

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
C006**

**Question without notice
(of which some notice is given)**

Tuesday, 16 February 2016

The Hon Robin Chappie MLC to the Minister for Mental Health:

1. Does the state government provide any funding to the Yirriman project?
 2. If so, how much?
 3. What other funding does the state government invest in Aboriginal Youth Mental Health?
 4. The Federal government recently invested \$1 million in the "critical response" project, will the Minister please outline the state government's contribution or involvement to this area of Aboriginal Health?
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I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

1. No Mental Health Commission funding is provided to the Yirriman Project. However, I understand that significant funds are provided for it from the Federal Government.
2. Not applicable.
3. The State Government, through the Mental Health Commission, is investing \$29.1 million over three years until 30 June 2017 for the continuation of the Statewide Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Services project. This important service, which focuses on ensuring access to mainstream mental health services for people from an Aboriginal background, includes service provision for the 16 to 24 years youth cohort.

As part of the WA Footprints to Better Health Strategy, in 2015/16 WA Country Health Service Aboriginal Health Improvement Unit purchased 11 programs targeting Aboriginal Youth mental health programs (Social and Emotional Wellbeing Outcome) with a total value of \$3,184,143, in the Goldfields, Kimberley, Pilbara and Wheatbelt.

4. In May 2015, the State Government committed \$25.9 million to the new suicide prevention strategy, Suicide Prevention 2020 which has a significant focus on programs aimed at reducing the number of suicides in Aboriginal communities.

The Mental Health Commission has been working with the Commonwealth funded Critical Response Project team to ensure that the project complements and informs the actions identified in the Western Australia Suicide Prevention Strategy.

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