

MOORA RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE — CAPITAL WORKS

55. Hon MARTIN ALDRIDGE to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the Labor government decision to close Moora Residential College and the government's explanation that this is a budget repair decision, citing the high costs of capital works.

- (1) What assessment has the government undertaken to identify the most urgent and necessary works to keep the college open, as committed by the minister on 17 October 2017 during the budget estimates hearing?
- (2) Would the government consider revisiting its decision to close Moora Residential College if other sources of funding are identified to carry out the most urgent and necessary works?
- (3) If the government remains resolute in its decision to close the Moora Residential College, how does it plan to manage the site into the future and for what purpose will it be used?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Following the decision not to proceed with the \$8.7 million upgrade, information was sought to determine whether work was required to mitigate any risks or noncompliant items at the college. Various fire reports commissioned by the Department of Finance, Building Management and Works in late 2017 identified the need to improve fire detection and warning systems and improve egress by upgrading the emergency lighting. To safeguard the students and staff for the remainder of 2018, these minor but essential works will proceed at an estimated cost of \$59 000. It is anticipated work will be completed by April 2018. This is an appropriate response to the risks identified for the residential college to remain open until the end of 2018 only.
- (2) No.
- (3) A decision on the future use of the site is yet to be made.