

SAFE NIGHT SPACE FOR WOMEN — CLOSURE

**1520. Hon Dr BRAD PETTITT to the minister representing the Minister for Homelessness:**

I refer to the ongoing disagreement between the state government and the City of Perth over the future of the Safe Night Space for Women run out of the Rod Evans Centre in East Perth, which is due to close its doors next Friday.

- (1) How much money has the state government made available to keep the Safe Night Space open?
- (2) Will the state government commit to providing the same level of funding to incentivise other local governments that might be willing to take over the service if the City of Perth option is not available?
- (3) If no to (2), why not?
- (4) Why is the state government relying on local government and the community sector to provide a safe night space for women in the Perth CBD?

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Homelessness.

- (1)–(4) The state government has made an offer of \$3.1 million in funding over two years for the continuance of the Safe Night Space service, contingent on utilising the existing facility. This is the only way to keep the service open in the short to medium term. The Office of Homelessness has been working with Ruah Community Services to find an alternative location for the better part of the year; however, all other considered locations would require either significant refurbishment or planning approvals, which would see the service close for a significant period of time.