

DISABILITY SERVICES — ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT

994. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister representing the Minister for Disability Services

- (1) In the forward estimates 2011–2012, the Government has made a commitment to accommodation support with an increase of \$9.730 million to \$19.290 million. What percentage of this funding has been given by the Commonwealth?
  - (a) What percentage of funding will be distributed to the local area of Gosnells, Huntingdale and Thornlie?
- (2) In the Budget Papers for the Disability Services Commission, in the section titled, *Major Policy Decision — Election Commitments — Early Intervention*, there is mention of an extra 100 early childhood intervention places. What is the target disability for these intervention places?
- (3) In the Budget Papers for the Disability Services Commission, page 462, in the section titled *Individual and Family Support*, the number of employees (full time equivalents) for 2009–2010 Budget Target is quoted as 256. How many of the 256 FTE will be allocated to respite care?
- (4) In the Budget Papers for the Disability Services Commission, page 462, in the section titled *Services and Key Efficiency Indicators*, the number of employees (full time equivalents) is quoted as 2008–2009: 1088 FTE and 2009–2010: 1212 FTE. Will the increase of FTEs be employed by the Disability Services Commission or tendered to the private sector?
- (5) In the Budget Papers for the Disability Services Commission, page 464, in the section titled *New Works*, I refer to Community Disability Housing Program, 2009–2010, where the DSC expects to spend \$9.43 million. How many units will the Disability Services Commission build?

Dr G.G. JACOBS replied:

- (1) No funding has been provided by the Commonwealth. The \$9.73m are part of the State Government's election commitment and are over and above previously committed State growth funds and Commonwealth growth funding.
  - (a) Suburb of residence is not part of the criteria for determining eligibility or priority for Accommodation Support. Funding for Accommodation Support is provided to individual people on a priority basis through the Combined Application Process.
- (2) No target disability has been specified for the allocation of the additional 100 early childhood intervention places. The allocation of early childhood intervention places requires that a child be eligible to receive specialist disability services, under the Disability Services Act (1993), and be before the child is of primary school age.
- (3) These FTE refer to the Commission employees only. The provision of respite care is undertaken by external funded service providers
- (4) All of the 1212 full time employees will be employed by the Disability Services Commission.
- (5) The correct estimated expenditure by the Disability Services Commission given on page 464 is \$943,000. This reflects the cost of modifying approximately 11 group homes leased from the Department of Housing to comply with National Disability Standards and occupational, health and safety requirements.