

STATE SETTLEMENT PLAN, PRIORITY AREAS AND CONSULTATION

605. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister representing the Minister for Transport:

- (1) What was the contribution to the Department of Transport, and other instrumentalities within the Minister's portfolio responsibility, to the last up-date of the joint State/Federal State Settlement Plan?
- (2) What priority areas for culturally and linguistically diverse newly arrived migrants were identified?
- (3) What community consultations were undertaken by the Office to identify these areas of priority?
- (4) Who and which groups or organisations were consulted?

Mr COWAN replied:

- (1) The Office of Citizenship and Multicultural Interests (OCMI) jointly chairs and participates in the State Settlement Planning Committee (SSPC) with the Federal Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs in Western Australia. OCMI liaises with State Government agencies and the community to provide input to the State Settlement Plan.
- (2) Priority areas for culturally and linguistically diverse newly arrived migrants were identified at State and national level. Key priority areas for WA were identified by the SSPC as English language training; barriers to employment (including issues regarding recognition of overseas qualifications and skills); settlement support services for newly emerging refugee communities; issues related to domestic violence victims; and police/community relations including issues affecting ethnic young people.
- (3) Areas of priority were identified through wide-ranging consultations and participation on government and non-government committees.
- (4) A broad range of public sector agencies and community groups provided information through surveys and consultations.