



Hon Peter Collier MLC
Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Electoral Affairs
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Our Ref: 34-68594/34-68593

Mr Mark Warner
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Warner

Further to your letter dated 4 October 2016, please find attached responses to *Questions Prior to Hearing* submitted by Members of the Legislative Council with respect to Department of Education and Department of Education Services.

As discussed with my office, Question Prior to Hearing number 3, which was originally directed to the Department of Education Services, was re-directed to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

Kind regards

Hon Peter Collier MLC
MINISTER FOR EDUCATION; ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS; ELECTORAL AFFAIRS

18 OCT 2016

Att.

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS

Department of Education:

Hon Sue Ellery MLC asked:

1)(a) What is the total dollar amount of the most current priority 1 and priority 2 categories of maintenance work identified since the 2013 Building Condition Assessment report at WA public schools?

Answer: The Building Condition Assessment list of maintenance requirements is not updated between surveys, hence the total amount of priority 1 and 2 categories reflects the 2013 survey amount.

\$21.3 million was the estimated total cost of the priority 1 (\$15.7 million) and priority 2 (\$5.6 million) work identified in the 2013 Building Condition Assessment report.

(b) How much was spent for the 2015-16 financial year on maintenance in schools?

Answer: A total of \$182.804 million was spent on maintenance in schools during the 2015-16 financial year, including \$15.6 million targeted at high-priority maintenance items.

2) Please list the areas of identified need for primary schools planned to open in 2019?

Answer: An analysis of the projected primary school enrolments in a number of residential growth areas across the metropolitan area is being undertaken at present. It is anticipated that the new primary schools to open in 2019 will be announced later this year.

3) Please list the WA public schools coming under increasing enrolment pressures?

Answer: The Department of Education monitors residential growth in areas where enrolments have been increasing or are expected to increase. The Department uses a range of sources to obtain details of the location and magnitude of residential growth. This includes:

- estimates of future residential and population growth from local governments;
- details of house-building activity within over 100 well-defined areas to enable the enrolment growth at individual primary schools to be estimated; and
- contact with property developers, local governments and the Department of Planning.

The information gained assists in monitoring residential growth and expected size of proposed residential developments. Significant growth is occurring in areas such as Alkimos, Aubin Grove/Wandi, Aveley/Ellenbrook, Baldivis, Byford, Brabham, Caversham, Eglinton, Harrisdale, Landsdale, Margaret River, Southern River, Wellard and the western suburbs. New schools or additional works listed in the Asset Investment Program will provide relief to existing schools in these areas.

The Department of Education generally considers establishing a new school in an urban area when an existing school is under significant accommodation pressure, student enrolments are expected to continue to increase, a viable number of students reside within the catchment area of the future school (without reducing the catchment area of an existing school and making it unviable) and a new school site is available.