

SCHOOL CHAPLAINS AND PSYCHOLOGISTS

**220. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Education:**

I refer to the Liberal Party's plan to recruit additional school chaplains and psychologists during its first 100 days of government.

- (1) How many full-time equivalent or otherwise school chaplains and school psychologists were employed in Western Australian government schools at the commencement of the 2008 school year?
- (2) What is the metropolitan and non-metropolitan breakdown of the above figures?
- (3) How many chaplains and psychologists have been recruited since the new government was formed?
- (4) How many of the new recruited staff will be deployed in non-metropolitan schools?

**Hon PETER COLLIER replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Department of Education and Training does not employ school chaplains. In February 2008 there were 213.6 full-time equivalent school psychologists employed by the department.
- (2) There were 146.5 FTE school psychologists employed in the metropolitan area and 67.1 FTE employed in the non-metropolitan area.
- (3) The Department of Education and Training does not recruit chaplains. Collection of data regarding school psychologists would require more time than is currently available as appointments are made at the local level.
- (4) Not applicable.