

METHAMPHETAMINE ACTION PLAN — GOLDFIELDS–ESPERANCE

5197. Mr K.M. O'Donnell to the Minister for Mental Health:

I refer to Budget Paper 2, Volume 1, page 293 and the additional \$42.5 million in funding provided to the Mental Health Commission for the Methamphetamine Action Plan (MAP), including \$914,000 to increase training for Aboriginal staff in Alcohol and other Drug (AOD) services, and ask:

- (a) Wastewater results show regional Methamphetamine use is the highest in WA, with the Goldfields–Esperance Region as one of the top locations. How much of the \$42.5 million will be allocated to the Goldfields–Esperance Region? Can a breakdown please be given of the funding amount and where it will be allocated (this includes all regional electorates);
- (b) How much of the \$914,000 will be given to the Goldfields–Esperance Region to increase training for Aboriginal staff in AOD services;
- (c) What new programs and/or resources will be put in place to assist in reducing the number of illicit drug users in the Goldfields–Esperance region; and
- (d) Will any further training and/or funding be provided for the local drug rehabilitation centre (Goldfields Rehabilitation Services)?

Mr R.H. Cook replied:

I am advised:

- (a) Although funding has not been specifically targeted to the Goldfields–Esperance Region, part of the \$40.5 million in funding provided to the Mental Health Commission for the MAP is for a range of initiatives that will have far reaching benefits across Western Australia. These initiatives are detailed in answer (c).
- (b) No specific amount of funding will be allocated to the Goldfields–Esperance Region. However, this region is a specific target area for Strong Spirit Strong Mind Aboriginal Programs training and Aboriginal workers from this area will be encouraged to participate.
- (c) Although funding has not been specifically targeted to the Goldfields–Esperance Region, there are a number of initiatives that will have far reaching benefits across Western Australia. These include:
 - Planning for the expansion of the existing Mental Health Co-Response Program to regional areas and to include support for alcohol and other drug issues; and
 - Continuation of the School Drug Education and Road Awareness (SDERA) Program, Strong Spirit Strong Mind Alcohol and Other Drug training, Frontline Workforce Training, and the Methamphetamine Peer Education Program.
- (d) No.