

**Integrated Service Development**

*Discussion Paper*

Community Services Minister Robyn McSweeney recently launched the *Discussion Paper: Integrated Service Development - A Framework for Children and Family Services*.

The discussion paper is part of an ongoing dialogue instigated by the Department for Communities about the best ways of supporting positive outcomes for children, families and communities.

The paper seeks to:

- support dialogue with children, families, communities, government, non-government and professional organisations on responsive services and integrated service delivery as an appropriate framework for the future development of children and family services
- develop a shared understanding of the term 'integrated services'
- build the evidence base in WA about existing and evolving practice
- identify ways for the community, government and non-government agencies, and providers of services to share in the building of such a framework.

**Join us for an opportunity to provide feedback**

As well as being able to comment through a response sheet contained in the paper, there will be an afternoon forum for those involved and interested in ways to further integrated service delivery.

3.00pm to 5.30pm  
**Thursday 28 May 2009**  
 Perth Flying Squadron Yacht Club  
 The Esplanade Dalkeith



Afternoon tea provided.  
 RSVP by 25 May to  
 e: [judith.kenny@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:judith.kenny@communities.wa.gov.au)  
 t: (08) 6217 8322.

The paper is available electronically at [www.communities.wa.gov.au](http://www.communities.wa.gov.au) or hard copy by phoning (08) 6217 8700.

**Please note: the opportunity to provide feedback has been extended until 8 June 2009.**

*Child Care Sector Forum*

The Department for Communities will be holding a Child Care Sector Forum.

The Forum will focus on communication regarding:

1. The amendments to the *Child Care Services Act 2007*
2. Progress on the amendments to the Child Care services regulations.

**Metropolitan Forum**

The Forum will be held on Wednesday 20 May 2009, 6.00pm for a 6.15pm start at the State Library of Western Australia.

**Country Forum**

A video conference will be available for the rural and remote regions on Wednesday 20 May 2009 at 1.00pm.

Invitations for the Forums will be distributed shortly. Information will also be posted on the [www.communities.wa.gov.au/childcare](http://www.communities.wa.gov.au/childcare) in the near future.



## National Implementation of the Australian Early Development Index

Commences May 2009

The Australian Government has committed to provide \$15.9 million to 30 June 2011 to implement the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) nationally.

AEDI information is collected through a questionnaire completed by teachers for children in their first year of formal schooling (pre primary in WA). The AEDI questionnaire measures five domains:

- physical health and wellbeing
- social competence
- emotional maturity
- language and cognitive skills
- communication skills and general knowledge.

The data is then made available at a community level. In this way, the AEDI pinpoints strengths in communities as well as what can be improved. It can then be used as an evidence based tool to support policy, planning and action for health, education and community support.

AEDI questionnaires will be completed in all public, Catholic and independent schools from May to July 2009.

For more information regarding the national implementation go to:

[www.rch.org.au/australianedi/about.cfm](http://www.rch.org.au/australianedi/about.cfm)

## Newsletter Feedback

Please feel free to make comments or ask any questions on the information provided in this update or any related issue by:

**e: [judith.kenny@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:judith.kenny@communities.wa.gov.au)**

For further information visit:

**w: [www.communities.wa.gov.au](http://www.communities.wa.gov.au)**

## Review of the Act

*Under Which Teachers are Registered*

The Minister for Education, the Hon Dr Elizabeth Constable, has commissioned the Department of Education Services to undertake a review of the *Western Australian College of Teaching Act 2004*. Submissions from a range of stakeholders are encouraged.

The Western Australian College of Teaching (WACOT) was established under the provisions of the Act and registers teachers for education programs in early childhood, primary, middle or secondary education.

An issue that has been identified by those involved in the early education and care sectors is the ineligibility of teachers working in non-school settings, such as child care, for registration by WACOT.

This impacts on the capacity of child care services to deliver kindergarten programs, and may also contribute to the differing conditions for teachers employed in non-school settings.

The review Terms of Reference include consultation, interviews with key stakeholders, a published discussion paper coupled with a call for submissions, a survey of a sample of registered teachers, and an examination of the legislation of comparable bodies in Australasia.

Submissions will be received until 5.00pm, 14 May 2009.

Further details about the review and how to make submissions can be found at

**[www.wacot.wa.edu.au](http://www.wacot.wa.edu.au)**

### Disclaimer

Any representation, statement, opinion or advice, expressed or implied, in this publication is made in good faith. It is made on the basis that the Department for Communities is not liable (whether by reason of negligence, lack of care or otherwise) to any person to any damage or loss whatsoever, which has occurred or may occur in relation to that person taking action in respect of any representation, statement or advice.

Details in this report were correct at the time of print.