



PRESS RELEASE

Committee on Children and Young People:

Inquiry into children and young people 9-14 years in NSW

Report Tabled

The NSW Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young People has released its Report on children and young people aged 9-14 years in NSW. The Inquiry's Terms of Reference required the Committee to examine a number of issues, including the needs of this age group, the services and support required to develop resilience, and the extent to which changing workplace practices have impacted on children and young people in the middle years.

"The Committee is concerned that despite the middle years being a critical time in the development of children and young people, this age group has been largely overlooked in both research and service provision," said the Committee Chair, Robert Coombs MP.

"The report has identified gaps in services across a range of areas including education, health and welfare, together with a number of promising programs. Of particular interest to the Committee are those programs likely to impact on multiple outcomes for this age group," commented Mr Coombs.

Mr Coombs continued, "The report highlights the fundamental need for a whole of government approach to providing services for children and young people and the need for a dedicated funding stream for services for 9-14 year-olds."

The report also highlights the benefits of children and young people having input into decisions that affect their lives, including input into policies and programs. Mr Coombs observed that "The Committee has found that the input provided by children and young people to the Inquiry was both inspiring and informed."

Further information can be obtained from the Committee's website:
www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/children

Further comment can be obtained from Robert Coombs MP, Committee Chair on 9230 3401.

Robert Coombs MP
Chair

9 September 2009