

Legislative Council

Hansard

Wednesday 10 December 2025

The President, Mr Farrell, took the Chair at 11 a.m., acknowledged the Traditional People and read Prayers.

[excerpt...]

Enquiry into Details Regarding JCP Youth and Meeting with DECYP

Ms WEBB question to MINISTER for CHILDREN and YOUTH, Ms PALMER referred to LEADER for the GOVERNMENT in the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, Ms RATTRAY

[2.44 p.m.]

I have another question for the Minister for Children and Youth, but I believe the Leader will have the answer for me. This is regarding statements by emeritus distinguished professor Rob White reported in an ABC report on 20 November this year. That report was titled 'Department meets with JCP Youth over social media posts showing camp workers in balaclavas'[checked] in which Professor White states, and I quote:

I have to say, when I look at those images there's nothing in those images that is trauma-informed or trauma-responsive.

And quote:

In fact, it is completely the opposite of everything that we're trying to do in the area of juvenile justice and rehabilitation and restorative justice.

Can the government

- (e) advise whether the department has requested and obtained any peer-reviewed therapeutic or trauma-informed responsive accreditation of any JCP youth programs including the BEAST program or the opt-in blackout program?
- (f) advise whether the department has requested and obtained any accredited therapeutic or trauma-responsive qualifications of any former or current JCP youth staff members?

ANSWER

Mr President, In answer to question:

- (g) Under the funding agreement between the Department for Education, Children and Young People and JCP Youth, the minister advised its service must be guided by the following COI recommendations: the Youth Justice Blueprint of 2024-2034, the Youth Justice Diversionary Framework and the Youth Justice Model of Care. The principles of the model of care in particular outline a trauma-informed and therapeutic strengths-based practice to support at-risk and offending children and young people from interactions with the youth justice system. The Director of Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships holds

responsibility for monitoring compliance according to the funding agreement. The minister has also advised the department also monitors delivery of JCP Youth contracted services through dedicated monthly operational governance meetings and standardised quarterly reporting.

It is also my expectation - the minister's expectation - that the independent evaluation of the JCP Youth BEAST Program will include assessment against the government's Youth Justice Reform Strategy and COI recommendations.

The minister will be seeking regular updates. The minister has also advised JCP Youth staff undergo a five-week initial induction which includes how to work with young people in a trauma-informed way delivered through Lifeline. JCP Youth staff also undergo ongoing training once a month, including the application of the Child and Youth Safe Standards and how to keep children safe.