

YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA FAIRGROUND CONFERENCE

Statement by Minister for Child Protection

MS S.F. McGURK (Fremantle — Minister for Child Protection) [9.15 am]: I rise on behalf of my colleague the Minister for Youth, who is currently delivering the opening speech at the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia Fairground Conference, to inform the house of a variety of events for young people that are happening this week. In fact, shadowing him today is one of our girl guides, Ms Lucy Jakob-Boyle. Lucy has joined him to open the Youth Sector Conference this morning and is getting a great insight into what it is like to be a minister and parliamentarian. I understand that Minister Tinley has also handed his social media over to Lucy today so expect some “different” posts from him.

The Fairground conference takes place every two years as an opportunity for the youth sector to network, share ideas and discuss common experiences, while focusing on issues of importance to young people. This year the format has been changed to an “Un-Fair ground” conference, with the intention to change the conversation from information giving to sharing, the aim being to challenge our thinking and speak directly about the challenges young people face. Tonight the Awards WA youth awards will be announced, which will recognise some of the great young people of Western Australia. Tomorrow night we will have the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia WA Youth Awards, which is another showcase of the great pool of talented young people in this state.

These events are an excellent opportunity to identify our state’s future leaders. Once again, it is a busy week in the youth space that reflects the capacity of our young people and the drive in the community to achieve outcomes that will allow our future leaders to thrive.