

PRIMARY SCHOOLS, COOLBELLUP, CLOSURE

1052. Hon Jim Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Education and Training

In relation to the Government plan to close three primary schools in Coolbellup -

- (1) Has the Government carried out a social impact assessment on the impact of -
  - (a) existing students needing to travel further to get to school; and
  - (b) loss of open space if the proposal to use Len Packham Park for a new school takes place?
- (2) If yes, will the Minister table the assessment?
- (3) Will the Minister table any economic assessment carried out into the choice of a site for a new primary school in Coolbellup?
- (4) Will the Minister table any assessment carried out into utilising one of the existing primary schools instead of building a new primary school in Coolbellup?

Hon GRAHAM GIFFARD replied:

- (1) No.
  - (a) A comprehensive Local Area Education Planning (LAEP) process was carried out within the community who have endorsed the proposal to close the schools and develop a single school at Len Packham Reserve.
  - (b) There will be no loss of public open space. The Department of Education and Training will provide equivalent open space elsewhere, as detailed by the City of Cockburn.
- (2)-(3) Not applicable.
- (4) The community, through the LAEP process, looked at a number of options and agreed on the Len Packham option.