

CORRECTIVE SERVICES — YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES - KIMBERLEY

3991. Ms J. Farrer to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to recent critical events in Fitzroy Crossing involving local youth, namely sudden deaths as a result of suicide and vehicle accidents, and criminal behaviour involving the theft of motor vehicles and break and enter offences, and I ask:

- (a) is the Minister aware of the multiple traumatic events which have occurred in the community this year;
- (b) is the Minister aware that during the time of these events, the Fitzroy Crossing Youth Justice Office was closed or when open not fully operational due to a lack of staffing;
- (c) will the Minister provide funding to Kimberley Youth Justice Services to employ youth justice officers to be based in and service Fitzroy Crossing and the surrounding communities;
- (d) if yes to , when will staff be employed; an; and
- (e) will the Minister ensure that the Fitzroy Crossing Youth Justice Office be fully operational by 30 April 2015?

**Mr J.M. Francis replied:**

- (a) Yes.
- (b) The Department of Corrective Services (the Department) has advised that the Fitzroy Crossing Youth Justice Office was operational and staffed by a Prevention and Diversion Officer, and an Aboriginal Support Worker, during the recent vehicle incidents that occurred in Fitzroy Crossing.
- (c) The Department is currently streamlining the Youth Justice Services Division. As part of this process the Department is finalising a review of Regional Youth Justice Services funded via Royalties for Regions.
- (d) Not Applicable.
- (e) The Department has recently completed a recruitment process for a Prevention and Diversion Officer and a recommended applicant has been selected. Once this appointment is finalised the successful candidate will commence at the Fitzroy Office.