COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND JUSTICE STANDING COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2004-05

MR A.P. O'GORMAN (Joondalup) [10.07 am]: I present for tabling the first report of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee entitled "Annual Report 2004-05".

[See paper 741.]

Mr A.P. O'GORMAN: Thank you for the opportunity to present this report, Madam Deputy Speaker. I also thank the members of the committee, the members for Geraldton, Kingsley and Murray. The member for Warren-Blackwood was a member of the original committee, but he later resigned his position and was replaced by the member for Carine. They are a great group of people to work with.

I also thank the committee for its support over the past few months. As the new chairman of the committee, I have found my new role rather challenging, but we are getting there. The committee also is new to this community and justice area; therefore, over the past few months it has taken the opportunity of holding briefings with the various departments for which it has responsibility.

The committee has recently adopted terms of reference for an inquiry of which the committee is very supportive. The committee has also coopted the member for Warren-Blackwood to the committee in light of his specific expertise. I thank the members of the committee very much. The briefings by the people from the departments were beneficial because they gave many of us an in-depth insight into the operations of the various departments. The staff of the committee, Ms Katherine Galvin and Ms Nici Burgess, have been of great help in providing members with information about how committees operate and how members should undertake certain aspects of committee duties. Although the report is rather small at this stage, I am sure that, during the rest of this government's term, we will return a number of reports on inquiries that will lead to changes in legislation and make things better for our community as a whole.