

**JOONDALUP YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES**

*Statement by Member for Joondalup*

**MR O'GORMAN** (Joondalup) [12.52 pm]: Joondalup Youth Support Services was formed in 1985 under the name Wanneroo Youth Services. The name change occurred in 2000 to reflect the service's current location, as Joondalup is the regional centre north of Perth. Joondalup Youth Support Services operates a six-bed emergency accommodation residence called Tinoca and two three-bedroom transitional houses for young people between the ages of 15 and 25. The coordinator of the emergency accommodation, Melissa Porter, contributes an untold amount of time, both paid and voluntary, to ensure that the 170 or so users of that service this year receive the best assistance possible for young people in an emergency homeless situation. The coordinator of the transitional accommodation, Lisa Browne, ensures that young people moving from the emergency accommodation have a further period in which to develop their life skills to allow them to participate in society as valuable contributors and role models for other young people who find themselves in a homeless situation.

The overall driver behind Joondalup Youth Support Services is Andrew Hall, who has built up this service over many years and continues to be innovative in finding ways in which to address youth homelessness and many other issues facing young people in the northern suburbs. Although this service assists upwards of 170 young people each year, Andrew is quick to highlight the unmet demand in the northern suburbs. I commend this organisation for its dedication and innovation in dealing with this community problem.