



## APPENDIX B

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

#### ADDITIONAL QUESTION

##### Mental Health Commission

Hon Colin Tincknell MLC asked:

- 1) The Mental Health Advocacy Annual Report 2017/18 states on page 13 that a shortage of hostel accommodation is a significant issue – What is being done to address the shortage of mental health hostel accommodation in the community?

Answer:

The Mental Health Commission (MHC) periodically monitors the vacancies of its funded community based supported accommodation services (such as private licensed psychiatric hostels, Community Options, Community Supported Residential Units) and as of 30 October 2018 there are approximately 34 vacancies.

The MHC is working towards increasing contemporary recovery supported accommodation options in the community. The development of the draft Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Accommodation and Support Strategy 2018-2025 and the project for the future divestment of Graylands will establish a framework to guide the MHC and key stakeholders in the development of accommodation options to meet the needs of people with mental health, and/or alcohol and drug issues.

- 2) I note in the Mental Health Advocacy Annual Report that separate funding was allocated for the Bennett Brook Disability Justice Centre. However these funding details are not detailed in the 'Annual Report by the Chief Advocate for Residents of Declared Places Under the Declared Places (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 2015'. Given there were only two residents accommodated at the facility in 2018, could you please clarify –

- a) Was the low number of residents due to a 'lack of bed flow management processes' as detailed on page 9 of the Annual Report?

Answer:

The bed flow management processes referred to at page 9 of the Mental Health Advocacy Annual Report 2017/2018 refers to patient flow in relation to health services and not in relation to referrals or admissions to a declared place such as Bennett Brook Disability Justice Centre (Bennett Brook).

Bennett Brook is a declared place pursuant to the *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 1996* (CLMIA Act) and is managed pursuant to the provisions of the *Declared Places (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 2015* (Declared Places Act).

Referral to a declared place is determined by the Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board (the Board). The Board is established under the CLMIA Act and is governed by the provisions contained in it.

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The CLMIA Act is administered by the Department of Justice. The Declared Places Act is administered by the Department of Communities, Disability Services.

- b) Will those held in jail or another facility eventually be placed at Bennett Brook's facility?

Answer:

We have been advised that the MHC is not the appropriate agency to answer this question and would recommend referral to the Attorney General.

- c) What role does the Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board have in obtaining transfers for patients held in prisons to the Bennett Brook facility?

Answer:

We have been advised that the MHC is not the appropriate agency to answer this question and would recommend referral to the Attorney General.

- d) What is the total funding allocated to advocacy services for the Bennett Brook Disability Justice Centre in 2018?

Answer:

We have been advised that the MHC is not the appropriate agency to answer this question and would recommend referral to the Attorney General.

- e) What fees (including Board fees) were paid to the Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board to review the residents this year?

Answer:

We have been advised that the MHC is not the appropriate agency to answer this question and would recommend referral to the Attorney General.

Initialed by

