

Professor Peter Newman
Director
Sustainability Policy Unit
Department of the Premier and Cabinet
15th Floor Governor Stirling Tower
197 St Georges Tce
Perth WA 6000

Dear Peter,

WACOSS SUBMISSION TO THE STATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Please find attached WACOSS' submission to the State Sustainability Strategy Consultation Draft *Focus on the future: The Western Australian State Sustainability Strategy* (2003).

Given WACOSS' close involvement with the work of the WA Collaboration and support for the Collaboration's *Community Sustainability Agenda*, our submission is focused on a small number of key areas of concern to WACOSS and our membership.

WACOSS looks forward to the finalisation of the State Sustainability Strategy and to ongoing opportunities for dialogue and involvement to create a more just and sustainable Western Australia.

Yours sincerely,

Leanne Barron
Manager, Social Policy

28 February 2003



**Western Australian Council of Social Service Inc.
Submission to the State Sustainability Strategy
Consultation Draft
*Focus on the future: The Western Australian State
Sustainability Strategy (2002)***

February 2003

WACOSS congratulates the State Government on its commitment to the development of a State Sustainability Strategy, and welcomes the opportunity to make a second submission to the consultation process.

WACOSS supports the development of a State Sustainability Strategy as providing an innovative framework for the governance and development of Western Australia. In particular, WACOSS supports the Strategy as a response to a range of identified social problems, including “isolation, homelessness, poverty and other forms of inequity.”¹ These issues represent the ‘core business’ of WACOSS as a peak civil society organisation which represents non-government social and community service organisations who work with some of the most disadvantaged members of our community. We believe that the success of the State Sustainability Strategy will depend on addressing these critical community issues to the same extent and level of detail as environmental and economic concerns.

WACOSS has been closely involved in the work of the WA Collaboration as a founding member, member of the Steering Committee, and as a participant in the Sustainability Summit held on 14-15 February 2003. We therefore strongly support the *Community Sustainability Agenda* developed by the Collaboration and the recommendations contained within that document. We commend this document as representing an important civil society response to the State Sustainability Strategy.

For this reason, WACOSS’ submission to the Strategy Consultation Draft *Focus on the Future* is brief and focused on a number of key points around issues of social sustainability.

Defining Social Sustainability

As you are aware WACOSS has undertaken significant work on developing an understanding the social dimension of sustainability, and its interconnections with the environmental and economic dimensions. This work was provided in some detail in our previous submission to the Strategy in April 2002, and we acknowledge that aspects of our work were represented in the *Consultation Draft*.

WACOSS believes that an important aspect of defining social sustainability is providing a sense of vision and goals for communities at the state, regional and local levels. To this end the WACOSS Model of Social Sustainability² identifies a set of five principles which make communities healthy and livable both now and in the future, ie:

¹ Government of Western Australian (2002) *Focus on the Future: The Western Australian State Sustainability Strategy*, Consultation Draft, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Perth.

² Barron, L. and Gauntlett, E. (2002) *Model of Social Sustainability, Stage 1 Report, Housing and Sustainable Communities Indicators Project*, WACOSS, Perth.

- equity
- diversity
- interconnectedness
- quality of life
- democracy and governance

We believe that these principles need to be explicitly incorporated into a State Sustainability Strategy. While notions of diversity, interconnectedness, quality of life and democracy and governance are implicitly expressed in the *Consultation Draft*, we believe that the principle of equity is not sufficiently expressed.

In addition, we believe that these principles, and the corresponding set of characteristics developed in the WACOSS Model of Social Sustainability can form a kind of 'checklist' against which the social sustainability of various programs and proposals at various levels can be gauged.

The definition of social sustainability provided in the *Consultation Draft* refers to the concept of social capital as the networks that link people to their communities. We believe that social capital provides only a partial conceptualisation of social sustainability, and that the notion of social capital as 'networks' is further a partial conceptualisation of social capital.

In terms of the latter, writers such as Stone³ have distinguished different forms of social capital, ie. 'bonding', 'bridging' and 'linking' social capital. Bonding social capital involves those close networks that help the daily process of 'getting by'; bonding social capital refers to the process of 'getting ahead' through access to and transfer of resources and opportunities across multiple networks; and linking social capital refers to relationships with those in authority through which community members are able to access power or resources. This notion of different forms of social capital is important in that it draws attention to the multi-faceted nature of relationships and the types of transfers made possible. It also draws attention to the differential access of individuals and communities to forms of social capital and therefore to the resources or opportunities they afford, and in this way explicitly connects social capital with the notion of equity.

