

**YOUNG PEOPLE IN AGED CARE ACCOMMODATION**

*Statement by Member for Kingsley*

**MRS C.L. EDWARDES** (Kingsley) [12.54 pm]: Last week I had the pleasure of attending a national conference on alternatives for young people in nursing homes. In Western Australia, for a variety of reasons, 467 young people are housed in aged care accommodation. They have been brain injured through motor vehicle accidents, sailing accidents, strokes, heart attacks or asthma attacks.

Aged care facilities provide for the needs of frail and aged persons - to be warm, secure and comfortable. Aged care facilities do not provide for the needs for rehabilitation or for the opportunity for young brain-injured people to expand their potential for the future. Part of the answer is to develop a system that provides choice of accommodation that is better able to meet their needs.

I commend the young people, their families and their carers, particularly those I met in Melbourne, for the courage and determination they showed to get the message across: no decision about us without us. I encourage them to continue to work towards creating a pathway from aged care to appropriate care.