

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING, REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
BRANCH

817. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the regional and community planning branch within the Department of Education and Training.

- (1) Has this branch been closed?
- (2) If so, why?
- (3) Have the nine officers currently employed in regional centres been terminated, relocated or redeployed?
- (4) If so, where and when will this occur?
- (5) How will the valuable service previously provided to regional Western Australia by this branch be provided in the future?

Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. I am very impressed. I have here five questions from him, which is an absolute all-time record. He must have been working very, very hard or got a new research officer.

- (1)-(2) No.
- (3) Yes. Five officers have taken up other positions in regional Western Australia, primarily with TAFE colleges that will have a primary role in undertaking regional planning on behalf of the department. Four officers have elected to take a redundancy.
- (4) The nine officers ceased working as regional planning coordinators on 31 October 2005 as these positions were abolished.
- (5) Through regional TAFEWA colleges, using existing consultative networks and reference groups to gather information on regional training needs.