

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Carney

to Minister for Justice and Attorney-General

Youth Justice Strategy, Alice Springs

With reference to the existence of a Youth Justice 'strategy' mentioned by you and your colleagues during the recent parliamentary sittings:

- (1) Will you provide the Member for Araluen with a copy of the strategy.
- (2) Will you advise what and which agencies and individuals you met with to assist in the development of the strategy so far as it relates to Alice Springs.

ANSWER**Northern Territory Government Youth Justice Strategy**

The Northern Territory Government has committed \$2.5M to a broad strategy to combat youth crime and antisocial behaviour.

The Strategy has three main elements:

- limiting access to the youth diversion program, so that repeat young offenders will face court, not diversion ;
- the introduction of Family Responsibility Agreements and Orders, and programs to support families and young people. The Agreements and Orders will commence on 1 July 2008 and be administered by the Department of Health and Families; and
- the introduction of youth camps in Alice Springs and the Top End.

Limiting Access to Youth Diversion

Amendments to the *Youth Justice Act* have been made to prevent young offenders being referred to diversion programs more than twice.

Young people who repeatedly break the law will face court, and tough penalties, including detention.

Family Responsibility Agreements and Orders

New Family Responsibility Agreements will hold parents accountable for their child's antisocial behaviour or criminal activity.

Parents who are unwilling to enter an Agreement, or breach their Agreement may face a court imposed Family Responsibility Order.

Police can also seek a Family Responsibility Order immediately where a young person has been charged with an offence or breached a bail condition.

If the conditions of the order are not met, parents will face fines of up to \$2200, the seizure of non-essential household items or a Community Work Order.

Centres will be established in Darwin and Alice Springs to case manage the young people and families who are subject to Agreements and Orders, and to maintain a network of youth and family support services to which families and young people can be referred.

Youth Camps

Under the Youth Justice Strategy, Government will establish youth camps in the Top End and Central Australia.

The camps will work with those kids who are at risk of criminal behaviour, getting them back on the right path.

The camps will work with other youth organisations, including the new centres, to give guidance and support to young people, assist them develop life and work skills and get them back to school or into training.

Under the Strategy, three youth camps have been established and are operating in both the Top End and Central Australia. During 2008-09, Government will work to expand these options.

A consultant, Mr Tony Kelly, was engaged to develop options for a youth camp in Alice Springs.

A list of the persons consulted by Mr Kelly in his work on the Central Australia youth camp and associated services follows.

List of people consulted:

- Bernie Geary, Child Safety Commissioner for Victoria
- Dr Phil Crane, Youth Studies, Queensland University of Technology
- Paul Stoltz, Director, Typo Station
- Roger Pugh, Cape York Institute
- Pam Searle, Consultant, Brisbane
- John Collins, Director, Murrumbidgee Rural Studies Centre, Yanco, NSW
- Dale Murray, Director, Flexible Learning Centre Network, Edmund Rice Education Australia
- Associate Professor Sue McGinty, School of Indigenous Studies, James Cook University
- Tony Lee, Indigenous Consultant, Broome
- David Murray, Director, Youth Substance Abuse Service
- Karl Hampton, MLA, Stuart, NT Parliament
- Allan Cooney (Director), Sam Miles, Vin Lange, Centrefarm Aboriginal Horticultural Ltd
- Phil Anning, Regional Director for Central Australia, DPIFM
- Debbie Roberts, Station Manager, DPIFM
- Peter Campbell, Manager Indigenous Engagement, NT Geological Survey, DPIFM
- Tony Freshwater, Indigenous Pastoral Program, NT Cattleman's Association
- John Baskerville, Executive Director Southern, DCM
- Tracey McNee, Manager, Alice Springs Youth Accommodation and Support Service
- Beth Mildred, Manager Central Australia, Chamber of Commerce NT
- Geoff Sloane, Senior Policy Advisor, Central Australian Coordination Unit, DHCS
- Andrew Miller, Pastoralist, Hamilton Downs
- John Gaynor, Senior Ministerial Advisor, Office for Central Australia
- Anne Tregae (Manager) and Fiona Madigan, Gap Youth Centre Aboriginal Cooperative
- Steve Brown, Advance Alice
- Tony Corcorran, Stephanie Bell, Donna Ah Chee, John Botha, John Liddle, Jane McQueen, Leshay Maidment, Steven Putts, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress
- Ren Kelly, Chairperson, Hamilton Downs Youth Camp Management Committee
- Sharyn Elkin, Senior Advisor, Employment and Training, DEET
- Jennie Renfree, Senior Program and Policy Officer, Youth Diversion, NT Police
- Vivien Wilson (Director) and Norman Latham (Management Committee member), Teen Challenge Centralia
- Graham Ross, Youth Worker
- John Adams and Reg Hatch, Tangentyere Council
- David Koche (Acting Mayor), Marguerite Baptiste-Rooke (Councillor), Meredith Campbell (Councillor) and Rex Mooney (CEO), Alice Springs Town Council
- Rita Henry, Regional Director, DEET