At the same time WACOSS would argue that even this broader conceptualisation of social capital does not represent a full explanation of social sustainability, rather it focuses primarily on the processes involved. We would therefore argue that social sustainability requires further definition, in a way that speaks to both process and outcomes, and as per our previous submission, would argue that the Model of Social Sustainability developed by WACOSS provides a starting point for this work.

³ Stone, W. (2001), *Measuring Social Capital: towards a theoretically informed measurement framework for researching social capital in family and community life*, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, Australia

Finally, we believe that a definition of social sustainability needs to speak more clearly to the types of communities we aspire to, in a way that is comprehensible to and resonates with a range of community members.

Employment

As per WACOSS' previous submission, employment in its broadest sense was identified through our research as a core component of social sustainability. As a consequence we believe that employment and employment conditions needs greater focus within the State Sustainability Strategy. A particular area of the Strategy where we believe employment-related issues should be explicitly incorporated is in the Sustainability Code of Practice and Action Plans for government agencies. This should occur in relation to procurement policies, for eg. giving additional weight in tendering processes to contractors who target employment for the long-term unemployed or those otherwise disadvantaged in the labour market. In addition the employment practices of government agencies themselves should be included as part of their Action Plans.

Housing

Housing was similarly identified as a core element of social sustainability, and we believe critical action is required to address both the decline in public housing funding and the contraction in the low cost end of the private rental market.

WACOSS supports recommendation 5.6 contained in the State Sustainability Strategy *Consultation Draft* regarding the development of Statements of Planning Policy on Public Housing, Community Housing and Affordable Private Housing as a potential mechanism for increasing the supply of affordable housing at regional and local levels. This is unlikely to occur, however, without adequate resourcing. WACOSS therefore recommends a two-part resourcing structure:

- (i) formation of a semi-autonomous resourcing unit with responsibility for assisting Local Government to implement Statements of Planning Policy. The unit will achieve this via a research function, particularly focused on examples of best practice in local, national and international contexts and on financing options, and bringing relevant stakeholders together. Key stakeholders are identified as including Department of Housing and Works, Department of Local Government and Regional Development, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Treasury, WA Local Government Association, Housing Industry Association and Non-Government organisations (see for example the NSW Affordable Housing Service).
- (ii) resourcing at the local or regional level to facilitate Local Government to implement their respective Statements of Planning Policy.

Poverty

Finally WACOSS believes that the issue of poverty in our communities needs to be explicitly named and addressed as part of a State Sustainability Strategy. It is unacceptable that significant levels of poverty continue to exist, particularly given the good economic growth experienced by this State. Efforts must therefore be made to ensure that the wealth that is created is more equitable shared.

WACOSS believes that this inequity can begin to be addressed via a range of strategies in the areas of employment, housing, provision of services, and supporting the capacity of the non-government social service sector to respond to community issues.

WACOSS 2003/04 pre-Budget Submission *Thriving Communities* contains a range of recommendation which we believe will make significant progress towards addressing these issues. We therefore attach this submission for consideration and integration into the State Sustainability Strategy.

Sustainability Indicators

Finally, WACOSS acknowledges that sustainability is a 'path' which requires ongoing dialogue between all sections of the community. We believe that this dialogue can be facilitated through the development of Sustainability Indicators which enable both government and the community to gauge progress towards sustainability.



The Western Australian Council of Social Service Inc

THRIVING COMMUNITIES

**WACOSS 2003/2004 Pre-Budget Submission
To The Western Australian State Government**

ABOUT WACOSS

The Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS) is the peak body representing non-government community services in Western Australia.

The 2003/2004 Pre-Budget Submission “Thriving Communities” has been developed through a consultation process with West Australian community service organisations. This task has been achieved with very limited resources, however incorporates the wealth of experience of individuals involved in the community services sector.

This document contains the priority social needs of the West Australian community requiring urgent resourcing from the next State Budget.

As with previous pre-budget submissions, in framing this document WACOSS seeks from the State Government the following crucial elements:

Vision – *focused on enhancing social equity and quality of life through the simultaneous pursuit of sustainable economic development, full employment, a fair distribution of the wealth of this State, and justice for disadvantaged people;*

Values – *which enhance the dignity and worth of all Western Australians, promote community participation and development, and place the common good above sectoral interests;*

Strategies – *based on the interdependence of economic, social and environmental factors and which give each their due weight; and*

Policies – *which reject unacceptably high levels of poverty and inequality, and give highest priority to raising the living standards of low income and disadvantaged people.*

These are the building blocks crucial to any policy package that seeks to create a future that works for all West Australians.

