

ABORIGINAL YOUTH — DIVERSION PROGRAMS

773. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs' "Community Development Strategic Framework 2012–14" refers to the following policy objective at page 2 —

Diverting youth at risk involved with the criminal justice system through connection with Aboriginal elders and other community members to enable cultural based solutions.

Given that we are now nearing the end of 2013, I ask the minister —

- (1) What outcomes have arisen from this policy objective in 2012 and 2013?
- (2) Have any of these outcomes related to the Kimberley region?
- (3) Given that the policy has a focus on connection with elders, have any of the department's actions in this area involved interaction with, and support for, the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre; and, if so, what were the outcomes from that?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Department of Corrective Services is the state government agency responsible for a range of services and programs aimed at diverting youth at risk. However, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs supports programs that divert youth at risk involved with the criminal justice system through connection with Aboriginal elders and other community members to enable cultural-based solutions.

Programs supported by DAA include —

In 2012–13, DAA, on behalf of the Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee, offered a \$300 000 grant to Noongar representatives to develop a Noongar youth diversionary program. The NYDP was conceptualised by Noongar men seeking to address the over representation of Noongar youth in the justice system.

\$300 000 over three years from DAA to the Western Australian Football Commission's south east engagement project. The SEE project has been developed in response to the high rate of antisocial behaviour of Aboriginal youth in the south east corridor of Perth.

\$120 054 from DAA to Fairbridge Western Australia Incorporated for the purpose of engaging a project coordinator for the Ngulla Wirn Kaanya Koort Boodja Karlup initiative. This initiative is aimed at assisting young Aboriginal men transition from prison into work within the resource sector. A reduction in the recidivism rate of Aboriginal young men is a key outcome of this initiative.

Can I add that there are some other initiatives from the educational perspective that I would like to have the opportunity to talk about with the honourable member at some stage, particularly with regard to care schools and what we are doing in that whole area through the Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee. That will become more evident early next year, but I would not mind having a chat with the member about that. It is quite exciting, can I say.

- (2) No. However, participants of programs funded by DAA may be from the Kimberley region.
- (3) DAA has provided funding to the Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre for the following initiatives.

The answer is in tabular form, Mr President, so I table the response and seek leave to have it incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted. [See paper 941.]

The following material was incorporated —

August 2011	Establish and maintain youth programs on Bunuba, Biridu, Junjuwa country	\$19,900
November 2011	Contributions for 2011 Warnamint Festival	\$50,000
April 2012	Ancestral repatriations and culture heritage officer position for 2012	\$80,000
May 2012	Youth at risk evaluation	\$50,000
TOTAL		\$199,900
