

CHILDCARE CENTRES

405. Mr S.A. MILLMAN to the Minister for Community Services:

I refer to the community-based childcare centres in my electorate such as the Meela Child Care Centre and the Marjorie Mann Lawley Day Care Centre, which for years have been crying out for support. How are childcare centres such as these being supported by this government?

Ms S.F. McGURK replied:

I particularly acknowledge the member for Mount Lawley's advocacy and involvement in the early learning centres in his electorate. Through the local projects, local jobs initiative, WA Labor is proud to say that we are committing funds to the Meela Child Care Centre, the Mount Lawley Child Care Centre, the Mount Lawley Toy Library and the Marjorie Mann Lawley Day Care Centre, all of which will receive money under that grants project for toys, play equipment and the like. One of the centres will get a computer upgrade, which it urgently needs. This government is committed to providing the best services for children's early years; in fact, over \$40 million is spent by the Department of Communities to regulate and support the early education and care sector. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of early years educators who need to be acknowledged as professionals doing important work with some of our most precious resources—our young children.