THE SOCIAL HEALTH OF THE WEST AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

While the Western Australian economy continues to perform better than most other states in Australia, a reliance on economic indicators alone does not give a true picture of the social health of the Western Australian community.

The recent joint report titled '*Australians Living on the Edge*' from the Australian Council of Social Service and the Western Australian Council of Social Service (2003) highlights the increasing demand for services experienced by local community agencies and the expectation that the situation will continue to worsen. This is evident in the significant increase in demand for services compared to the previous '*Australians Living on the Edge*' results (2002).

The key findings of the report included the following:

- There has been a 12% increase in the estimated number of people assisted by respondent agencies between the 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 financial years (compared to a 3.4% increase in the previous financial years).
- There has been a 19% increase in the estimated numbers of people seeking but not receiving the core service(s) they sought from respondent agencies between the 2000/2001 and the 2001/2002 financial years (compared to 13.4% increase in the previous financial years). The problem is most acute in the housing area where 29% of the client population base did not receive the services they sought.
- Community sector organisations continue to work under increasing pressure, with only 2% reporting no increase in pressure. Agencies report a multitude of reasons for the increase in pressure including an increase in operating costs (18%), an increase in the number of clients seeking services (16%), and the increasingly complex needs of clients (15%).
- Agencies have developed a range of responses to the increase in pressure. Agencies continue to rely heavily on staff to provide additional unfunded work and/or are turning to volunteers (17%). The creation and extension of waiting lists, increased referrals and closer targeting of services were also used by 28% of organisations as ways of dealing with the pressures they faced.
- There has been only slight variations in the proportion of agencies' income derived from government sources, client fees, business contributions and 'other' sources. Overall, the figures suggest that an increasing number of organisations are looking to 'other' forms of income generation to support their activities.
- Many organisations (42%) expect not to be able to meet an increase in demand and/or costs over the next six months (compared to 36.3% in the previous survey), confirming a sector view that current trends are expected to continue or worsen.
- Volunteers provide an immense contribution to the work of sector organisations, particularly in the actual delivery of services. While the average number of paid staff employed by respondent agencies is 25, the

average number of volunteers (including board, clerical and service delivery volunteers) is 40.

- A third of respondent agencies indicated that they had experienced difficulties in obtaining insurance in 2001/02, with 71% indicating that the cost of insurance was the major difficulty. 66% of all respondents indicated that they will be paying more for insurance in 2002/03 than in 2001/02, with an average increase per agency of \$5 287.
- The level of training within the sector appears to be patchy and generally inadequate. Of particular concern is that voluntary service delivery workers, who are at the critical interface between the service delivery agency and members of the community, received on average \$23 worth of training per person in the 2001/02 financial year.

As the above results demonstrate, while demand for services is clearly increasing, the capacity of not-for-profit community agencies to deliver quality services to the Western Australian Community is also under great strain on the supply side of the equation.

Compliance and other cost increases arising from tax reform, National Competition Policy, industrial reforms and workforce change are draining resources away from service delivery. In addition, increases in insurance premiums, cost increases arising from living wages cases and award changes, general inflationary rises on business inputs and the increasingly competitive fundraising environment further impact on the capacity of the community sector to meet demand for services in the West Australian community.

The implications of this situation for government programs that fund community services are clear. Services that have to rely on the same level of funding without indexation have had to cut service delivery in order to be viable. If no appropriate indexation arrangements are made to existing funding requirements, further cuts to service delivery will result and in some cases agencies may become unviable resulting in the closure of services.

Other strategies that will assist in meeting community need with limited resources include the provision of organisational management and development services including advisory, training and information resources. With this form of "industry assistance" we can proactively assist organisations to lift both the efficiency and effectiveness of their services to the West Australian community.

An active and participatory partnership is also essential between communities and government in order to deliver the most responsive and quality services to the community. Community partnership begins with local communities defining their own goals for social well-being and economic development and extends to analysis and consultation at all levels of the decision making process.

Such a partnership requires openness, accountability and an on-going relationship, which is fostered by establishing guidelines for the process and then ensuring that these guidelines are observed. Such guidelines can be formalised in an appropriate compact between government and the social services community.

The goal of "joined up government" presents a great opportunity for government and the community to work together to provide better services to West Australians and in many cases better outcomes can result through better use of existing resources.

