

ABORIGINAL YOUTH SERVICES INVESTMENT REFORMS

5888. Ms J. Farrer to the Premier:

I refer to the Aboriginal Youth Services Investment Reforms (AYSIR) process, and I ask:

- (a) what is the current status of the AYSIR;
- (b) what action has been taken to date in each of the demonstration sites;
- (c) what funding was allocated to the implementation of the Reforms in each of 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18;
- (d) is consideration being given to extend AYSIR and if not why not; and
- (e) What is the role of the Youth Affairs Council of WA in the process in 2016/17 and into the future?

Mr C.J. Barnett replied:

- (a) The Aboriginal Youth Services Investment Reforms are about changing the way State Government delivers, funds and procures youth services to be more effective, targeted and sustainable. State Government agencies are required to apply the reform principles to all relevant expenditure on new services or as contracts expire and are renewed.
- (b) There are two demonstration sites, one in the metropolitan area (including the suburbs of Mirrabooka, Girrawheen, Nollamara, Koondoola and Balga), and one in the regions (City of Greater Geraldton, including Mullewa). The demonstration sites were identified in August 2015 for accelerated application of the reform principles and to provide a reference point for change in other locations. The priority is to better target and coordinate effort by engaging local services, and to identify and support young people and their families with high needs.

Mechanisms and processes for improving inter-agency and cross-sector information sharing have been established in each demonstration site to enable the early identification of young people at risk and their families. This has supported improved coordination at the local level between State Government agencies and not-for-profit service providers through the development of collaborative case management models to support integrated interventions, as well as the identification of opportunities to trial different funding approaches. Once proven, these models and approaches could be used to inform other localised responses throughout the State.

- (c) The State Government has allocated \$900 000 to support implementation of the Reform. An additional \$200 000 over 2015–16 and 2016–17 has been granted to the Youth Affairs Council of WA to build capacity of the youth services sector during the transition phase.
- (d) The reform is ongoing. A transition phase is underway, ending in mid-2017 with agencies expected to have the principles applied to the majority of relevant services by this time.
- (e) Refer to answer (c).