a short period, the current Leader of the Opposition, the member for Warren-Blackwood, was on the committee. I thank him for his assistance. He has been a member of this place for a lot longer than I, and a lot longer than some other members of the committee. Some of his guidance helped me, particularly in my role as chair of the committee.

I also thank the committee staff. I thank the principal research officer, Ms Katherine Galvin, for her excellent support of the committee. She has helped us work through the inquiries that we have been undertaking over the past 12 months in a very professional and friendly manner. I also thank Ms Nicole Burgess, who was with the committee until November 2005. Many members in the chamber will know Nicole Burgess. She is a very happy-go-lucky person. She always greets people with a smile and makes the day look really good, even when a person is thinking he will have a fairly heavy day with hearings and so on. We also had a couple of people on secondment from the Fire and Emergency Services Authority. As members will know, we are undertaking an inquiry into the fire and emergency services legislation. Nicole Gibbs and Melissa Dove were seconded to the committee for a time. They also made an excellent contribution to the committee and assisted us in our deliberations on the FESA legislation. Many of those people have moved on, and Dawn Dickinson is now assisting the committee. She came to the committee right at the end of an inquiry, and she has done very well to be able to pick up and understand what the committee has been doing over the past 12 months or so.

The committee has been very busy over the past 12 months. We have undertaken an inquiry into the fire and emergency services legislation. We are currently conducting an inquiry into national disaster relief arrangements. We have held 19 deliberative meetings and we have taken evidence from 102 people. We were briefed by another 37 people. We made 10 site visits to emergency service unit agencies. We undertook investigative travel to a number of locations, principally in the state, and we attended one conference in Canberra. In the report is a list of all the witnesses who appeared before the committee. I am very happy to present this report to the Parliament today.