

PRIME MINISTER

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SURVEY BY OFFICE OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

The Government has approved surveys by the Office of Youth Affairs of two urgent problems affecting young people in Australia.

The Office has been asked to make a submission to the Committee of Inquiry in Education and Training (the Williams Inquiry) taking account of the views of young people, particularly the views of long term unemployed early school leavers. The submission will be concentrating on the problem of transition from school to work and the appropriate roles of schools and other educational institutions, governments and the community. As background to its submission the Office will be seeking information and attitudes directly from unemployed young people.

The second task is a study of the provision of "crisis accommodation" for young people.

The Office of Youth Affairs proposes to conduct a survey of State and volun tary agencies providing temporary, transient or crisis accommodation.

This survey should indicate the demand for youth crisis accommodation centres and the health and welfare support services they need. It should also identify any gaps in the existing range of services provided by the Commonwealth, the States, local government and voluntary agencies that affect youth crisis accommodation centres.

I have approached State Premiers to seek the cooperation of all State Government agencies.