- Gerard Jones, Manager Residential Care & Sector Development, Child Protection and Family Services Branch, Victorian Department of Human Services
- Rick Hanlon, AFL Kickstart, Cape York
- Terry Flanagan A/Regional Director, Moreton, Queensland Department of Communities
- Terry O'Brien, (Accredited Training Coordinator) Rob Davies (Community Programs Coordinator), The Outlook, Queensland Department of Communities
- Lorraine Brown (Coordinator) and Martin Kelly, Centre Education Program, Logan City
- Michael Tansky, Director, Youth Policy, Queensland Department of Communities
- Maureen O'Regan, Child Safety Tribunal, Queensland
- Simon Kelly, Child, Adolescent and Family Counsellor, Brisbane
- Stewart Wiley, Coordinator, Youth Diversion Program, Julalikari Aboriginal Corporation, Tennant Creek.
- Gary Scapin, Senior Policy Advisor, Community Services, DHCS
- Charlie Stewart, Biribi Coordinator, Youth Substance Abuse Service
- Allan Brahminy, Director, Brahminy Youth, Eva Valley, NT
- Greg Crowe and Ann Davies, Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education
- Will McGregor, Manager, Bush Mob
- Mark Coffey, Commander, Southern, NT Police
- Mark Dokoe (Principal), Peter Imms (Community Liaison), Tim and Cherie, Yirara College
- Andrea Martin, Regional Manager, Southern, DLGHS
- Robyn Donnelly (Director) and Gary Jones (Youth Diversion Unit Case Manager), Relationships Australia NT, Alice Springs.
- Pat Miller, Director, Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Service and Deputy Administrator of the NT
- Annette Jamieson, Principal, Alice Springs High School
- Bruce McGregor, Coordinator, Alice Springs Youth Centre
- Lorraine Brahm, MLA, Braitling, NT Parliament
- Lu Steurt and Lynn Buckley, FACS, DHCS
- Joanne Earl, Principal, Centralian College
- Blair McFarland (Coordinator) and Tristan, Central Australian Youth Link Up Service
- Alan Murray, Charles Darwin University (previously Alice Outcomes)
- Elva Cook, Traditional Owner, Injarrtnama
- Bob Durnam, Administrator, Western Aranda Health Aboriginal Corporation
- Phil Cowan, Ranger, Owen Springs Reserve, NRETA
- Pauline Hickey (Team Leader, Placement Support), David Ross (Senior Manager, Reform), Sheryl Weeks (A/Team Leader, CATS), Phill Da Costa (Team Leader, FACS), Sarah-Jane Zaichenko (A/Team Leader OOHC), Kay Gilbert (A/Team Leader, Child Protection), Dee Lehman (Team Leader, Tennant Ck), Prue Walker (A/Client Services Manager), Megan Murdock (Team Leader, Youth at Risk), Julianne Donnelly (Senior Manager, FACS), DHCS Alice Springs
- Phil Brown (Superintendent, Alice Springs Prison) and Peter Richards (Manager Community Corrections, Alice Springs), Department of Justice
- Leo Abbott, Traditional Owner claimant, Owen Springs
- Roger Sneeuwjagt, Canvas and Tent Australia.