Specific support is also required to enhance the adequacy and effectiveness of social services to West Australians living in rural and remote communities. This can be facilitated through the establishment of regional community service networks.

The following recommendations outline the community service sector's priority requests for additional resources from the State Budget 2003/2004 to meet the needs of low income and disadvantaged West Australians and the needs of community services organisations who deliver the services.

WACOSS 2003/2004 Pre-Budget Submission

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT

Recommendation 1: Partnership Agreement with the Community Services Sector

That the State Government develop a whole-of-government partnership agreement with the Community Services Sector through its peak body WACOSS, which outlines its commitment to work collaboratively with the sector on the following:

- The design, implementation and evaluation of social policies and programs;
- The development of sector capacity building initiatives; and
- The promotion of best practice and sector reform.

Recommendation 2: Indexation of Government Funding Contracts to Not-For-Profit Organisations

In order to maintain the level and quality of service delivery contracted by State Government agencies to not-for-profit community service organisations, the State Government fund adequate annual indexation adjustments for the 2003/04 State Budget and future budgets in accordance with the indexation formula proposed by WACOSS to the State Treasurer.

Recommendation 3: Funding and Contracting Policy

That the State Government implements the new policy on the funding and purchasing of community services. In particular, the proposal to develop a common shell agreement for contracts be finalised for operation in the 2003/04 financial year.

Recommendation 4: Regional Support

The State Government through the various Regional Development Commissions support the establishment of not-for-profit community service networks in the regions as a means to capacity build community services in rural and remote areas.

(Cost: \$300,000)

Recommendation 5: Capacity Building/Industry Development

The State Government in consultation with WACOSS establish a centralised industry development service that will provide a range of organisational management and development support services to not-for-profit organisations aimed at increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of local service delivery.

(Cost: \$350,000)

Recommendation 6: Thriving Communities Program

That the State Government develop a 'Thriving Communities Pilot Program' which focuses on the prevention of local social problems through collaborative partnerships between government, community organisations and local people.

These pilots are to be situated in a mixture of metropolitan and regional high need areas. Community Development funds would be made available in the first instance to pilot regions to facilitate collaboration between government and community services. Local networks will integrate the wide range of pre-existing local structures to develop a responsive local network that will focus on outcomes for the community.

The goals of the local networks are to:

- Build connection and civic pride through the engagement of the local community in social planning and service delivery;
- Rationalise the plethora of pre-existing local advisory networks on specific social issues; and
- Contribute to a sustainable agenda for local communities.

These networks should become the vehicle to implement government priority social initiatives (for eg. in the areas of 'early years', poverty etc.)

Recommendation 7: Office of a Children's Commissioner

That the State Government fund the establishment of an independent Office of a Children's Commissioner with responsibility for:

- Promoting children's interests and rights across government departments and the community;
- Instigating and undertaking investigations in regard to specific issues or incidents, including the capacity to compel witnesses; and
- Researching issues relating to the interests and rights of children.

Recommendation 8: Sustainability Indicators

That the State Government, through the State Sustainability Strategy, develop clear and accessible indicators which enable both government and the community to gauge progress across the social, environmental and economic dimensions of sustainability.

POVERTY

Recommendation 9: Taxation/Revenue

All State Budget revenue proposals must be subject to a social impact assessment to ascertain whether separately or cumulatively they impact unfairly on low-income families and individuals. As a guide, rises in taxes and charges should be kept at or below the Consumer Price Index. These proposals should be subsequently modified if it can be shown to disadvantage this target group.

Recommendation 10: Financial Counselling

To assist West Australians in poverty the State Government should fund:

- A “Financial Advice Hotline” similar to those operating in other Australian States to provide ordinary West Australians with detailed financial advice. This cost effective strategy will allow regional, rural and remote people to access financial advice and will decrease demand on Financial Counselling services. (Cost: \$100 000)
- A new Financial Counselling service for Prisoners and their Families. (Cost: \$80 000)
- Seven new Financial Counselling services in the following areas of high need: Augusta/Margaret River, Eastern Wheatbelt area between Corrigin and Kalgoorlie, North of Joondalup, Rivervale, Canning Vale/Southern River, Ellenbrook and Midvale. (Cost: \$500 000)
- A Training Course specifically designed for Aboriginal workers regarding financial counselling, poverty, and credit and debt issues. (Cost \$80 000)
- Fund community education projects that encourage community awareness of poverty, sustainable living and general education on issues of credit and debt. (Cost: \$80,000)

