

ARMADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, STRUCTURAL FAULTS

400. Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) Is the minister aware of structural faults in classrooms at Armadale Primary School caused by differential shrinkage of the clay undersoil?
- (2) Has a structural engineer surveyed the buildings to assess their safety; and, if yes, what was his opinion?
- (3) Will the minister give a written assurance to the parents of children attending Armadale Primary School that the buildings are safe and that their children are not endangered by the possible collapse of load-bearing walls or partitions?
- (4) Has a proposal to remedy the problem been evaluated and costed; and, if yes, what is the estimated cost of remediation?

Hon GRAHAM GIFFARD replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) Yes, a structural engineer has surveyed the building and was of the opinion that the cause of the faults was not due to movement of clay but to an area of poor soil compaction.
- (3) The report from the structural engineer indicated that some remedial work will have to be done and that there is no danger of the walls collapsing. A copy of the structural engineer's report will be sent to the Armadale Primary School.
- (4) Yes, the remediation cost is estimated to be \$8 000 and will be completed by January 2003.