

SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

977. Hon DONNA FARAGHER to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the minister's answer given to question without notice 917, asked last Thursday, about school chaplaincy programs in Western Australia. Given the minister's statement that the agreements with YouthCARE cease on 30 June 2018, will the minister confirm that she intends to ensure that funding to YouthCARE continues beyond 30 June 2018 and at an amount similar to the funding agreements currently in place?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the member for the question. The agreements that expire on that date are commonwealth agreements.

Hon Donna Faragher: No. You have an agreement with YouthCARE, in addition to the other two. I agree with the other two, but there is an agreement with YouthCARE.

Hon SUE ELLERY: If the member had given me some notice, I would have been able to check the facts.

Hon Donna Faragher: You should know; you gave me the answer last Thursday.

Hon SUE ELLERY: Right; so I have been doing nothing today!

Several members interjected.

Hon SUE ELLERY: In any event, I am a big supporter of YouthCARE, as is the Premier and as is the Treasurer. We support the programs that they provide in our schools and, indeed, our schools are big supporters of YouthCARE and chaplaincy services. We will endeavour to do our very best to make sure that YouthCARE can continue to deliver those programs. I am also interested in making sure that the commonwealth continues to meet its obligations.