

WA YOUTH WORK AWARDS

Statement by Minister for Youth

MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean — Minister for Youth) [12.17 pm]: I rise to inform the house that on Friday, 25 November, I had the pleasure of attending the WA Youth Work Awards for 2022. These awards are held each year. They are an important event in the youth calendar, as we celebrate the many wonderful achievements and contributions of youth workers across the state.

Youth workers are amongst the hardest working individuals and are guided by a strong determination to bring about positive change to disadvantaged young people in our community. The award recipients for the 2022 WA Youth Work Awards include: Lindsey Brookes, who was the Youth Futures emerging youth worker; Ken Burkenhagen, who was the MercyCare regional WA youth worker; Danielle Tilbrook, who was the Anglicare WA professional youth worker; and Orietta Simons, who received the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia recognition of significant contribution to youth work award. I was also pleased to announce that the state government will be awarding Youth Work WA a grant of \$65 000, which will go towards implementing its strategic plan to deliver and expand training services. Youth Work WA will be able to deliver training in regional areas of the state and coordinate youth-specific training.

The McGowan government recognises and appreciates the value that youth workers contribute to our state, and it is important that we continue to raise their profile by highlighting the significance of their work. I am pleased to award Youth Work WA this funding to ensure the highest quality of support for young people. Congratulations to all the nominees and finalists and to all those who are committed to supporting the youth work sector in Western Australia.