

SCHOOLS, PER-PUPIL COSTS

691. Hon M.J. CRIDDLE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Education:

In relation to the difference in funding per student between government schools and non-government Catholic schools, I ask -

- (1) Does the minister intend to proceed with a review of the average government schools recurrent cost formula and its components to establish realistic government primary and secondary school per-pupil costs; and, if so, when?
- (2) Will these per-pupil costs be used as a basis for non-government Catholic schools that operate at approximately 85 per cent of government school budgets?

Hon G.T. GIFFARD replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes. A review is planned for commencement in early 2002.
- (2) The average government schools recurrent cost will continue as the basis of per capita subsidies provided by the State Government to non-government schools.