

COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES

690. Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the Attorney General's answers to questions without notice on 15 and 16 August 2017 and his answer to question on notice 317 regarding community legal centre funding from the confiscation proceeds account.

- (1) To which community legal centres was the additional \$650 020 furnished from the fund in the 2016–17 financial year paid and how much was allocated to each?
- (2) Having regard to the limited purposes prescribed under section 131 of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000, to which funds from the criminal proceeds account can it be applied and on what basis was that money provided to each of the recipient community legal centres?
- (3) Were those funds furnished through the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000 grants program; and, if so, on what basis?
- (4) How many applications for grants from the account were denied to facilitate furnishing moneys to community legal centres?
- (5) Given that this is the only allocation that has ever been made to community legal centres from the confiscation proceeds account, on what basis does the Attorney General claim that he used the same assessment to fund the centres as was used by the previous Attorney General?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) On 28 August 2016, the then Attorney General, Hon Michael Mischin, approved funding for the following community legal centres in 2016–17: Albany Community Legal Centre, \$53 500; Citizens Advice Bureau, \$81 400; Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre, \$330 000; Sussex Street Community Legal Centre, \$114 120; and Youth Legal Service, \$71 000. A further two centres, Wheatbelt Community Legal Centre and Street Law Centre, were deemed to have projects eligible for funding but had already received funding for 2016–17.
- (2) Funding was provided for projects undertaken by the community legal centres under section 131 of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000 as follows: Albany Community Legal Centre, eligible under section 131(2)(c) of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000; Citizens Advice Bureau, eligible under section 131(2)(c) of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000; Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre, eligible under section 131(2)(c) and (g) of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000; Sussex Street Community Legal Centre, eligible under section 131(2)(c) of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act 2000; Youth Legal Service, eligible under section 131(2)(b) and (c) of the Criminal Property Confiscation Act.
- (3) No.
- (4) None.
- (5) The initial assessment and approval of funding to community legal centres was authorised by Hon Michael Mischin. Funding of \$1 144 540 was provided for the projects that continued into 2017–18 on the basis of the approvals given by Hon Michael Mischin on 28 August 2016.