

EDUCATION SUPPORT FACILITIES, FUNDING

1000. Hon Tom Stephens to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Education:

Of the recent allocation of \$40 000 for Education from the sale of AlintaGas, how much will be allocated to Education support facilities?

Hon BARRY HOUSE replied:

The recently announced four-year \$40 million Secondary School Refurbishment Program will provide new and upgraded facilities at 32 schools across the State. A major focus of this initiative is improved services and infrastructure to enable schools to implement modern educational practice, together with improved student access to resources, particularly learning technologies. The detailed scope of work to be undertaken at each school will be determined in consultation with the school community. Whilst no funds were allocated specifically for Education Support facilities in the Secondary School Refurbishment Program, the Government has built 19 new Education Support Centres, and a number of Education Support Units, since 1993. Education Support facilities will also be included in many of the new schools now under construction. In addition, the Education Department allocates approximately \$1 million in its Capital Works program each year to provide new and upgraded Education Support facilities at existing schools.