

DISABILITY SERVICES, NORTH WEST

1477. Mr L. Graham to the Minister for Disability Services

I refer to the announcement made in October 2002 whereby the State Government announced a boost of more than \$866,000 in recurrent funding to provide therapy and professional services to people with disabilities, and ask –

- (a) how much of the proposed \$866,000 is to be spent on programs in the North West of the State;
- (b) in which towns and communities will the funds be spent;
- (c) who will be responsible for administering the funds; and
- (d) when will the programs commence operation in each town referred to above?

Ms S.M. McHALE replied:

- a) A total of \$63,029 has been directed to programs in the North-West of the State.
- b) \$41,965 has been allocated for an Indigenous Allied Health worker to provide services to children and adults with disabilities in the West Kimberley area (Derby and remote indigenous communities). \$21,064 has been allocated for a Therapy Assistant to provide services for school age children with disabilities in Kununurra and surrounding communities.
- c) The Country Services Co-ordination Directorate of the Disability Services Commission is responsible for administering these funds.
- d) Funding for the Derby Health Service has been allocated. Arrangements with Kununurra Health Service are being finalised and it is anticipated that the service will commence operations in this current financial year.