

TELETHON SPEECH AND HEARING CENTRE — EAR DISEASE TREATMENT IN PRISONS

1085. Hon GIZ WATSON to the minister representing the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to page 38 of last year's annual report of the Telethon Speech and Hearing centre, which stated that arising out of the discovery that 45 per cent of 104 Aboriginal women at Bandyup Women's Prison did not pass a hearing screening process, the centre had been able to initiate talks with the Department of Corrective Services about the provision of a clinical pathway for middle ear disease in incarcerated populations, and that it was anticipated that this would develop further in 2011. What progress has been made to date?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

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

The Telethon Speech and Hearing centre is one of the specialists in the field who are in discussion with the Department of Corrective Services for the provision of a clinical pathway for middle ear disease. The planning meetings are ongoing.