

STUDENTS PER SCHOOL-APPOINTED PSYCHOLOGISTS RATIO

470. Hon HELEN HODGSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Education:

- (1) What is the average ratio of students per school-appointed psychologists in government primary schools in Western Australia?
- (2) What is the average ratio of students per school-appointed psychologists in government secondary schools in Western Australia?
- (3) How many psychologists are employed by the Education Department to provide services to students in schools on a full-time basis and on a part-time basis?
- (4) What is the amount of funding allocated this financial year for the provision of psychological services and/or counselling in all government schools in Western Australia?

Hon BARRY HOUSE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1)-(2) The ratios cannot be calculated. School psychologists are appointed to district education offices and work across both primary and secondary areas, depending on need.
- (3) As of 3 October 2000, the Education Department employed 129 school psychologists on a full-time basis and 96 on a part-time basis.
- ~~(4)~~(4) The annual cost approximates \$8.8m. Additional costs associated with travel, clerical and administrative support are absorbed in the operating costs of district offices.