LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL Question Without Notice

Wednesday, 13 February 2019

C053. Hon Ken Baston to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming

I refer to the current Banned Drinkers Register trial currently underway in the Pilbara and I ask;

- 1. When is the Pilbara Banned Drinkers Register trial expected to end?
- 2. What key indicators will be measured to assess the effectiveness of the trial?
- 3. Will the Minister consider extending the trial into the Kimberley before the end of the Pilbara trial period as per a recommendation in the Inquest into Kimberley Youth Suicides?

Answer

I thank the Honourable Member for some notice of this question. The Minister for Racing and Gaming has provided the following response. Members in this place have shown a keen and genuine interest in pursuing the Banned Drinkers Register trial. The Minister for Racing and Gaming is appreciative of the Members enthusiasm and hopes that it will continue. I should clarify for the Member's benefit that the trial is expected to commence in the first half of this year.

The Minister has advised that, based on discussions and advice from UWA's Public Policy Institute, the trial is expected to end approximately 24 months after its commencement.

As part of its role on the project, UWA will determine a robust evaluation framework, including key indicators that will be measured in order to ascertain whether it has been successful. These are likely to be reached through consultation with key stakeholders, including those located in the Pilbara in key service organisations.

The Coroner's findings in the Inquest into Kimberley Youth Suicides will be considered in detail over the coming months to determine what action should be taken by regulators to address the role alcohol misuse has in youth suicide.

The Minister is mindful that early introduction of any initiative that has not been proven effective, or does not include essential support services, may be detrimental. However, this matter will be assessed as part of a holistic approach to alcohol abuse.

