

SCHOOL CADET ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL PREMISES

135. Mrs C.L. EDWARDES to the Minister for Education:

The Department of Education guidelines state that all cadet activities outside school premises are classified as excursions; such activities must be approved by the relevant school principal beforehand; the school principal may grant approval only if a teacher is present; and the school principal may not delegate the duty-of-care responsibility to anyone who is not a teacher.

- (1) Is the minister aware that these guidelines have already resulted in the cancellation of a training camp at Byford for the police ranger cadet unit based at Greenwood Senior High School?
- (2) Is the minister aware of concerns that, without enthusiastic teachers, other units could eventually be forced to close down?
- (3) Will the minister take immediate action to ensure that the cadet program and ranger groups operating within the education system are able to continue their valuable services?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

I was not aware of that information and I thank the member for bringing it to my attention. If the member provides me with a copy of that question in writing, I will pursue it.