

ELLENBROOK COMMUNITY AND YOUTH SERVICES HUB

Statement by Member for Swan Hills

MS J.J. SHAW (Swan Hills) [12.59 pm]: The Ellenbrook community and youth services hub is now open and is providing local access to a wide range of support services. Despite the incredible population growth in our area, from 14 000 residents in 2006 to well over 40 000 today, Ellenbrook has not had a suitable space where not-for-profit and community service agencies can provide assistance despite the level of need in our local area. People have had to drive or catch public transport to Midland or Joondalup, often giving up an entire day, for short appointments. Now our community can access services right in the heart of our town. Within a few short weeks Midland Information Debt and Legal Advocacy Service, HelpingMinds, Consumers of Mental Health WA, Communicare and Therapy Focus have set up shop, with more organisations to come. The hub has hot desks, private offices, meeting rooms and a large boardroom, providing options for one-on-one appointments, small group meetings or larger training sessions. This project shows what we can achieve when we work together—business, community and government. Thanks go to Prime Property and Joe Passione for their extraordinary generosity and the Pearce councillors and the staff at the City of Swan for their hard work and support. Thanks also to the Premier and to the Minister for Youth for their support. This facility is an important first step towards a purpose-built youth centre in the heart of Ellenbrook. Thanks to my community for your incredible support. Together we can do great things.

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm