

MENTAL HEALTH — SUICIDE — KIMBERLEY

3172. Ms J. Farrer to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Mental Health:

Last year a motion was presented to this Government, “That this House expresses its concern about the tragic suicide crisis in the Kimberley and calls on governments to do more to address the issue”, and I ask:

- (a) what has the Minister done to meet this call; and
- (b) what extra funding has the Minister provided in regards to addressing suicide prevention in the Kimberley since 1 December 2013?

**Ms A.R. Mitchell replied:**

- (a) Improving mental health services and preventing suicide is a priority of the State Government. Since 2009 the State Government has invested \$21 million in the Western Australian Suicide Prevention Strategy (the Strategy), including \$3 million in 2014–15. Under the Strategy, approximately \$2.5 million has been invested in six Community Action Plans (CAPs Stage 1 and 2) as well as suicide prevention training in the Kimberley region.
  - (b) In 2013–14 \$1.9 million was invested in Kimberley Stage 2 CAPs to be completed in 2014:
    - Kimberley Empowerment Project with \$428 148 to train Aboriginal community members around mental health, suicide prevention and leadership;
    - Shire of Derby and Mowanjum with \$531 710 for Anglicare to cover the Derby Township, Mowanjum, Pandanus and Looma;
    - Dampier Peninsula with \$304 050 for the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Centre (KAMSC) to cover Ardyaloon, Djarindjin, Lombadina and Beagle Bay;
    - Fitzroy Crossing with \$200 000 for Garnduwa Armboorny Wiran to deliver Back to Country Camps, suicide prevention awareness workshops and Aboriginal Mental Health First Aid (AMHFA) Training;
    - Kununurra with \$232 880 for Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service to deliver a number of initiatives including Back to Country Camps, Youth AMHFA Training, delivery of the Healing, Empowerment and Leadership Program and AMHFA Train the Trainer Program; and
    - Halls Creek with \$172 375 for Yura Yungi Aboriginal Medical Service to deliver AMHFA, Youth AMHFA, Back to Country Camps and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST).
- In May this year the Budget provided an additional \$29.1 million over three years to continue the Statewide Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service (SSAHMS). This funding provides 12 FTE across the Kimberley region to support Aboriginal people with severe mental illness and their families in a culturally appropriate way.
- Under the One Life Suicide Prevention Small Grants scheme, approximately \$30,000 has been provided to organisations in the Kimberley during 2014 to provide local suicide prevention support and awareness.