

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — SMOKING POLICY

699. Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE to the Minister for Education and Training:

- (1) Will the minister provide information on the Department of Education's policy for smoking by staff, students, parents and visitors on campus and during excursions?
- (2) Is the minister aware that students of some schools have been seen smoking both on campus and during school excursions?
- (3) Is the minister aware that there are allegations that some schools are allowing students to smoke on campus and during excursions?
- (4) If no to (2) and/or (3), why not?
- (5) If yes to (2) and/or (3), what action will the minister take to ensure that this does not occur?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1) The Department of Education's occupational safety and health policy and procedures include an appendix on department standards for maintaining a smoke-free workplace. Under this policy, smoking is not permitted in any department-controlled working and learning environment. The possession, use or supply of substances with restricted sale is outlined in the requirements of the student behaviour policy and procedures.
- (2)–(5) Parts (2) and (3) asked: is the minister aware? No, but I will add this. Schools are responsible for implementing the requirements of the student behaviour policy and procedures, including any that pertain to students smoking. If a member of the community has concerns relating to students smoking, they should be raised with the school. If the complainant is not satisfied with the school's response, he or she should then contact the relevant education regional office. I extend to the honourable member that if he would like to tell me which schools these allegations apply to, I will certainly investigate.