

CHILD PROTECTION — ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES — GORDON INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS

131. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the Minister's reported media comments on 4 June 2017 in response to a call for the implementation of more *Gordon Inquiry* recommendations, and I ask:

- (a) how many of the 197 recommendations have been implemented to date;
- (b) does the Government have any plans to implement more of the recommendations; and
- (c) further to (b), which recommendations are being considered?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) In February 2012, the then Department of Indigenous Affairs completed a review of *The Western Australian State Government's Action Plan for addressing Family Violence and Child Abuse in Aboriginal Communities* (which identified 125 initiatives in response to the Gordon Inquiry recommendations).

The Review found the commitments made to the Action Plan had mostly been achieved, with:

- 72 per cent completed or integrated into State Government agency's core services;
- 20 per cent superseded by other initiatives;
- 3.2 per cent in progress; and
- 4.8 per cent discontinued.

- (b) The Public Accounts Committee was provided a copy of the Review in September 2012 and resolved to conclude the matter.

The intent of the key Gordon initiatives continues to be a focus. Through the Department of Communities' Regional Services Reform Unit, the Government is working with communities and elders to support families and children to have better life outcomes. This reform is focused on delivering:

- improved living conditions that help families to prosper;
- supporting families to build their skills, and overcome any barriers to doing so, through improved service redesign and delivery; and
- education, employment and housing opportunities, including support for families to take them up.

Strategies such as the Safer Families, Safer Communities Kimberley Family Violence Regional Plan are being delivered, focussing on increasing the health, safety and wellbeing of women, children and men living in the Kimberley regions through a reduction in family violence. Similarly, the Earlier Intervention and Family Support Strategy is another mechanism through which the State is seeking to support the most vulnerable families, and intervene before the issues facing those families reach crisis point.

- (c) Not applicable.