

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE — CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

5053. Hon Alison Xamon to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Corrective Services

I refer to recommendations 19 and 20 of the Commissioner for Children and Young People's Report on the Inquiry into the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People from April this year, which raises concerns about children and young people with mental illness in contact with the criminal justice system, and I ask —

- (1) Will the Minister commit to providing, in collaboration with the Mental Health Commission, comprehensive and appropriate mental health assessment, referral and treatment services for children and young people appearing before the Children's Court?
- (2) If yes to (1), how does the Minister intend to ensure this is provided?
- (3) Will the Minister commit to establishing, in collaboration with the Mental Health Commission, a comprehensive State-wide Forensic Mental Health Service for Children?
- (4) If yes to (3), has the Minister considered, and what was the assessment of, the following options —
 - (a) building a dedicated forensic mental health unit in Banksia Hill Juvenile Detention Centre;
 - (b) converting a portion of the Bentley Adolescent Unit into a dedicated forensic facility; or
 - (c) any other options?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1)–(4) Please refer to Legislative Council question on notice 5054.