

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Submission to MLA
Attachments: Submission to MLA.docx

From: Manager @ G W Refuge [<mailto:manager@gwrefuge.com.au>]
Sent: Friday, 1 September 2017 10:58 AM
To: Committee, Economics & Industry Standing <laeisc@parliament.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Submission to MLA

Good morning,

Please find attached a submission on behalf of the Goldfields Women's Refuge in relation to the regional airfares issue.

Kind Regards,

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Manager
Goldfields Women's Refuge



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The Goldfields Women's Refuge is a not-for-profit Government funded service that provides supported and safe accommodation to women, with or without children who, as a result of family domestic violence or other crisis are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.

There are two issues that our service is confronted with as a result of the current airfare prices between Kalgoorlie and Perth;

- From time to time we are required to relocate or exit a client or family who are escaping domestic violence. This, for obvious reasons, cannot be a planned process and therefore flights are booked at very short notice and usually requiring the first available flight. This has often meant very expensive costs. Our funding to assist clients in these situations is very limited and is therefore on a first come-first served basis.
- The Goldfields Women's Refuge believes that all our staff should have the appropriate professional development that will enable us to deliver the best possible service to our clients. To access this specialised training we, more often than not, need to travel to Perth. Our training budget limit means that not all staff are able to attend many of the trainings. The timing of flights also means that staff are required to have two nights' accommodation.

As a Government funded agency I believe that it is important that all funding is used wisely with maximum benefit to our clients. To have access to reduced/discounted airfares therefore means we are able to offer support to more clients within our community.