

Submission

No 20

INQUIRY INTO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 9-14 YEARS IN NSW

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2nd May 2008

The Committee Manager
Committee on Children and Young People
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

RE: INQUIRY INTO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 9-14 YEARS IN NSW

The following is a submission from Mid-Western Regional Council to the inquiry into Children and Young People from 9-14 years in New South Wales.

In November of 2006, Mid-Western Regional Council adopted its Social Plan which included an examination of a broad cross section of target groups. Two of these groups, *Children and Families* and *Youth* have particular relevance to the scope of this inquiry.

The Social Plan contained a number of recommendations that are pertinent to children and young people 9-14 years and the following list provides a brief introduction to issues that were raised in our community through consultations with the community:

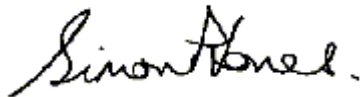
- Development, implementation and support for family outreach services to provide resources, information and intervention to families in outlying areas;
- Development, implementation and support for alternative education programs for children who are repeatedly suspended from schools due to behavioural or other long term problems;
- Private and public transport (including community transport) options for isolated and transport-disadvantaged families and children;
- Support for the continued promotion of children's literacy through public libraries and school programs;
- Funding of youth worker programs;
- Provision of crisis accommodation for women and children who are victims of domestic violence;
- Other support for children whose lives are affected by drug, alcohol or domestic violence issues.

If required, more detailed information on these issues can be obtained from the Mid-Western Regional Council Social Plan that is available from our website at www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au. It is believed that the issues raised here are relevant to many rural and regional communities in New South Wales.

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On behalf of Mid-Western Regional Council, please accept our appreciation for providing the opportunity to make a submission to this inquiry.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a trailing flourish.

SIMON JONES
MANAGER LIBRARY & COMMUNITY SERVICES