

HEALTH, NORTH WEST, YOUTH DETOXIFICATION PROGRAMS

1125. Mr L. Graham to the Minister for Health

I refer to the recent announcement that Western Australia's first youth detoxification and respite centre will open its doors in the New Year and Mission Australia had won a \$750,000 contract to manage and operate the facility from its East Perth headquarters, and I ask -

- (a) how much is to be spent on programs for young people who are in need of supervised withdrawal and respite services for drug and alcohol problems in the North West of the State;
- (b) how will young people access those services;
- (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?

Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:

- (a) No specific allocation has been made for young people in need of supervised withdrawal and respite services in the North West, however, the Perth based youth detoxification and respite centre will be designed to service young people from metropolitan and regional areas. A Youth Forum comprising of 100 stakeholders including regional representatives from drug and alcohol services was held in Perth on 10 February 2003 to identify the system and network of treatment and support services that would be required to work in partnership with the 5-14 day detoxification and respite centre. Community Drug Service Teams and other services contracted by the Drug and Alcohol Office will be required to work closely with the youth detoxification and respite centre to ensure an integrated approach in the case management of clients and families/significant others.
- (b) Details of the referral arrangements are still being developed and will be specified in the service contract before the anticipated opening in April this year. A key emphasis of the new facility will be local metropolitan/regional participation in the referral, assessment, treatment and after-care arrangements that secures continuity of care and the engagement of family and significant others in the community setting.
- (c) The service model will allow access to the service from metropolitan and regional communities. The Drug and Alcohol Office is currently examining the co-location of the Perth Community Drug Service Team to co-ordinate referrals and after-care of clients from regional areas of the State.
- (d) The Drug and Alcohol Office.
- (e) The service will be managed in Perth supported with a system for referral, assessment and after-care incorporating other drug and alcohol services contracted by the Drug and Alcohol Office. There will not be separate funded and managed regional components to the service but an integrated service system.