

**MEN'S SHELTER — ROEBOURNE**

*Statement by Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence*

**MS S.F. MCGURK (Fremantle — Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence)** [9.11 am]: I rise today to inform the house about a service based in Roebourne for men. The establishment of a men's shelter in Roebourne is a project of the state government's west Pilbara plan. The aim of shelters like these is to allow women and children experiencing family and domestic violence to stay in their homes safely, while men have access to supports. Mawarnkarra Health Service is currently running a temporary men's shelter in Roebourne. The shelter is available to men during the day only; it does not provide overnight accommodation. The shelter sees between five and 16 men every day and referrals come from the Department of Communities, the Western Australia Police Force, Mission Australia and Mawarnkarra Health Service. The shelter also receives a large number of walk-ins. At the shelter, these men receive counselling, support and meals. They also receive help with court and driver's licence matters. Mawarnkarra has recently gained Lotterywest funding to expand and improve the existing shelter. This funding will enable MHS to provide overnight accommodation for men. A house has been secured for this purpose and MHS will start using it soon. The funding will also help with TAFE training in computing, woodworking and labouring skills; the establishment of a music room; and the creation of a shaded meeting place at the shelter. This is important work to keep families and communities safe and to support men to make changes to live violence-free lives.