

EDUCATION — SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS — KIMBERLEY

4184. Ms J. Farrer to the Minister representing the Minister for Education:

I refer to State Government funded School Attendance Officers, and I ask:

- (a) how many Attendance Officers are currently employed in the Kimberley;
- (b) where are each of those officers located;
- (c) how many Attendance Officers are employed in Halls Creek;
- (d) is the Minister aware of Federally funded Attendance Officers in Halls Creek; and
- (e) if yes to (d), can the Minister explain the difference in roles between Federally funded Attendance Officers and State funded Attendance Officers?

**Mr J.H.D. Day replied:**

- (a) There were 52 designated staff with badged attendance officer responsibilities in the Kimberley Education Region as at 25 June 2015.

(b)

Location	Number of designated staff
Bayulu Remote Community School	3
Broome Primary School	1
Broome Senior High School	1
Derby District High School	2
Fitzroy Valley District High School	38
Kimberley School of the Air	1
Kimberley Education Regional Office	2
Roebuck Primary School	1
Wangkatjunka Remote Community School	2
Wyndham District High School	1

- (c) Halls Creek District High School does not have any staff with designated badged attendance officer responsibilities. However, the school has identified staff to undertake these duties and is in the process of finalising badging requirements. All schools designate and manage locally the role of badged attendance officers, based on individual circumstances and need. Although all staff are responsible for promoting and monitoring attendance, some designated staff accept the responsibilities of a badged attendance officer as part of their school duties.
- (d) Yes, Engagement Officers are employed through non-government organisations funded via the Commonwealth Government's Remote Schools Attendance Strategy. These officers work collaboratively to enhance attendance programs already in place in the school.
- (e) Department of Education staff may be designated to perform the duties of an attendance officer, as per sections 33 to 36 of the *School Education Act 1999*. Schools, networks and regions designate staff based on individual circumstances and need. These staff members accept the responsibilities of a badged attendance officer as part of their normal duties.

Engagement Officers are employed through non-government organisations funded via the Commonwealth Government's Remote Schools Attendance Strategy. The State has agreed to work collaboratively with the service providers to enhance attendance programs already in place in schools. These arrangements are locally negotiated between the school and the service provider.