

## YOUTH AFFAIRS

1. In relation to the new organisational structure and the number of staff working on youth affairs issues, please provide further details on how the Department of Health and Human Services is delivering youth affairs-related issues and initiatives.

*(Pages 7-8 of the Youth Affairs portfolio transcript)*

The new departmental structure took effect on 1 March 2016, resulting in the Office for Youth reporting to the Assistant Director, Economic and Community Participation.

This was designed to ensure a stronger alignment between the development of youth policy in the Office for Youth and the delivery of youth programs already being administered by the Economic and Community Participation function.

Bringing these youth related teams into one functional area will promote stronger and more effective engagement with the youth sector. It will also deliver better informed policy making and more responsive youth programs as the expertise of staff from across all youth teams can be better utilised.

The VPS staffing levels dedicated to the delivery of youth affairs policy development and youth programs have not changed as a result of the restructure. The realignment of youth policy and youth program teams enables staff to work across priorities in both the youth policy and youth program areas, ensuring youth affairs related issues and initiatives receive more coordinated and consolidated attention.