Recommendation 11: Utilities Reform

In recognition of the essential nature of the services provided by utilities, the State Government should:

- Implement a “Utilities Assistance Scheme” for Health Care Card and Pensioner Concession Card Holders consistent with the Victorian Utilities Relief Grant Scheme. The Scheme will operate in addition to existing concessions and rebates and assist those most vulnerable to disconnection. (Cost: \$1 million)
- Provide resources to enable representation of the community in policy development and Utilities Reform. (Cost: \$50,000)

- Fund research into the social impact of Utility policy in Western Australia to enable a more adequate contribution to the sustainability of Utility policy. (Cost: \$50 000)
- Implement a “Customer Service Code” to be included in the Licence for all Utilities to ensure protection of all consumers particularly in relation to Utility credit control practices.
- Introduce a connection fee rebate and daily supply charge rebate for Gas consumers on low incomes, similar to that currently offered by Western Power.

Recommendation 12: Transport

In recognition of public transport as a key service used by low-income West Australians the State Government must ensure that there are no increases in state concession fares in public transport.

Recommendation 13: Education

Education costs and the complexity of the fees, charges and contributions system place a large burden on low-income families and, as part of a commitment to eradicate poverty, funds are required to:

- Undertake an independent review of the Education fees and charges system to assess impact and make recommendations as to improvements in relation to social equity.
- Implement a rebate in the form of a Primary Assistance Scheme for primary school charges (up to \$60 per child) similar to the Secondary Assistance Scheme. (Cost: \$1.5-2 million)
- Increase the rebate available through the Secondary Assistance Scheme to cover the full cost of fees (up to \$235 per child) in State High Schools for years 8-12. (Cost: \$430,000)

HOUSING

Recommendation 14: Increasing the Supply of Public Housing

That the State Government lobby the Commonwealth Government to increase their annual commitment to the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement by \$26 million to \$123 million, in order to arrest the decline in funding over the last decade and to respond to increasing unmet housing need and the needs of the 28 000 Western Australian households spending more than 30% of their income on housing.

Further, that the State Government increase its annual \$35 matching commitment by \$20 million to \$55 million to be funded through consolidated revenue. This increase to be comprised of the following components:

- (i) In the event that the CHSA ceases to exist from 2008, there will be a need for growth in the State Government contribution in order to ensure that at least current levels of housing provision are maintained. This will require growth of approximately \$15 million per year, each year, until 2008; ie. \$15m in 2003/04, \$30m in 2004/05, \$45m in 2005/06, \$60m in 2006/07 and \$75m in 2007/08. In 2003/04, the \$15m is to comprise \$10m to continue the State Homelessness Strategy and \$5m to respond to housing-related recommendations arising from the Gordon Inquiry, in particular for the provision of housing and housing management services to address the issue of significant overcrowding in Indigenous housing.
- (ii) In the pre-election period the State Government promised \$10m to community housing over a 4 year period however this funding has not eventuated. WACOSS therefore recommends that half this amount, ie. \$5m be allocated to community housing for 2003/04 to enable stock growth.

(Cost: \$20 million)

Recommendation 15: GST Compensation

The Commonwealth State Housing Agreement currently under negotiation is unlikely to include a component for GST compensation. In the event that the Commonwealth's current offer is accepted by the State Government, provision will need to be made to ensure that social housing provision does not suffer. This will involve an allocation of \$8.33 million (equivalent to approximately 100 housing units) per annum over the life of the Agreement.

(Cost: \$8.33 million,
dependent on the outcome of CSHA negotiations)

Recommendation 16: State Housing Strategy

That the State Housing Strategy develop targets for social housing stock both as absolute numbers and relative to total housing stock. Further, that financial modelling be undertaken to identify the amount of funding required and that a funding strategy be developed to achieve these targets.

Recommendation 17: Statements of Planning Policy

WACOSS supports recommendation 5.6 contained in the State Sustainability Strategy *Consultation Draft* regarding the development of Statements of Planning Policy on Public Housing, Community Housing and Affordable Private Housing as a potential mechanism for increasing the supply of affordable housing at regional and local levels. This is unlikely to occur, however, without adequate resourcing. WACOSS therefore recommends a two-part resourcing structure:

- (i) formation of a semi-autonomous resourcing unit with responsibility for assisting Local Government to implement Statements of Planning Policy. The unit will achieve this via a research function, particularly focused on examples of best practice in local, national and international contexts and on financing options, and bringing relevant stakeholders together. Key stakeholders are identified as including Department of Housing and Works, Department of Local Government and Regional Development, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Treasury, WA Local Government Association, Housing Industry Association and Non-Government organisations (see for example the NSW Affordable Housing Service).
- (ii) resourcing at the local or regional level to facilitate Local Government to implement their respective Statements of Planning Policy.

