

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

446. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Minister for Community Development, Women's Interests, Seniors and Youth:

As a supplementary question, if what the minister said is correct, why is the Developmental Disability Council of WA mounting a campaign called "Time to Care", seeking funds for 300 accommodation places in Western Australia?

Ms S.M. McHALE replied:

Let us put the time period in context. Of course we are preparing our budget. All organisations are preparing their budget submissions to government. That is the beauty of our democratic process. The Time to Care campaign has been running for eight years and more, and that is because previous Governments have not dealt with the issue of unmet need. I welcome the campaign. I have told the people involved with the campaign that not only do they need to keep the focus on the State Government, which is entirely their democratic right - we are hearing petitions and individual cases every day - but also they need to keep the pressure on the federal Government. This is very much part of a long-term campaign, which the member, as a previous minister, recognises has been going on for years.