

**HOUSING — REGIONS**

*Statement by Minister for Housing*

**The SPEAKER:** I call the Minister for Housing.

**MR J.N. CAREY (Perth — Minister for Housing)** [9.14 am]: My apologies, Acting Speaker.

**The SPEAKER:** For calling me “Acting”?

**Mr D.A.E. Scaife:** Ha-ha!

**Mr J.N. CAREY:** I rise to update the house on the Cook government’s substantial efforts to increase housing supply in our state’s north west. That was a very loud laugh, member for Cockburn! I am pleased to share progress on a transformational project that reflects our commitment to provide stable and supportive housing for Aboriginal apprentices and low-income trade employees in Roebourne. Construction is well underway on the Ganalili Accommodation and Training Facility, a \$10.5 million project funded through the Cook government’s \$200 million north west Aboriginal housing fund. Led by the Wirlu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation, this initiative is an integral part of the Ganalili centre rejuvenation. The facility comprises three two-bedroom and six one-bedroom grouped dwellings, designed to house Aboriginal apprentices and trainees, including those re-entering the community from the corrections system. This project not only provides stable and affordable long-term accommodation, but also offers essential wraparound support services to ensure the sustained success and wellbeing of the residents.

I had the pleasure of visiting the site in Roebourne last week and witnessed the progress firsthand. The construction process has contributed to workforce development by supporting the work of two Aboriginal apprentices, three Aboriginal trade workers and eight Aboriginal trade assistants. Some of these workers may also be eligible to live in the accommodation. I am also pleased to announce that a Lotterywest grant of \$557 875 was provided and will facilitate the fit-out of common areas, training rooms and kitchens in the facility. This significant investment aligns with our commitment to growing Aboriginal-led housing initiatives, as outlined in the Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy and Closing the Gap targets.

The Ganalili project is a critical effort to create positive and sustainable change in the lives of Aboriginal people in the Pilbara. In particular, I acknowledge the Wirlu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation, which has done an outstanding job on this project. In addition, the Cook government has announced nearly \$47 million to provide funding for new affordable rent-to-buy homes in the Pilbara. This funding includes \$30.6 million for 28 affordable rental homes through the Pilbara Aboriginal home ownership program and \$15.9 million for Kimberley and Pilbara-based Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to provide housing for their employees.