

YOUTH SURVEY 2006

Statement by Minister for Youth

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah - Minister for Youth) [12.06 pm]: I rise to inform the house that for the third time the Western Australian media have banded together and thrown their full support behind the Youth Survey 2006. This year the survey will be run entirely online and will provide a valuable insight into the life and aspirations of Western Australians aged between 12 and 25 years.

The 2006 survey will enable a comparative analysis of the views, aspirations and attitudes of young people in Western Australia that emerged from the inaugural survey in 2000 and the follow-up survey conducted in 2003. Additionally, the survey will enable the development of a snapshot of young people's lives in Western Australia; provide opportunities for the positive media portrayal of Western Australian young people; provide comprehensive data on a range of issues and topics of concern to young people in the state; give a detailed understanding of the views of young people on a range of programs, services and opportunities provided through mainstream and youth-specific programs; identify areas, by postcode, of relative disadvantage in terms of access to infrastructure, services and opportunities; and allow the voices of young people to be heard on a range of issues.

Participation in the survey provides a unique opportunity for young people to directly influence the development of youth policy for the state government. The results, which will be released early next year, will be used to improve communication with young people and enhance their access to, and use of, government and community services. The survey can be completed online at www.youthsurvey.wa.gov.au in approximately 20 minutes, and asks for information across the key areas of About Me, Education and Work, Going Out and Getting Involved, Issues and Opinions, Future Hopes, and Information Sources.

The 2006 Youth Survey is supported by the Office for Children and Youth, the Department of Education and Training, and the state's print and electronic media and is sponsored by Edith Cowan University. I thank Ray Della-Polina, Sir James Cruthers, Kevin Campbell, Chris Wharton, Ian Leggoe, Fiona Lander, Deanne Johnson and Sue Ellen Middleton for their dedication and hard work to make the Youth Survey 2006 possible. I urge all members to encourage their constituents aged between 12 and 25 years to participate in the project and get online to complete the survey before 24 November 2006.