(Cost: \$0.5 million)

Recommendation 18: Community Housing Lease Fees

That the State Government abolish lease fees on properties headleased from the Department of Housing and Works by community housing providers. These fees are effectively transfers from one social housing provider to another and incur relatively high administrative costs, ie. in excess of \$1 000 per property per annum. Abolition of these fees will therefore increase the level of funds available to be directed towards stock growth.

Recommendation 19: Abolition of Private Rental Lease Fees

That legislation pertaining to the abolition of letting fees for private rental be proclaimed and enacted immediately as part of the State Action Plan on Homelessness.

Recommendation 20: Advice Services to Tenants

That local tenancy advice services (Local Service Units), with links to the existing Tenants Advice Service (Inc) as the specialist resourcing body, be established in locations identified by the State Housing Strategy as comprising a relatively high proportion of renters and where there are problems with affordability. Currently identified areas include Broome, the Great Southern region, the area between the Mid West and the Pilbara, and the expanding suburbs around Wanneroo and Joondalup. Further, that the units be funded through the Rental Accommodation Fund, which is comprised of the interest on private renters' bonds.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Recommendation 21: Family Support

That the Department for Community Development:

- Establish a funding pool to allow community groups to provide safe and affordable crèche services in order to make local community services more accessible to families. (Cost: \$750,000)
- Fund six new community/neighbourhood centres (three country, three metropolitan) in areas of high need to further local community development. (Cost: \$420,000);

Recommendation 22: Services to Children in Care

That the Department for Community Development receive additional recurrent resources to provide a range of services in Government and non-government agencies to meet the needs of the growing number of children coming into state care. These resources are to assist in the development of a whole of industry plan for children in care. (Cost: \$4.0 million)

Recommendation 23: Domestic Violence Crisis Intervention Counselling Service

That the Department for Community Development provide funds for a Domestic Violence Crisis Intervention Counselling Service for women who are in immediate need when in refuges. It is proposed that this model provide a metropolitan wide service similar to that of the Domestic Violence Children's Counselling Service. (Cost: \$100 000)

DISABILITY SERVICES

Recommendation 24: Disability Services

That growth funding of \$16.3million over and above that already provided for in the forward estimates be allocated in 2003/04 for disability services. The strategies proposed seek to provide sustainable services to thousands of West Australians who are without support:

New People Assisted	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08
Accommodation Services	209	443	533	626	722
Respite/In-Home Services	238	475	680	885	1,090
De-institutionalization	35	70	105	140	175
Alternatives to Employment	200	400	520	640	760
Therapy/Equipment	500	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500

Financial estimates, over and above existing forward estimates are:

Resources required (\$m)	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08
Accommodation Services	\$9.0	\$18.8	\$24.0	\$29.4	\$35.0
Respite/In-Home Services	\$0.6	\$1.2	\$3.5	\$5.9	\$8.2
De-institutionalisation	\$0.9	\$1.8	\$2.6	\$3.5	\$4.4
Alternatives to Employment	\$3.0	\$6.0	\$7.8	\$9.6	\$11.4
Therapy/Equipment	\$1.9	\$3.8	\$5.6	\$7.5	\$9.4
Capacity Building	\$1.0	\$2.0	\$2.7	\$3.4	\$4.2
Total	\$16.3	\$33.5	\$46.3	\$59.3	\$72.5

Recommendation 25: Indigenous Disability Resource Centre

That the Disability Services Commission fund an Indigenous Disability Resource Centre to provide assistance in the areas of community development, community education and in the provision of a holistic advocacy service to Indigenous people living with a disability. The Centre should provide clear policy advice on ways to enhance community capacity/leadership to respond to the various roles of individual/family/community in regards to advocating for an Indigenous person with a disability. (Cost: \$400 000)

JUSTICE

Recommendation 26: Community Legal Services

In relation to protecting the legal rights and access to justice of those who are most vulnerable in our community, the Ministry of Justice must provide additional funds of \$3 million to expand the level of community legal services in Western Australia. Funding should be linked to the proposals arising out of the review of legal services currently being undertaken by the State and Commonwealth Governments in Western Australia. (Cost: \$3 million)