

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Question on notice

Tuesday, 16 June 2015

3236. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Housing representing the Minister for Regional Development.

(1) The Government has spent \$42 million (sourced from Royalties for Regions funds) on an expansion of Department for Corrective Services (DCS) Remote Youth Justice Services in the Kimberley and the Pilbara. Is it not accurate to state that the youth offending rate at the end of the four years is 10 percent higher than what it was at the beginning of the four years?

(2) As the Government will continue this funding arrangement across the 2014-15 year:

(a) how much money is being allocated to the one year extension of this current program; and

(b) where is that allocation shown within the 2015-16 State Budget papers?

(3) The Government has stated that 'there are issues with the performance of this program' and that future Royalties for Regions investment and partnership with the DCS will be informed by both the program evaluation and by the outcomes of this reform process, so I ask:

(a) what steps and measures is the Government taking to ensure that a program with an expenditure of around \$10 million a year actually does contribute towards a decreasing and not an increasing in juvenile offending rates in the Kimberley and the Pilbara regions; and

(b) what resources will the Government allocate towards non-Government Aboriginal organisations so that they can be empowered to contribute positively towards a reduction in juvenile offending rates?

Answer

(1) This question should be referred to the Minister for Corrective Services

(2)(a) \$15 million in Royalties for Regions funding was allocated to the Regional Youth Justice Kimberley and Pilbara Expansion Initiative in 2014-15.

(2)(b) The Royalties for Regions funding allocation for the Regional Youth Justice Kimberley and Pilbara Expansion Initiative in 2015-16 is drawn from the Regional Community Services Fund and appears on page 210 of Paper No.3 of the 2015-16 State Budget papers.

(3)(a) This question should be referred to the Minister for Corrective Services

(3)(b) This question should be referred to the Minister for Corrective Services