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The Hon. ADAM SEARLE: What money is allocated in the budget for the Orana Far West Women's Safe Houses Project and can you guarantee that the director's position for the projection will be funded until all safe houses are operational?

Ms PRU GOWARD: I might ask Ms Anne Campbell to give the detail of that.

Ms CAMPBELL: I do not have that funding detail with me today, but I am happy to provide it on notice.

The Hon. ADAM SEARLE: And the director's position will be funded until the safe houses are in operation.

Mr MOORE: We will provide you with advice about the state of tenure or exactly what the position is. I am unfamiliar with exactly what the position is, and whether it is related to the public sector or not, but we will have a look at that for you and provide you with some information.

ANSWER

The Orana Far West Safe Houses Project commenced in 2007 as a partnership between Community Services, Housing, Aboriginal Affairs, the NSW Women's Refuge Movement, the department of Families, Housing Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and the five existing Safe Houses in Lightning Ridge, Walgett, Brewarrina, Bourke and Wilcannia. In 2011-12, the Safe House services will each receive renewable Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) funding of \$351,128.63 plus indexation.

All of the five Safe Houses are operational. The Project is due to conclude at the end of 2011, with aspects of the mentoring and network establishment continuing into the first half of 2012. The building program, managed by Housing NSW, will continue until approximately the end of 2012.

The Project Director position will continue until March 2012, with responsibilities transitioning back to the usual business functions of Community Services' Partnerships and Planning Program. The Program will continue to be provided the same support offered to all funded programs under the Specialist Homelessness Support (formerly SAAP) program, post 2011.

Pru Goward

Minister for Family and Community Services
Minister for Women